

# DUMB AND DUMBER: THIS IS YOUR WAY OUT LEADERSHIP



PROVERBS 8:12-16

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## GOOD LEADERS MOTIVATE RATHER THAN MANIPULATE.

Proverbs 8:12-16

*"I, wisdom, dwell with prudence, and I find knowledge and discretion. <sup>13</sup> The fear of the LORD is hatred of evil. Pride and arrogance and the way of evil and perverted speech I hate. <sup>14</sup> I have counsel and sound wisdom; I have insight; I have strength. <sup>15</sup> By me kings reign, and rulers decree what is just; <sup>16</sup> by me princes rule, and nobles, all who govern justly.*

### How a relationship with Jesus enables us to lead

- Jesus is Wisdom personified – Proverbs 8:12a *I, wisdom, dwell with prudence,*

Colossians 2:3, 9-10

*in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge...For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, <sup>10</sup> and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.*

- Jesus gives us the knowledge needed for leadership and the skill to use it effectively – Proverbs 8:12b *...and I find knowledge and discretion.*
- Jesus gives us the reason and motivation to lead with integrity – Proverbs 8:13-16 *The fear of the LORD is hatred of evil. Pride and arrogance and the way of evil and perverted speech I hate. <sup>14</sup> I have counsel and sound wisdom; I have insight; I have strength. <sup>15</sup> By me kings reign, and rulers decree what is just; <sup>16</sup> by me princes rule, and nobles, all who govern justly.*

2 Corinthians 4:2a

*But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways.*

### Elements of sustainable leadership

- 1) Strong convictions: If you don't believe it can be done neither will your team.

*"If you think about it, just about every leader who is now remembered for making a positive difference in history was a leader with strong convictions about life, liberty, truth freedom, and human dignity. In the long run, this is the only leadership that matters." – Al Mohler<sup>1</sup>*

- 2) Show prudence: Don't say everything you think.

Proverbs 16:32

*Whoever is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.*

Proverbs 17:27

*Whoever restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding.*

Proverbs 25:28

*A man without self-control is like a city broken into and left without walls.*

- 3) Motivate rather than manipulate. Solidarity in sacrifice creates unity of purpose.
- 4) Be secure in your identity (a follower of Jesus Christ): Lead for the entire team to win...even if you don't get the credit.

Proverbs 28:2

*When a land transgresses, it has many rulers, but with a man of understanding and knowledge, its stability will long continue.*

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<sup>1</sup> Albert Mohler, *The Conviction to Lead* (South Bloomington, MN: Bethany House, 2012), 25-26.