



*Written by  
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## “Leadership Matters”

### Scriptures:

Overall Scripture: Proverbs 29:18

Specific Skit Scriptures:

"Follow the Leader": 1 Thessalonians 2: 11, 12

"The Dream Team": Romans 12: 3-5

"The Three-strand Cord": Ecclesiastes 4: 12

**Dramatic Category:** "Collected Skits On A Theme"

### What are "Collected Skits On A Theme"?

"Collected Skits On A Theme" are a group of skits that fit together to make a thematic statement. Each of these collected skits begins with a narrative designed to tie together these skits with segues that bring each skit into the narrative. Each of these skits can also stand alone, but together they combine into one storyline lasting 30-45 minutes. Different casts can perform different skits, or one ensemble cast can perform all of them. These skits set up the pastor for a sermon on the central topic of the skits.

### NOTE:

This collection of three "Skits" is presented either back-to-back or in sequential weeks. Each one presents a deeper look at the subject of leadership. The show is made up of:

1. "Follow the Leader" (script #S9)
2. "The Dream Team" (script #S10)
3. "The Three-strand Cord" (script #S11)

**Topic:** Godly leadership

**Performance Time:** 15 minutes

**Number of Players:** 2 men (use the same men for each skit in the collection)

### Objective:

This collection of three skits models godly leadership by contrasting "power" and "authority" as leadership styles, celebrating people with diverse abilities to accomplish a task, and presenting God as the ultimate visionary in any project.

## Synopsis:

This collection of three skits presents a biblical perspective on the subject of leadership.

In the first skit, "Follow the Leader," Joe, a contractor, is hired by the church to build a playground. He isn't enjoying much cooperation from the task force who volunteered to help him because he is using "power" techniques to complete the project. He learns that there is another way to lead people, by "earning the right to be heard," and thus gaining "authority" over them.

In the second skit, "The Dream Team," Joe would rather use his trusty four men to build the church playground than use the more than 20 volunteers who signed up to help, especially since half of them are women, and he wonders what good they could possibly be! His friend, Paul, explains to him that it takes all kinds of people to accomplish a task, and a team is more valuable than a precision task force when it comes to working in the "family of God."

In the third skit, "The Three-strand Cord," Joe comes to the realization that God's way is the best way to accomplish any task. After reading Ecclesiastes, he begins to understand that God is the third cord in the "three-strand cord that is not easily broken."

## Sermon Note:

Create your own sermon outlines to serve as an introduction and segues from skit to skit, and finally create a challenging conclusion. Follow this order:

1. Introduction to the topic of godly leadership based on biblical principles
2. Perform skit 1, "Follow The Leader"
3. Expound on the difference between "power" and "authority"
4. Segue into encouraging the abilities of others
5. Perform skit 2, "The Dream Team"
6. Expound on the importance of using the diverse talents in the "Body of Christ"
7. Segue into seeking God's vision before you begin any task
8. Perform skit 3, "The Three-strand Cord"
9. Conclude with a challenge to follow the scriptural models of godly leadership

## The Cast:

Joe: *A confident contractor who leads by pushing his weight around*  
Paul: *Joe's friend, who challenges him to consider other leadership styles*

## Props:

*For "Leadership Matters" and "The Dream Team"*

A rolled up set of construction plans  
A table onto which to roll the plans out

*For "The Three-strand Cord"*

A Bible  
A table to place the Bible on

## Stage Arrangement:

There is no particular stage arrangement for this series of skits. Simply place a table center stage, and let the two men create their own sense of "space."

## “Follow the Leader”

### Synopsis:

Joe is a contractor, hired by the church to build a playground. He isn't enjoying much cooperation from the task force who volunteered to help him because he is using “power” techniques to complete the project. He learns that there is another way to lead people, by “earning the right to be heard,” and thus gaining “authority” over them.

### The Script:

#### NOTE:

The papers that Joe carries include the script for this skit, to assist him, if needed.

