

WHATEVER HAPPENS... EMBRACE THE TENSIONS:

7 ANCHORS FOR

Contemporary Ministry

PHILIPPIANS 1:27 / EPHESIANS 4: 1-3



THE JOY OF LEADERSHIP



WHATEVER HAPPENS... EMBRACE THE TENSIONS:

7 ANCHORS FOR CONTEMPORARY MINISTRY

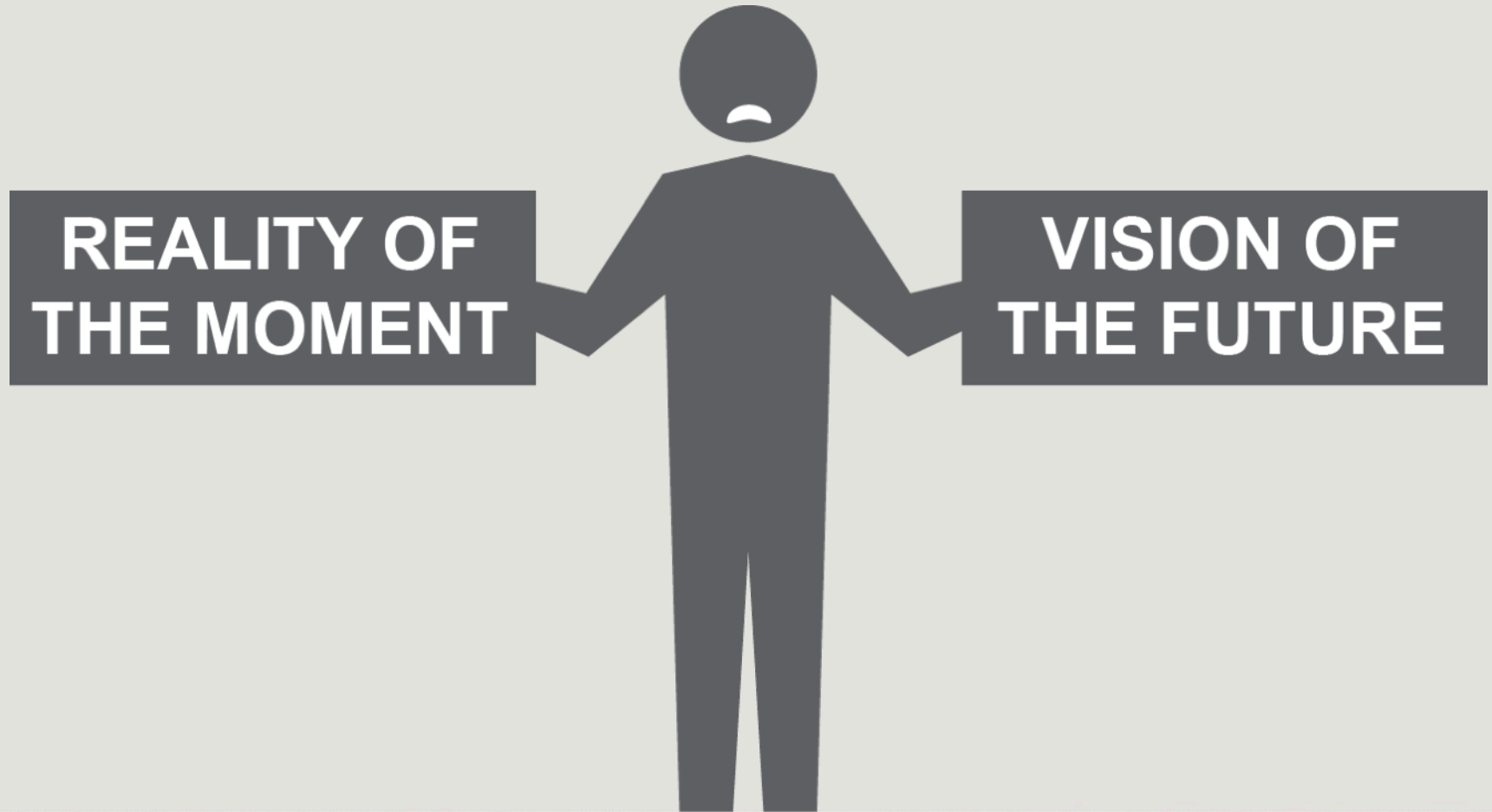


“BLESSED IS THE PASTOR
WHO IS CAPTURED BY A BIG,
GOD-INSPIRED VISION!”

