



THE LEADERSHIP LINEUP

UNCHANGING LEADERSHIP PRINCIPLES TO KEEP YOU AND THE MINISTRY YOU LEAD IN PEAK POSITION

Reading the lineup is key to maximizing one's surfing opportunity. Having solid objects on land to line up and hold one's position is essential in light of the shifting nature of the ocean. Similarly, leaders within Christian Surfers need solid, unchanging principles to hold them in position so they can maximize their ministry opportunities. The Leadership Lineup features unchanging leadership principles to keep you, and the ministry you lead, in peak position.

LINEUP #6: GOSPEL PROCESS

Extract from Christian Surfers Foundations Training Unit 6 "Gospel Process" from the Trainers Notes

"But you didn't pray the prayer at the end of the conversation," complained Karin after you had a great first time conversation with a surfer at a pro contest you were serving coffee at. "We have to make the most of every opportunity and you didn't even invite him to our CS meeting tonight!" As you tore down the tent and exchanged comments about the judging of the finals with a couple of other event staff you wondered if you really had blown it. However, at the same time, it just didn't feel right to push too hard that first conversation and you hoped to see them at the next event. It also felt contrived to invite the guy cold to a CS meeting that you doubted was suitable to his stage in life. As you stood wondering, the same surfer came back looking for a misplaced wetsuit. You helped him look around for half an hour but no luck with the wetsuit. As he thanked you, you remembered the CS Gospel of Mark in your pocket and almost reluctantly asked if he would like a copy. Surprised, your friend said he didn't care for religion but liked the spirited conversation you had and walked off saying he looked forward seeing you next contest. You felt dejected, had you really missed the opportunity? Meanwhile Karin was in the car park handing out flyers to the CS meeting to everything that moved, and move they did, mostly in the opposite direction, but you had to respect her zeal. You silently condemned yourself as you avoided her on the way to your car.

EVANGELISM AS A PROCESS, NOT AN EVENT

The process of evangelism is not just an issue of impersonal words or programs. Rather it is a journey of faith, a process of exploration, a wooing of the soul. Jesus often used farming parables; the parable of the four soils and the mustard seed are examples. Consider what is involved in producing a staple food like bread from wheat. It is a process of

- 1) *cultivating* 2) *planting* 3) *reaping* 4) *refining*

Evangelism is not an event, it is a process.

Illustration of Plant Growth

Application for Mission

Cultivating the soil getting it ready to receive the seed.	Understanding the culture and situation of the person. Building friendships with people.
Planting the seed in that soil.	Sowing the gospel seed into a person's life. Sharing your Jesus story and the gospel with them at their point of need and sensitive to where they are at.

Reaping the plants that have grown over time.	Being sensitive to how the person is growing in understanding and how God is drawing them to himself. Knowing the time to call for a response of faith and repentance.
Refining the grain for it to achieve its greatest potential.	We are called to make disciples, not just get a decision. Conversion is not the end, but the beginning. There has to be intentional follow up and building that person into the family of Christ and in turn help them discover God's purpose for their lives.

EVANGELISM JESUS STYLE

Consider Jesus' strategy in encountering many people. Jesus does not use any one approach, such was his awareness of the process of mission, and sensitivity to the Spirit. Consider the range of approaches Jesus uses with: a woman caught in adultery - John 8:3-11; the rich young ruler - Mark 10:16-23; Nicodemus - John 3:8; Simon and Peter - Mark 1:16-18; a paralytic - Matt. 9:2-8

Consider the case study on Zacchaeus. Read Luke 19:1-10. Can you see the process of evangelism?

Jesus had a genuine interest in Zacchaeus.

Jesus' acceptance didn't compromise His message.

Through acceptance came Zacchaeus' repentance

Consider the quote "*in this post-modern generation people need to belong before they believe.*"

ASSESSING YOUR EFFECTIVENESS IN THE PROCESS OF MISSION

Consider this activity to categorise all manner of typical CS activities (both formal and informal) into the four processes of mission. Can you identify what areas are strengths and weaknesses of your CS mission?

