

DeafPah! -- The Caring Leader

Caring Leader is an online *DeafPah!* course that helps prepare church members to serve in their congregation's ministry.

You may download the video lessons and this study guide for free from deafjesus.org.

The videos were originally prepared as VHS videotapes for the Deaf Institute of Theology. The chapter numbers and titles refer to the optional textbook for this course -- *The Caring Elder: A Training Manual for Serving*, by Victor A. Constien; 1986, Concordia Publishing House.

Video #	Chapter #	Chapter Title
Intro		Introduction
1	1	Why Leaders
2	2	The Congregation's Expectations
3	3	Who Are These Leaders?
4	4.1	Leaders Help in Church Worship
5	4.2	
6	5.1	Leaders Help Others Learn & Teach
7	5.2	
8	5.3	
9	6.1	Leaders Encourage Witnessing
10	6.2	
11	7.1	Leaders Prepare & Train Servants of Jesus
12	7.2	
13	8.1	Leaders Build Group Fellowship
14	8.2	
15	8.3	
Evaluation	9	Evaluation

Caring Leader: Introduction

Read Exodus chapter 3

1. God told Moses meet with whom? (See verse 16.)
2. God wanted the leaders (elders) of Israel to help Moses do what? (See verses 17 & 18.)

Read Numbers 11:10-17

3. Why did Moses complain to God?
4. How did God solve Moses' problem?

Caring Leader: Part 1
Why Leaders

Read:

Acts 14:21-23

1 Timothy 3:8-13

1. Besides the pastor, who are the leaders of your church, and what are ways that they serve?

2. How are Old Testament leaders similar (same) as our church leaders today?

3. How are Old Testament leaders different than our church leaders today?

Read:

1 Peter 2:9

1 Peter 5:1-4

4. What makes a person able to serve as a leader in the church?

5. Why is a leader's relationship with the pastor important?

<p>Caring Leader: Part 2 <i>The Congregation's Expectations</i></p>
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1. This lesson lists eight important responsibilities (duties) of church leaders. What are they?

(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)

(5)

(6)

(7)

(8)

2. Out of those eight duties, choose three that you think are MOST IMPORTANT, and explain WHY these are most important.

(a)

(b)

(c)

Read Matthew 28:18-28

3. In Matthew 28:19-20 Jesus commanded us to do what?

Caring Leaders: Part 3
Who Are These Leaders?

Read Acts 6:1-6

1. Verse 3 describes three important things that a church leader should have:

(1)

(2)

(3)

Read 1 Timothy 3:8-13

2. These verses list eight important skills that a church leader should have:

(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)

(5)

(6)

(7)

(8)

3. Which of these skills in Acts 6 and 1 Timothy 3 do you have?

4. Which of these skills in Acts 6 and 1 Timothy 3 do you not yet have, or you need to improve?

5. What can you do to improve those skills?

Caring Leader: Part 4
Leaders Help in Church Worship

Read Romans 12:1-2

1. These verses teach us that we give two things to God:

(verse 1) We give God our _____

(verse 2) We give God our _____

Read Luke 1:73-74

2. These verse teach us that God saves us from “our enemies” (the world and its sin, the devil’s rule, and hell). Because God has saved us, we can and should do what?

Read Hebrews 9:11-14

3. What did Christ Jesus do to make our consciences clean and make it possible for us to joyfully serve Him?

Read 1 Peter 4:7-11

4. These verses tell us we should do four things:

(verse 7) _____

(verse 8) _____

(verse 9) _____

(verses 10-11) _____

Read Romans 8:15-17

5. The Holy Spirit in us does what for us?

6. We are united with Christ in two ways (see verse 17):

(a) _____

(b) _____

Read 2 Corinthians 5:20-21

7. God gave all of our sin to whom? _____

8. God gave Christ’s holiness to whom? _____

<p>Caring Leader: Part 5 <i>Leaders Help in Church Worship (continued)</i></p>

Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9

1. When a Christian family worships God in the home, what does the family do together to worship Him?

2. This lesson lists seven things we pray when we pray together in our homes or in the church:

(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)

(5)

(6)

(7)

3. Worship is service. Why?

4. Worship is prayer. Why?

Caring Leader: Part 6
Leaders Help Others Learn & Teach

Read:

Colossians 3:15-17

Hebrews 4:12-13

1. This lesson names five reasons church leaders should study the Bible:

(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)

(5)

2. In what various ways do leaders use the Bible in their service to other people?

Caring Leader: Part 7
Leaders Help Others Learn & Teach (continued)

Read Acts 17:16-34

1. Where are some places you can share Jesus people in the community?

Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-7

2. We often meet people who have problems. How can we earn their trust so we can share God's answers with them?

Caring Leader: Part 8

Leaders Help Others Learn & Teach (continued)

This lesson asks you to review six ways we can share Christ and His Word:

[Part 6]

1. Share in small home fellowship groups.
2. Visit individual people who can't go to church or come to home fellowship groups because they are sick, in a nursing home, or in the hospital.
3. Start new Bible study groups in homes or in the community; take turns with other group members teaching & leading the groups.