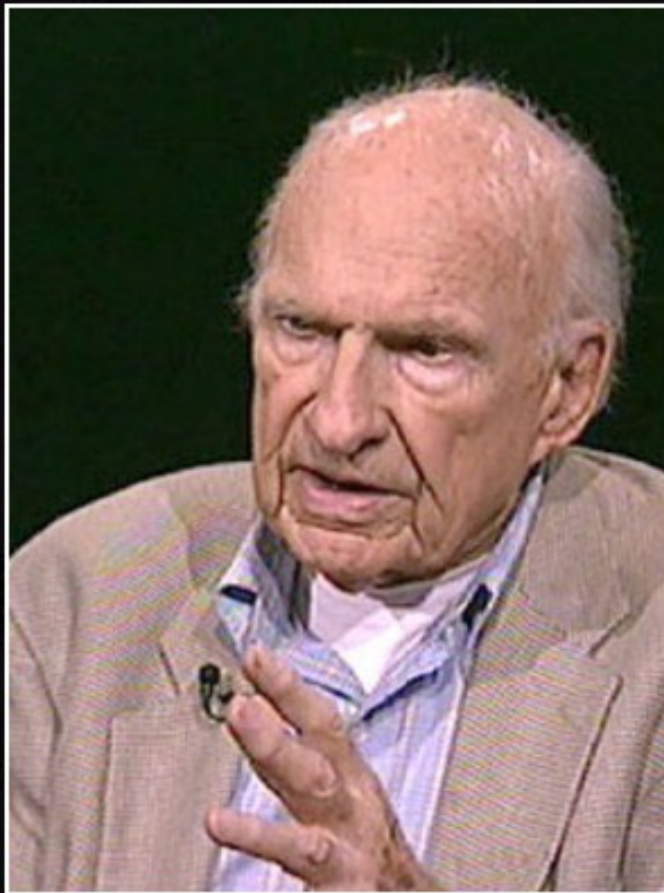


A VISION IS A CONSUMING, PASSIONATE,
AND COMPELLING INNER PICTURE,
SEEING THINGS CLEARLY
AND AT A GREAT DISTANCE.

