



The Leadership Seasons That Need Special Attention

Mark Carter & Mark Albrecht

- NorthBridge Church launched in 2001. They are on the Northern border of IL, building bridges to lost people, the next generation of church leaders and to the community.

1. Don't Get Ahead of God

- Classified by feelings of anxiety through comparison, everyone is ahead of you. Not being content with where you are. Anxious to take the next step.
- Questioning: Does what I'm doing matter? Is God really at work? God does not despise small beginnings, but we do.
- God allows testing of our faithfulness.
- You may feel you have to get to the next level in order to be legitimate.
- Recognize the advantages of this season of being smaller, and leverage them. Change your thinking.
- Take risks but don't do things frivolously.
- Enjoy the relationship, fellowship, and passion.
- The hard-fought battles are where lessons are learned and our resolve gets "steely".
- "Our small steps activate God's hand in our lives." -Mark A.
- The body of Christ also applies to each church being a part of that body, not just individuals.
- Rejoice in who God has called you to be.
- God is sanctifying you and He wants you to be you.

2. Don't Give Up

- Persevere, it will be hard.
- When you're on the cusp of a new era take time to get ready, to put yourself in a position to have maximum spiritual, physical and emotional strength.
- Don't let the enemy discourage you. Let the Lord grow and stretch you to a new place.
- Open up to other leaders, let them speak into your life, let them help carry the weight of leadership.
- 3 Stages of Ministry: 1. Minister to people. 2. Minister with people. 3. Minister to people through other people. Empower, invest, and work through other people, in order to move forward.
- Hebrews 12:3 (ESV) *Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.*
- Take responsibility to maintain your spiritual zeal, to bring your full self. You are not a victim.
- The enemy will whisper lies of inadequacy.



- Hebrews 12:1 (ESV) *Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.*
- Bring refreshment to your life through weekly rhythms.
- Do not let your heart drift. Confess sin. Bring your pure heart to the Lord and His work.
- This could just be a test of faithfulness. Expand your capacity to be faithful, to finish what God has called you to. Rest when you need to.
- Resources: [Leading on Empty: Refilling Your Tank and Renewing Your Passion, by Wayne Cordeiro](#)
[The Emotionally Healthy Leader: How Transforming Your Inner Life Will Deeply Transform Your Church, Team, and the World, by Peter Scazzero](#)
- Life is a series of sprints with rest periods in between.
- Fix your eyes on Jesus, cry out to Him to help you persevere and strengthen your resolve to finish what God wants you to.

Additional Resources

- [A Resilient Life: You Can Move Ahead No Matter What, by Gordon MacDonald](#)
- Study on resiliency and ministry: [8 Ways to be a Resilient Pastor](#)
- [Essentialism: The Disciplined Pursuit of Less, by Greg Mckewon](#)
- [Free to Focus: A Total Productivity System to Achieve More by Doing Less, by Michael Hyatt](#)
- [Deep Work: Rules for Focused Success in a Distracted World, by Cal Newport](#)
- Podcast: [The Pastors Collective](#)

- 1 Timothy 4:15 (ESV) *Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress. Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers.*
- Leadership is a journey of progressing. Be content in the season you're in.
- "Lord, help me to be just a little bit better tomorrow than I am today." - Mark A.



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