[Part 7]

4. Go into the community, taking Christ and His Word to the world, meeting people in their places of work and leisure ("onsite experience").
5. Visit with "old" and "new" families – both people who are long-time church members and people who are just starting to learn about Jesus.

[Part 8]

6. Seek people who are
 - (a) weak in faith
 - (b) careless about their faith in Christ
 - (c) straying away from Christ

Read:

Galatians 6:1-2

James 5:19-20

How can we help weak, careless, and straying people come back into fellowship with Christ and His Church?

<p>Caring Leader: Part 9 <i>Leaders Encourage Witnessing</i></p>

Read Acts 1:8

1. What does the word “witness” mean? Explain how we witness for Christ.
2. Where does our witness for Christ begin?
3. Whom does Jesus love?
4. What did Jesus do to prove His love?
5. What verses in the Bible support your answer to questions 3 & 4?
6. Tell about an experience when you were able to tell someone about Jesus.

Caring Leader: Part 10
Leaders Encourage Witnessing (continued)

Read:

John 3:16

1 Corinthians 9:19, 22-23

Matthew 9:11-13

1. This lesson describes four actions that make us strong in our witness:

Action 1 _____

Action 2 _____

Action 3 _____

Action 4 _____

2. Tell about two different situations or experiences when God touched you.

(a)

(b)

3. We should always be prepared to tell someone about Jesus at any time we have the opportunity. What can we do to prepare and be ready for those times?

<p>Caring Leader: Part 11 <i>Leaders Prepare & Train Servants of Jesus</i></p>

Read John 3:16

1. Who will receive eternal life?

Read Philippians 2:5-11

2. What Jesus do to humble Himself?

Read Isaiah 53:5

3. Jesus' suffering and death brings us what?

Read Colossians 3:1-4

4. Where is our true home?

Read James 5:13-16

5. As we visit someone who is sick, what should we do for them?

Caring Leader: Part 12

Leaders Prepare & Train Servants of Jesus (continued)

Read John 11:1-27

1. What hope and comfort does Jesus give for people who are dying?

Read Romans 12:15

2. What comfort can we give to people who are grieving?

Read 1 John 1:8-9

3. What makes God sad (and should also grieve us)?

Read 1 John 3:18

4. How do we show true love for someone?

Ask your pastor to show you how to visit people who are sick, dying, or grieving. Then you may volunteer for this service in your church.

<p>Caring Leader: Part 13 <i>Leaders Build Group Fellowship</i></p>
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Read:

1 Corinthians 1:9

Romans 12:3-16

1. What is Christian Fellowship?

Read 1 Corinthians 10:16-17

2. How does the Lord's Supper help us have fellowship with each other and with Christ?

3. How does Christian fellowship help Christians grow in faith and in service for Christ?

Caring Leader: Part 14
Leaders Build Group Fellowship (continued)

Read:

Acts 15:1-21

James 1:19-20

1. How should we resolve conflict in Christian fellowship?

Read 1 Peter 4:7-11

2. How do each of the “Four Ts” support Gospel mission?

(a) Time

(b) Toil (work)

(c) Talents

(d) Treasure

3. What can you do to help your church to start a new fellowship group?

Caring Leader: Part 15
Leaders Build Group Fellowship (continued)

Read

Romans 8:26-29

Philippians 4:1-9

1. How can you turn a problem or crisis into an opportunity?

2. If someone criticizes you, how can that criticism help you grow?

3. Answer these questions from the video:
 - (a) Which is more important: **peace** or **truth**? ...and why?

 - (b) Which is more important: **blessing** or **truth**? ...and why?

Caring Leader: Evaluation

1. Answer questions in the evaluation form on pages 18 & 19 of this study guide.
2. Ask your pastor or a church leader who knows you well to answer the questions on pages 20 & 21 about you.
3. After you both have completed each form, meet together to discuss your answers and to discuss how you can serve your church and your community.

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Caring Leader: Final Exam

List four attitudes that a caring leader shows in his or her activities as a leader. Give an example to help explain each attitude.

1. The First Attitude _____

Give an example that shows this attitude.