THE PAIN OF LEADERSHIP



WHATEVER HAPPENS... EMBRACE THE TENSIONS:
7 ANCHORS FOR CONTEMPORARY MINISTRY

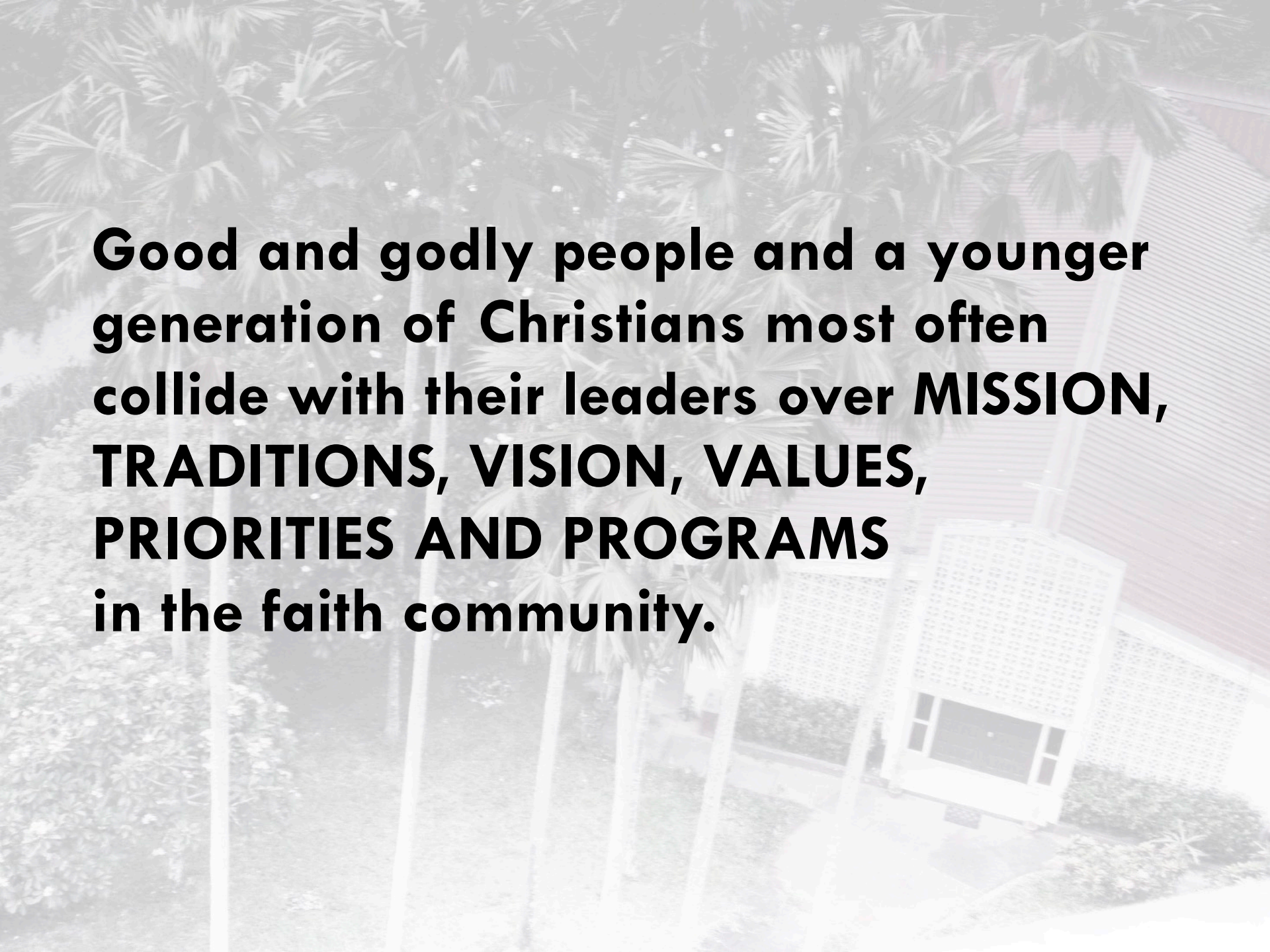


“LEADING FOR
CHANGE IS NOT THE
SAME AS EXERCISE OF
POWER.”

—*George McGregor Burns*—

The background is a faded, high-angle photograph of a tropical setting. It features several tall palm trees with dense fronds. In the lower right, there is a building with a red-tiled roof and a white, lattice-like structure, possibly a gate or a screen. The overall tone is light and airy, with the text overlaid in a dark, bold font.

LEADERSHIP IN FAITH COMMUNITIES... THE TRANSFERENCE OF VISION!

The background of the slide features a faded, high-angle photograph of a tropical setting. Several tall palm trees with feathery fronds are visible, their trunks leaning slightly. In the lower right portion of the image, a portion of a building with a red-tiled roof and white walls is visible, including a balcony with a white railing. The overall image has a soft, semi-transparent quality, allowing the text to be the primary focus.

Good and godly people and a younger generation of Christians most often collide with their leaders over MISSION, TRADITIONS, VISION, VALUES, PRIORITIES AND PROGRAMS in the faith community.



?

**How do we LEAD
decisively and faithfully
when tensions arise
over change & transitions?**



?

**What
does it really
mean,
to **LEAD**
a divided faith
community,
with the mind
of Christ?**





?

**1. How can we live together
in this local church so that
our relationships are
redemptive and a witness to
unbelievers of the reconciling
work of God in Christ?**

SEVEN ANCHORS

**hold us steady as we lead
decisively and faithfully
in the tensions and transitions
of our contemporary pastoral ministry.**

WHATEVER HAPPENS... EMBRACE THE TENSIONS:

7 ANCHORS FOR CONTEMPORARY MINISTRY

ANCHOR # 1:

SPEAK GRACEFULLY

—EPHESIANS 4:29—

ISSUE:

“Watch the words we speak”

PRINCIPLE:

Words we speak can bless or “destroy” people

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7 ANCHORS FOR CONTEMPORARY MINISTRY



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**How do others feel
when they leave my presence?**

Stronger or weaker?

Larger or smaller?

Confident or “scared”?

Understood or misunderstood?

Affirmed or manipulated?

Blessed or “destroyed”?

PRAISE to CRITICISM ratio

80-90%

praise or positive statements

10-20%

criticism or negative statements

-Sven Walroos, clinical psychologist.