CULTIVATING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Surfing with non christian friends - Attending secular surf movie - Hanging out at surf shop - Helping out at secular event - Surf coaching beginners - Helping beginner get set up with board 	WAYS TO IMPROVE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do beach clean up at next contest - Host BBQ for local surfing titles - Aim to get to know one new name a surf
PLANTING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outreach surfer Bible study - Surf camp - Small group - Surfers Bibles 	WAYS TO IMPROVE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have a stock of Noah's Arc DVD's in car to give away - Leave pile of Grommets Guides to God at surf shop - Plan a series of Bible studies next term around a theme
REAPING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Special outreach Christian movie premiere - Decision time given at surf camp - Evangelistic speaker at church - Special guest speaker at CS meeting 	WAYS TO IMPROVE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Invite visiting Christian pro surfer to challenge at meeting - Camp fire opportunity to respond on last night - Bible study series culminate in challenge to respond
REFINING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bring guys along to church - Meet up for small group discipleship - One on one follow up - Integrate guys into church youth group 	WAYS TO IMPROVE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Go through Grommet Guide to Growth with new convert over 6 weeks - Give young guys a chance to help out in meetings, give testimony etc.

AN EXTRA WORD ABOUT REAPING

Two extremes seem to take place. People are either overeager and premature to call for a response, or they are afraid and unsure of how to.

What is true reaping or conversion? Mark 1:15, Acts 20:21, Luke 14:28, Matt 16:24-26. The key words that constantly come out from the bible are faith, repentance and discipleship, or alternative words are trust, change and follow.

What may be helpful pressures or reasons for conversion? eg: Holy Spirit conviction John 16:8; Sincere concern of loving Christians 1 Thess. 2:7-9; Eternity in their hearts Eccl. 3:11; Word of God Rom. 1:16, 10:14

What may be unhelpful pressures or reasons for conversion? eg: A watered down gospel; desire to please the speaker; a passing crisis; peer pressure; emotional manipulation of speaker, isolation in an unrealistic environment etc.

POSITION, POSITION, POSITION - What position do you take in the process of mission within the world?

The following are four broad areas of how "Christians" live in our world and in our surfing culture. Consider each of these areas, their implications and an example:

1) Totally Immersed in the Church. This person may speak the message but has no audience. They tend to be strong on truth but may be weak in love. They tend to isolate themselves from the world, and be fully integrated in the church. The challenge here is 'It is not enough to be available to God, we also need to be available to the world.' Have there been times you have been like this, or know people like this (no names). This position may appear correct, but can be prone to the temptations of the Pharisee.

2) Totally Immersed in the Surf/World. This person has an audience but they lose their message. They tend to be strong on love, but may be weak in truth. They are integrated in the world but to the extent they compromise their message. Have you been like this, or know people like this (no names). The challenge is "If you were arrested and charged for supposedly being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?" This position may be popular, but can be prone to the temptations of the world.

3) The Crowd Pleaser. This person seeks to be at home in both but loses their Christian integrity. They tend to be enthusiastic to identify with whatever group they are in, very much the man pleaser. The challenge is "If you stand for nothing, you fall for anything." Have you ever been like this, or know people like this (no names). This position is more like a chameleon, changing its shape to suit every circumstance.

4) The Balanced Christian. This maintains both the message and audience with integrity. They tend to have a strong identification with both Christ and the world. They know what it is to be integrated people, they are consistent whatever circumstance they are in. When have you most been like this, or known people like this. This position is the contagious Christian. It does not mean they are always popular, but will be respected.

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SELF-ASSESSMENT

Read over Matt. 5:13-16. Ask the question "What are we called to be like in the world?" Salt and light are both required to be potent and public, never compromised or private. We as Christians are therefore called to be 'in' but not 'of' the surf culture. Discuss what is the difference between being 'in the surf culture' but not 'of the surf culture?' cf 1 Peter 1:13-16, Eph 5:15-18.

This is a condensed version of a unit from the CS Foundations Training. You can have the outlines of both the Leaders Notes and Trainees Worksheets for this and other units by going to the affiliates password section of the CSI website: <http://www.christiansurfers.net/FilesLogin.aspx>.

- 1.1 CS Fundamental: Vision, mission, core values, core strategies of CS
- 1.2 Leadership Issues: Character, style, stages, habit of Godly leaders.
- 1.3 Building partnerships with the local church and other ministries.
- 1.4 Developing and maintaining a leadership team, community and Kingdom culture.
- 1.5 Evangelism Content: Fundamentals and preparing a testimony.
- 1.6 Evangelism Process: Building relationships and recognizing stages of responsiveness.
- 1.7 CS Best Practices: Structure, systems, legal, finances requirements as per country.
- 1.8 The Surfing Culture: Trends, contextualization, values, and ways to effect culture.

Contact your national leader for username and password.

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