

Spiritual Authority – 08 Leadership Formation

I. Jesus chose and trained the Twelve.

A. Estimated timeline¹

26 AD		27 AD				28 AD				29 AD				30 AD	
Sum	Aut	Win	Spr	Sum	Aut	Win	Spr	Sum	Aut	Win	Spr	Sum	Aut	Win	Spr
1				2		3			4						5

1. Jesus is baptized; Andrew, Peter, most likely John, & thus James begin following him; Jn 1:35-42.
2. Jesus calls the four fishermen to follow him full time: Peter, Andrew, James, John; Lk 5:1-11.
3. Jesus chooses the Twelve; Mk 3:13-19 & Lk 6:12-15.
4. Jesus sends the Twelve out; Mk 6:7ff; Lk 9:1ff.
5. Jesus is crucified, and soon after commissions the Twelve; Mt 28:18-20.

B. Chronological notes

1. Jesus spent ~27 AD teaching, preaching, healing & performing miracles, to which the Twelve were exposed.
2. From the time of his baptism to the calling of the fishermen to full time ministry was about one year.
3. From the time of his calling them to the choosing of the Twelve was perhaps a half a year.
4. From the time of his choosing them to sending them out under his direct supervision for short-term ministry was perhaps another nine months.
5. From the time of his sending them out for short-term ministry until their post-resurrection long-term commissioning was about 18 months.

C. Why did Jesus choose these particular twelve men?

1. It was the sovereign choice of God to choose whom He wanted.
2. In part His choice was likely based on the gifting & ability with which He designed each of these men; e.g. in the parable of the talents responsibility delegated, matched ability.
3. In part His choice was likely based on the faithfulness of each of these men. Otherwise there seems to be no distinguishing common characteristic among them.

¹ *The NIV Study Bible, 10th Anniv. Ed., "The Life of Christ,"* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan) 1995, p. 1478.

D. For what purpose did Jesus choose the Twelve?

1. "That they might be with him;" i.e., live with, eat & drink with, travel with, watch, listen to, learn from him; i.e. close friendship & training
2. "That he might send them out to preach & to cast out demons;" i.e., advance the kingdom as he directs

II. Jesus' Principles of Leadership Development²**A. Selection – "Men were his method."**

Lk 6:12-13 NIV *One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God. When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles...*

1. To win the masses, he trained a few.
2. He forewent short-term superficial success for long-term lasting fruit.
3. His primary qualifications appear to have been spiritual hunger, teachability, and faithfulness.

B. Association – "He was with them."

Mk 3:14-15 NIV *He appointed twelve—designating them apostles—that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach and to have authority to drive out demons.*

1. Being "with him" was superior to alternative formal methods of education.
2. His time with thm involved all sorts of settings & situations of life.
3. No substitution could be made for quantity of time.

C. Consecration – "He required obedience from them."

Lk 9:61-62 NIV *Still another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say good-bye to my family." Jesus replied, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."*

1. Lordship meant surrender, submission, self-denial, & sacrifice; in short, the cross.
2. No one can be an excellent leader unless they first learn to be an excellent follower.
3. In God's kingdom truth must be practiced in order to receive more truth.

D. Impartation – "He gave himself in service to them."

Mt 20:28 NIV *"(T)he Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."*

² Taken & adapted from *The Master Plan Of Evangelism*, by Robert Coleman, (Fleming Revell Co.), 1964.

1. He gave of himself without reservation; no service was too small, no sacrifice too great.
2. Everything he received from his Father, he gave them; all he gave them came from his Father.
3. It was through the Holy Spirit that he imparted himself to them.

E. Demonstration – “He showed them how to live and work.”

Jn 13:13-15 NIV “You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.”

1. He knew that demonstration, not instruction alone, was necessary to adequately train them.
2. He showed them *how to*: pray, use Scripture, teach, work with the Holy Spirit, interact with people, etc.
3. Everything he demanded of his disciples, he first demonstrated to them in his own life.

F. Delegation – “He assigned them work.”

Mt 10:1, 5-8 NIV He called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness. ...These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. As you go, preach this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven is near.’ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.”

1. His assignments were measurable, & were given with clear, specific instructions.
2. He gave them the corresponding authority necessary to carry out their responsibilities.
3. He had them work in pairs.

G. Supervision – “He oversaw them and their work.”

Lk 9:10; 10:17-20; cf. Mk 9:28-29 NIV When the apostles returned, they reported to Jesus what they had done. Then he took them with him and they withdrew by themselves to a town called Bethsaida,

The seventy-two returned with joy and said, “Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.” He replied, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

1. He continually reviewed their work, beliefs, attitudes, and understanding so they could improve.
2. Without feedback, the following can easily set in: error, pride, discouragement, and/or lack of excellence.
3. Success depended on their willingness to receive correction: no correction, no improvement.

H. Reproduction – “He expected them to reproduce themselves.”

Mt 28:18-20 NIV Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

1. The Great Commission is the one imperative “Make disciples!” “Going,” “baptizing,” & “teaching” are all actions (participles) whose purpose, value, and worth are anchored in the command to make disciples.
2. Jesus’ master plan was to make disciples who would make disciples who would make disciples who would... Jesus’ whole strategy to win the world depended on this plan. He had no other plan.
3. Such reproduction has an exponential effect. One reproduction per year per person results in one person multiplying into over one million in less than twenty years, and over one billion in less than 30 years.

Year	Growth	Year	Growth
1	1 > 2	11	1024 > 2048
2	2 > 4	12	2048 > 4096
3	4 > 8	13	4096 > 8192
4	8 > 16	14	8192 > 16,384
5	16 > 32	15	16,384 > 32,768
6	32 > 64	16	32,768 > 65,536
7	64 > 128	17	65,536 > 131,072
8	128 > 256	18	131,072 > 262,144
9	256 > 512	19	262,144 > 524,288
10	512 > 1024	20	524,288 > 1,048,576