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ANCHOR # 2:

LIVE GRATEFULLY

—1 THESSALONIANS 5:18—

ISSUE:

Comparison is the root of inferiority

PRINCIPLE:

“Don’t complain. Be grateful”

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COMPARISON

**robs us of joy, relationships,
confidence and peace.**

**In the process, it saps our energy
and drains us of enthusiasm.**

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ANCHOR # 3:

LISTEN INTENTLY

—JAMES 1:19—

ISSUE:

“Seek first to understand”

PRINCIPLE:

**Understanding, not agreement,
is the key to conflict management**

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THEOLOGICAL VISION
PRECEDES
ORGANIZATIONAL VISION.



Growth *producing* questions:

- “What can I learn?”
- “How can I change?”

Growth *inhibiting* questions:

- “Why me?”
- “What if...?”

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ANCHOR # 4:

FORGIVE FREELY

— LUKE 23:34 —

ISSUE:

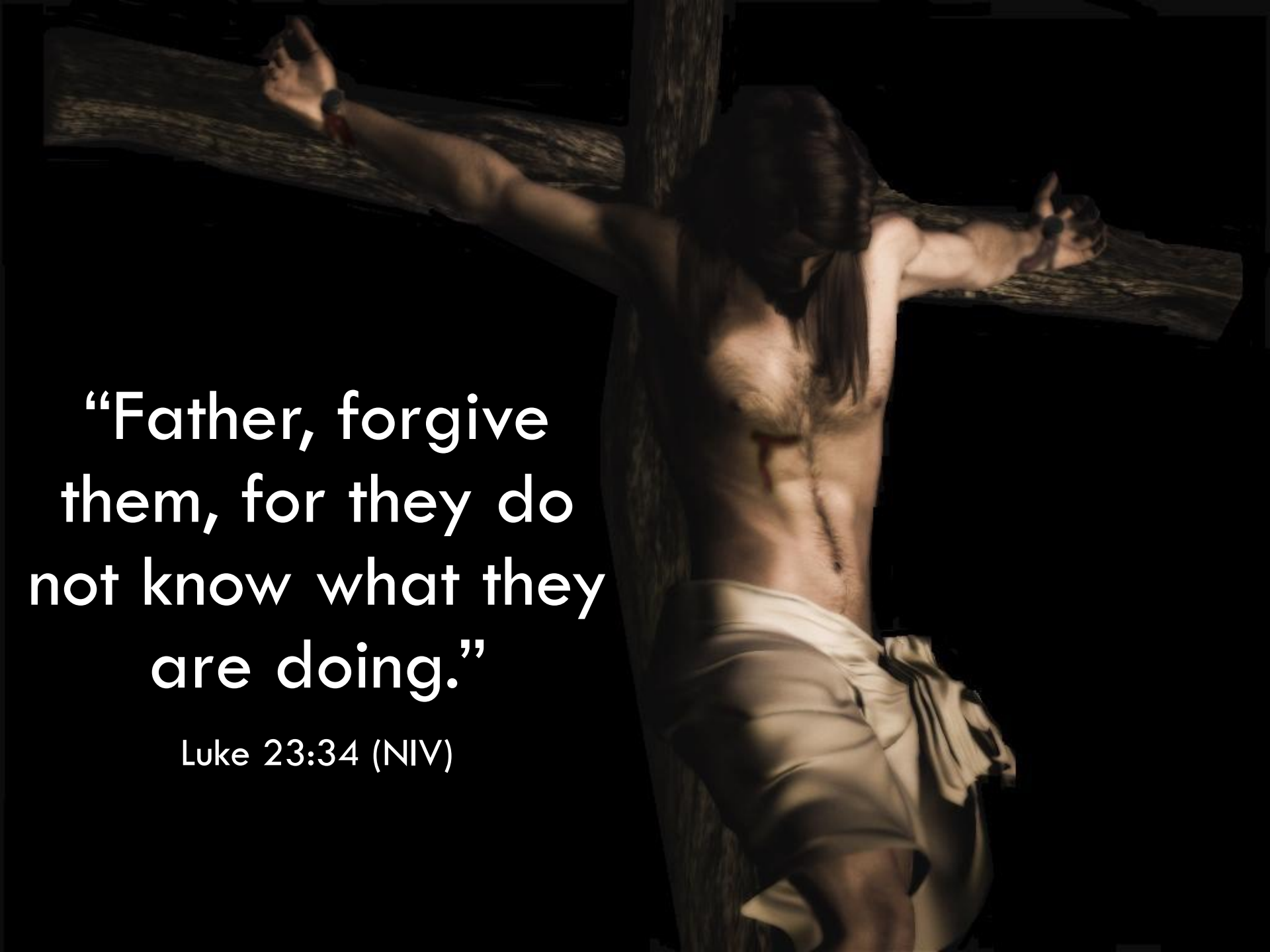
Be proactive in extending forgiveness

PRINCIPLE:

**A spirit of forgiveness transforms
and empowers leaders**

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“Father, forgive
them, for they do
not know what they
are doing.”

Luke 23:34 (NIV)

ANCHOR # 5:

LEAD DECISIVELY

— ROMANS 12:8C —

ISSUE:

**Christian leaders combine deep humility,
clear vision, and intense resolve**

PRINCIPLE:

**Our holiness testimony is reflected in and through the
way we *make* and *implement* decisions**

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They give passionate attention to the leadership roles of:

- Dreaming and planning
- Organizing and administering
- Motivating and encouraging
- Evaluating and reviewing

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PLANNING CYCLE



We move ahead – decisively – through:

PRAYER, with them, for them and for “me” as leader;

COLLABORATION, involving them when and where we can in the process; and with

GRATITUDE, thanking God, and “them” for their gifts, talents, abilities and testimonies of faith.

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ANCHOR # 6:

LOVE DEEPLY

—1 THESSALONIANS 2:7—

ISSUE:

Value people not power (or position)

PRINCIPLE:

**The evidence of leadership is seen
in the lives of the followers**

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ANCHOR # 7:

PRAY EARNESTLY

— 1 THESSALONIANS 5:17 —

ISSUE:

**Some issues are resolved only through prayer
and dependence on God**

PRINCIPLE:

**Recognize that God can work in us
to become the change we desire to see in others**

WHATEVER HAPPENS... EMBRACE THE TENSIONS:

7 ANCHORS FOR CONTEMPORARY MINISTRY

**In the midst of experiencing honest and
intense differences**



**between good and godly people, the
“pray-er” can be **changed** and
transformed!**

ANCHORS hold us steady in the tensions and transitions in our contemporary ministry:

- 1. Speak Gracefully. Watch our words**
- 2. Live Gratefully. Don't complain, be grateful**
- 3. Listen Intently. Seek first to understand**
- 4. Forgive Freely. Be proactive in forgiving**
- 5. Lead Decisively. With vision, humility and resolve**
- 6. Love Deeply. Value people, not power**
- 7. Pray Earnestly. Become the change**

WHATEVER HAPPENS... EMBRACE THE TENSIONS:

7 ANCHORS FOR CONTEMPORARY MINISTRY



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QUESTION #1

**Which of these seven anchors
is your greatest strength?**



QUESTION #2

**On which one of these
“anchors” do you need most to
focus in your contemporary
leadership ministry?**

LET'S REVIEW!

1. **Speak Gracefully.** Watch our words
2. **Live Gratefully.** Don't complain, be grateful
3. **Listen Intently.** Seek first to understand
4. **Forgive Freely.** Be proactive in forgiving
5. **Lead Decisively.** With vision, humility and resolve
6. **Love Deeply.** Value people, not power
7. **Pray Earnestly.** Become the change

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QUESTION #3

**What difference would it
make in your ministry if
you intentionally embrace
this anchor?**



Is there a new **vision**,
big **goal**, or renewed **passion**
God is given to you
during this service?

**“Our testimony of faith in
Jesus Christ must increasingly
inform and transform the
way we lead and live
in a faith community.”**

WHATEVER HAPPENS... EMBRACE THE TENSIONS:

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“Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ.”

Philippians 1:27

WHATEVER HAPPENS... EMBRACE THE TENSIONS:

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**This is the spirit of holiness:
Live and lead
with the mind of Christ.**

LET'S PRAY!

1. **Speak Gracefully.** Watch our words
2. **Live Gratefully.** Don't complain, be grateful
3. **Listen Intently.** Seek first to understand
4. **Forgive Freely.** Be proactive in forgiving
5. **Lead Decisively.** With vision, humility and resolve
6. **Love Deeply.** Value people, not power
7. **Pray Earnestly.** Become the change

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