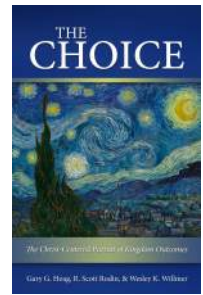




“Faithful Administration and Governance: Defining and Measuring Success in the Ministry” Dr. Wesley K. Willmer and Dr. Gary G. Hoag



Faithful Administration: Two Paths

The administration of God’s work often follows one of two paths. The path is most often determined by how God’s servants define and measure success in the ministry.

The Common Path

1. Production-Driven Leadership
2. Expansion-Focused Strategies
3. Earthly-Oriented Metrics
4. Results-Based Management
5. Utilitarian View of Resources

The Kingdom Path

1. Steward Leadership
2. Faithfulness-Focused Strategies
3. Eternity-Oriented Metrics
4. Relationship-Based Management
5. Stewardship View of Resources

Discussion: How do you define and measure success as God’s servants in the ministry you serve? In your own words, describe what it would look like to follow each of the two paths listed above.

Fruitful Governance: Checklist

Governance corresponds to the administration of the ministry and how it defines and measures success. Faithful governance works through a checklist to ensure God’s work stays on track.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ✓ Discern the ministry mission and purpose | ✓ Select CEO / Chief Administrator |
| ✓ Ensure effective organizational planning | ✓ Support the CEO / assess performance |
| ✓ Reviews stewardship of resources | ✓ Monitors ministry programs and services |
| ✓ Enhance the public standing of the ministry | ✓ Ensures legal and ethical integrity |
| ✓ Maintains posture of transparency / accountability | ✓ Recruit gifted board members |

Discussion: How does this checklist correspond to the two paths? In other words, what is the relationship between defining and measuring success (faithful administration) and governance (ensuring ministry fruitfulness)?

Avoiding Three Temptations: Luke 4:1-13

Jesus overcame three temptations before His earthly ministry began. We must overcome resist the temptations of control (4:1-4), idolatry (4:5-8), and pride (4:9-13).

Discussion: How do these temptations surface in administrative settings? What might they look like related to the governance of the ministry?

Following Christ: Ten Marks of Christ-Centered Ministry

Kingdom path traits are formational, not formulaic. They shape us as we follow.

Steward Leadership

(1) Submitted to the Father (2) Filled, Led and Empowered by the Holy Spirit

Faithfulness-Focused Strategies

(3) Prayerful Strategic Planning (4) Raising Kingdom Resources

Eternity-Oriented Metrics

(5) Ministry Accountability (6) Transparent Financial Administration

Relationship-Based Management

(7) Serving People Humbly (8) Doing Everything with Love

Stewardship View of Resources

(9) Mobilizing Spiritually-Gifted People (10) Radical Christian Generosity

Discussion: How do these ten marks shape our administrative tasks and governance efforts? Give specific examples of faithful activities for each mark that will position the ministry for fruitful kingdom outcomes.

Make the Choice!

On page 116 of the book is a rule of life, a course that ministry leaders around the world are choosing to take.

Discussion: Let’s read it together. We invite God’s servants to make the choice. Faithful administration and governance on the kingdom path positions God’s servants and ministries for fruitful kingdom outcomes. Make the choice today!