

# SeLD-816 Effective Pastoral Leadership and Supervision

by Artur Steele, PhD

Seventh-day  
Adventist® Church



“It doesn’t matter if the world knows, or sees or understands, the only applause we are meant to seek is that of nail-scarred hands.”

R. Scott Rodin



“The first responsibility of the leader is to define reality. The last is to say thank you. In between the leader is a servant.”

Max De Pree



“Leaders do not inflict pain,  
they bear it.”

“Leaders do not absorb  
praise, they re-direct it.”

R. Scott Rodin



“Some leaders worry  
themselves into nameless  
graves, while here and there  
some forget themselves into  
immortality.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson



**“Teachability is the primary fruit of  
humility”**

**“The depth of our character  
determines the breadth of our  
influence”**

**“The choices you make today  
determine how you will finish  
tomorrow”**



“Pride refuses to be taught.  
Humility refuses not to be”

Brian Houston



“Wisdom is the right use of knowledge. To know is not to be wise. Many men know a great deal, and are all the greater fools for it. There is no fool so great a fool as a knowing fool. But to know how to use knowledge is to have wisdom”

Charles Spurgeon





**“Those who know the most many times are the ones who say the least”**

**“Leadership functions on the basis of trust. When trust is gone, the leader soon will be”**

Brad Lomenick



“You can teach what you  
know, but you will reproduce  
what you are.”

Nicky Gumbel



# Effective Pastoral Leadership and Supervision

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**Conference/Mission**



**Pastor**



**Local Churches**

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**Absolute  
Authority**



**Delegated  
Authority**

**Distributed Authority**



**PASTOR**

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# Everything to Everyone



# Know the Needs!

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# Tanzanian folktale “The Monkey and the Fish”

Rainy season. There were floods everywhere and the animals were all running up into the hills. The floods came so fast that many drowned, except the lucky monkeys who climb up into the treetops.

They looked down on the surface of the water where the fish were swimming and gracefully jumping out of the water as if they were the only ones enjoying the flood.

One of the monkeys saw the fish and shouted to his companion: “Look down, my friend, look at those poor creatures. They are going to drown. Do you see how they struggle in the water?”





“Yes,” said the other monkey. “What a pity! Probably they were late in escaping to the hills because they seem to have no legs. How can we save them?” “We must do something. Let’s go close to the edge of the flood where the water is not deep enough to cover us, and we can help them to get out.” So the monkeys did just that. They started catching the fish, but not without difficulty. One by one, they brought them out of the water and put them on the dry land. After a time there was a pile of fish lying on the grass motionless. One of the monkeys said, “Do you see? They were tired, but now they are just sleeping and resting. Had it not been for us, all these poor creatures without legs would have drowned.” The other monkey said: “They were trying to escape from us because they could not understand our good intentions. But when they wake up they will be very grateful because we have brought them salvation.”

from Boyd Bailey



## *Different approaches to culture*

### **Theology of Restoration**

*Christ-against-culture*

### **Theology of Accommodation**

*Christ-of-culture*

### **Theology of Correlation**

*Christ-above-culture*

### **Theology of Confrontation**

*Christ-transforming-culture*

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A Theology of Word & Spirit  
Authority & Method in Theology  
Donald G. Bloesch (2005) InterVarsity Press.



## Modernity:

confidence in human reason, science, and logic

the primacy of reason

*real* knowledge is knowledge of facts

The ethical norms in society are developed from Judeo-Christian morality



## **Post-modernity:**

There is no universal truth

Everything is subjective and relative. Even what counts as “evidence” and “logic” is value-dependent

There is no objective means upon which to predicate morality. Morality is relative

Language is fluid and arbitrary. The Text has many meanings



# On Being a Fool for Christ and an Idiot for Nobody

## Logocentricity and Postmodernity

*James W. Sire*

The interpretation of a text depends on the relative viewpoint and the particular values of the interpreter. To understand a text on the basis of one's life-relation to it is to have preunderstanding.

Interpretation does not depend on the external text nor its author.

Phillips, T. R., & Okholm, D. L. [\*Christian apologetics in the postmodern world\*](#) (p. 104). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.



# Modernity

# Post-Modernity

# What Next?



# HOLY SPIRIT – the secret to successful Ministry

