

ESSENTIAL

for Leadership from Ecclesiastes 8

by Pastor Les Heinze

I. A Clear Mind - verse 1a

*The thinking you do before you start a job will shorten
the time you have to spend working on it.—
—Roy L. Smith*

- A. A great leader knows, philosophically, _____ the ship is going and _____.
- B. “The person who knows _____ will usually have a job, but that individual will usually work for the one who knows _____.”
- C. A _____ leader takes the complex _____ and breaks them down into _____ units.

II. A Cheerful Disposition - verse 1b

*It has been scientifically proven that worry, discord and melancholy undermine health. Good spirits make for good digestion. Cheerfulness cost nothing; yet is beyond price. It is an asset for both business and body. The big men of today, the leaders of tomorrow, are those who can blend cheerfulness with their brains.
—Forbes*

- A. Few things are more _____ than a _____ leader; unfortunately an overtly _____ leader can infect an organization as well.
- B. Helmut Thielecke: “Should we not see that _____ around the eyes are as much marks of _____ as are the lines of care and seriousness? Is it only earnestness that is baptized? Is laughter pagan?”

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*The church is in a bad way when it banishes
laughter and leaves it to the nightclub!*

- C. Ministry should be a _____, even though people can make it a real _____ at times.

III. A Discreet Mouth - verse 2-4b

The mouth: the principle working part of man's own built-in self-destruct system.

—Jean Farris

- A. The passage calls on the employee to have _____ and _____ toward his superior.
- B. It also reminds us the major vehicle of _____ for leadership is the _____.
- C. _____ is the ability to avoid needless _____. It involves a constant awareness of others _____ as well as skill and dexterity in managing affairs.
Tact can allow us to _____ - opposing view points without _____ or compromise _____.

IV. A Keen Understanding - verse 5-7

Confidence is the feeling you sometimes have before you fully understand the situation.

—Banking

- A. If you are in leadership, realize it is an _____ calling from God. He gave you the _____ (Psalm 45:6-7), and in response He asks you to use wise _____.
- B. Do you exercise proper _____ and have you implemented proper _____?

⇒ *How does this help?*

It produces _____ under pressure.

The ability to think clearly and make proper decisions under pressure is one of the marks of a great leader!

V. A Humble Spirit - verses 8-9

Nobody can work for God until humility has taken hold of his life. Otherwise he magnifies himself out of all proportion to God.

— Paul Rader

- A. A great leader cannot do _____. Realize some things are beyond your ability, and therefore seek to cultivate a _____, _____ spirit. One who has that spirit will never seek to _____ or _____ another person.
- B. It was said of William Carey of India, "He has attained the happy art of ruling and _____ others without asserting his authority, or others feeling their _____ — and all is done without the least appearance of design on his part."
- C. The leader who _____ others hurts _____ even more.