*(Joe enters, obviously upset, throws his papers on the desk. He sits down and wearily holds his head in his hands. His friend, Paul follows close behind.)*

**Joe:** That meeting could not have been a bigger disaster.

**Paul:** Amen to that!

**Joe:** I can't do this.

**Paul:** You have too. You're the Boss.

**Joe:** I've got the vision, and I know God wants this playground built. Our kids are all over the street, and one of these days we're going to lose one. But, we're never going to get this thing built.

I may be the leader, but I don't feel like I have any influence.  
Did you hear what they were saying when I walked in?

**Paul:** *(He puts his hand on Joe's shoulder)*  
So, all you have is power, huh? No authority?

**Joe:** What?

**Paul:** You've got the power to force these people to do what you want,  
But that doesn't get you very far.

**Joe:** I'm lost.

**Paul:** Power is what you have when you are with the people you lead.  
Authority is what gets the job done when you're gone.

**Joe:** Still lost.

**Paul:** Look at it this way: “Power is taken, and authority is given.”

**Joe:** *(Trying to make sense of this)* Okay.

**Paul:** You've been given authority by the senior pastor to lead this committee to get this playground built, but the team hasn't given you any authority yet; all you have over them is power. See, your power runs out the minute you walk off the site; only your authority has "staying power."

**Joe:** How do I take authority?

**Paul:** You don't.

**Joe:** Great!

**Paul:** Authority is "given"; it can't be taken.

**Joe:** All right then, how do I get them to give me authority over them?

**Paul:** Same way Jesus did it.

**Joe:** *(showing genuine interest)* I'm listening.

**Paul:** Authority is earned through sacrifice. Maybe you should quit flashing your badge and climb up on the cross for a while.

**Joe:** I'm supposed to bleed for these people?

**Paul:** Indirectly, yes. Look, the Old Testament is filled with displays of God's power; and a whole lot of it turned in to a tug-of-war between God and the Jews, but in the New Testament, we see a different side of a very powerful God: The God who comes down to man's level and not only gives value to sinners, but impacts all people with God's vision for the world. Then, to top it all off, He stands in the gap between life and death on Calvary. When we see such love on our behalf, God doesn't need to show His power because we gladly give Him authority over our whole lives.

**Joe:** So, I need to earn some authority with my team.

**Paul:** Yeah, some people call it "The right to be heard."

**Joe:** I get that. I've got a vision, and I know it's from God.

**Paul:** You've got a team, too, a powerful team.

**Joe:** Maybe, I'll let them be powerful, and I'll start working on the authority.

*(They exit together.)*

### **The End of "Follow The Leader"**

## “The Dream Team”

### Synopsis:

Joe, a contractor, would rather use his trusty four men to build the church playground than use the more than 20 volunteers who signed up to help, especially since half of them are women, and he wonders what good they could possibly be! His friend, Paul, explains to him that it takes all kinds of people to accomplish a task, and a team is more valuable than a precision task force when it comes to working in the “family of God.”

### The Script:

*(Joe is thrilled! He enthusiastically shares with Paul the successes of the team he has built.)*

**Joe:** I didn’t realize that establishing authority was so time-consuming.

**Paul:** Right, taking power is easier.

**Joe:** Yeah, it is.  
It’s good, though, I’ve really gotten to know the workmen,  
and they are amazing!  
Every talent we need to get this playground built is on the team.

*(rolling out the plan for the playground.)*

Look at this.  
We’ve got enough to keep all four contractors busy.

**Paul:** *(puzzled)* Four contractors.

**Joe:** Yeah, that’s all I need.  
We can build this with four guys.

**Paul:** I thought you had twenty-five people signed up to help you with this project.

**Joe:** I did, but I don’t need them all.  
That’s too much of a crowd;  
most of them would just get in the way;  
besides, half of them are *(he whispers)* women.

**Paul:** I thought you were working on establishing authority?

**Joe:** I am.

**Paul:** Well, *(he starts to roll up the plans for Joe and hands them to him.)*  
back to the drawing board, old buddy.

**Joe:** *(stupidly holding the plans)* Why?  
I get on great with the four guys.  
I've shared my vision,  
and they know I'll walk alongside them every step of the way.