2. The Second Attitude _____

Give an example that shows this attitude.

3. The Third Attitude _____

Give an example that shows this attitude.

4. The Fourth Attitude _____

Give an example that shows this attitude.

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STUDENT EVALUATION FORM

Student answers these questions

1. My church's goals and my own goals are
 - the same.
 - a little different.
 - a lot different.
 - (I don't know the church's goals.)

2. What do church members think about my ministry?
 - Church members understand my ministry and they want me to serve.
 - Church members don't fully understand my ministry.
 - Church members don't want me to serve in the church.

3. Sometimes situations in the church change that means we must change the way we serve the church. What that happens...
 - it is easy for me to change the way I serve the church.
 - it is hard for me change the way I serve.
 - if someone will show me how, I can change the way I serve.

4. Church members and I
 - work well together.
 - are patient with each other.
 - have many conflicts.

5. I ask church members and leaders to evaluate my work
 - often
 - sometimes
 - never

6. Evaluate your skills in these areas of ministry:

	not good - - - - - very good
(a) Teaching children	1 2 3 4 5
(b) Marriage and family education	1 2 3 4 5
(c) Leading worship	1 2 3 4 5
(d) Preaching/Teaching	1 2 3 4 5
(e) Program planning	1 2 3 4 5
(f) Personal counseling	1 2 3 4 5
(g) Home visits	1 2 3 4 5
(h) Continuing professional education	1 2 3 4 5
(i) Ministry with sick, dying, or grieving	1 2 3 4 5

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	not good - - - - - very good				
(j) Promoting fellowship	1	2	3	4	5
(k) Stewardship education	1	2	3	4	5
(l) Equipping and supporting others	1	2	3	4	5
(m) Leading adult growth groups	1	2	3	4	5
(n) Meeting human care needs	1	2	3	4	5
(o) Evangelism ministry	1	2	3	4	5
(p) Administration and management	1	2	3	4	5
(q) Organizing and presiding at meetings	1	2	3	4	5
(r) Personal and spiritual growth	1	2	3	4	5
(s) Services to the Synod-at-large	1	2	3	4	5
(t) Community service	1	2	3	4	5
(u) Other	1	2	3	4	5

7. One skill that I want to improve is _____

8. What will I do to improve my skill?

9. Two goals I have in my church ministry for the coming year are:

(a) _____

(b) _____

10. What I will do to achieve (accomplish) these goals:

These questions are adapted from the textbook, The Caring Elder: A Training Manual for Serving, by Victor A. Constien; 1986, Concordia Publishing House; pages 75-76.

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STUDENT EVALUATION FORM

Pastor, mentor, church leader answers these questions about the student

1. My church's goals and the student's goals are
 - the same.
 - a little different.
 - a lot different.
 - (I don't know.)

2. Church members
 - understand the student's ministry and they want me to serve.
 - don't fully understand the student's ministry.
 - don't want the student's to serve in the church.

3. Sometimes situations in the church change that means we must change the way we serve the church. What that happens...
 - it is easy for the student to change the way he/she serves the church.
 - it is hard for the student change the way he/she serves.
 - the student can adjust the way he/she serves with guidance and training.

4. Church members and the student
 - work well together.
 - are patient with each other.
 - have many conflicts.

5. The student asks church members and leaders to evaluate his/her work
 - often
 - sometimes
 - never

6. Evaluate the student's skills in these areas of ministry:

	not good - - - - - very good
(a) Teaching children	1 2 3 4 5
(b) Marriage and family education	1 2 3 4 5
(c) Leading worship	1 2 3 4 5
(d) Preaching/Teaching	1 2 3 4 5
(e) Program planning	1 2 3 4 5
(f) Personal counseling	1 2 3 4 5
(g) Home visits	1 2 3 4 5
(h) Continuing professional education	1 2 3 4 5
(i) Ministry with sick, dying, or grieving	1 2 3 4 5

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	not good - - - - - very good				
(j) Promoting fellowship	1	2	3	4	5
(k) Stewardship education	1	2	3	4	5
(l) Equipping and supporting others	1	2	3	4	5
(m) Leading adult growth groups	1	2	3	4	5
(n) Meeting human care needs	1	2	3	4	5
(o) Evangelism ministry	1	2	3	4	5
(p) Administration and management	1	2	3	4	5
(q) Organizing and presiding at meetings	1	2	3	4	5
(r) Personal and spiritual growth	1	2	3	4	5
(s) Services to the Synod-at-large	1	2	3	4	5
(t) Community service	1	2	3	4	5
(u) Other	1	2	3	4	5

Other feedback that is important for the student to know:

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