**Paul:** Good for you, but all you've built is a little support group, not a team.

**Joe:** Another leadership slip up?

**Paul:** Did you already tell the "rejects" that you don't need them?

**Joe:** Not yet.  
I was going to email them all tonight.

**Paul:** Then you haven't failed, yet.

**Joe:** Okay, now what did I do?

**Paul:** A leader uses absolutely everyone who catches the vision.  
You organize the project in such a way  
that each person makes a unique contribution that matches up with his  
*(with emphasis)* or her skills.

**Joe:** Those women will get in the way.

**Paul:** Careful man, without "those women" this church would shut down.  
Look, here's what you do.  
Even if you only use half of them as laborers,  
use the other half as support staff.  
Somebody's got to keep these people organized and fed.

**Joe:** You've got a point.

**Paul:** When you build the people, they'll build the playground.

**Joe:** *(questioning)* Build the people?

**Paul:** The energy behind any project is doubled  
every time you add a person who shares the vision.  
Remember, the "team" is the "steam" to accomplish the "dream."

**Joe:** Witty.

**Paul:** Yeah, maybe I'll sell it to a fortune cookie company.

*(They exit together, Joe still carrying the plans.)*

### **The End of "The Dream Team"**

## "The Three-strand Cord"

### Synopsis:

Joe, a contractor, has come to the realization that God's way is the best way to accomplish any task. After reading Ecclesiastes, he begins to understand that God is the third cord in the "three-fold cord that is not easily broken."

### The Script:

*(Joe is seated at a table, reading his Bible. Paul approaches, Joe looks up and says:)*

- Joe:** So, this guy, Nehemiah, built a wall.
- Paul:** No, the workmen built the wall.
- Joe:** Well, yeah, but without Nehemiah there wouldn't be a wall.
- Paul:** Without the workmen there wouldn't be a wall either.
- Joe:** Okay, you want to know who really built the wall?
- Paul:** I do.
- Joe:** God built the wall.  
He wanted a wall around Jerusalem,  
and he worked through a group of people to make it happen.  
God gave the vision to Nehemiah.
- Paul:** I guess God did build the wall.
- Joe:** Wall, playground, no difference really.  
I've discovered something through all this.
- Paul:** What's that.
- Joe:** A project is like a compass.
- Paul:** How's that?
- Joe:** Well, the team is the actual working parts of the compass,  
the dial, the housing,  
the degree markings, all that.
- Paul:** Okay.
- Joe:** The leader, on the other hand,  
is more like the needle in the center of all the working parts;  
the needle's job is to point out "due north."
- Paul:** "Due north?"

**Joe:** That's God.  
He's the one the leader has to point to.  
The vision comes from Him.  
See, Nehemiah kept pointing out God's plan in all this.  
*(He holds up his Bible.)*  
These people drove him crazy!  
Half the time he was attacked from the inside as well as from the outside.  
He took all his troubles to God, and that's how the wall got built.

**Paul:** You got all this out of Nehemiah?

**Joe:** Yes and no.

**Paul:** Where, then?

**Joe:** Listen to this: Ecclesiastes. 4:12  
"Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves.  
A cord of three strands is not easily broken."

**Paul:** That's a cord of three strands; where's the compass?  
You lost me.

**Joe:** Don't you wonder why he's talking about the power of two,  
then he uses three strands on the cord?  
Where did the third strand come from?

**Paul:** I don't know?

**Joe:** There's three strands to any project:  
The leader, *(he holds up one finger)*  
the team, *(he holds up two fingers)*  
and the third strand is God! *(he holds up three fingers)*  
When you've got that combination, you can't lose.

**Paul:** You're quite a leader, Joe

**Joe:** It was touch and go, there for a while.  
I almost bailed and handed the whole thing over to you.  
You know quite a bit about leadership.

**Paul:** That would have been a bad idea.

**Joe:** Why?

**Paul:** God gave you the vision; all I had was advice.  
*(They exit together.)*

### **The End of the Entire Show**