



Business Leadership Group

Dr. Henry Cloud | Leader, How's Your Wake?—Session 1 of 4

Just like a ship's wake, the wake of a leader can create energy that lift teams, energizes vision, strategies and execution. The same wake can also erode shores and destroy harbors! How's your wake? This is a great resource for groups, company teams and leaders of all stripes. 4 high-value, jam-packed sessions.

Henry recounts a training engagement with a global ministry leader who passionately expressed his opinion that his executive team members only needed leadership development, not spiritual development. That thought is not uncommon; but it has been labeled as a *diabolic dichotomy*. Do you take issue with the ministry leader's opinion? [explain and discuss]

Around time mark 8:00, Henry references 2 Peter 1:3-15. A good study on that passage clearly links a dynamic, ever increasing exercise of a list of attributes to a greater knowledge of Christ. How do you see that passage as applicable to the global ministry team? <<Part of that passage is quoted below>>

How might that passage apply to your own leadership and to company culture? [be prepared to discuss]

Henry begins defining the Biblical concept of character as experience. His amazing example of his brother-in-law, Mark's experience as a Navy Seal is certainly inspiring and thought provoking. How critical do you think Marcus' combat training was in preparing him for his super-human performance on the battle field? Do you see parallels to personal and team development? [discuss]

Select the item above that would make the most impact or warrants immediate attention and answer the following questions:

How should I apply this concept or practice to my business or personal life?

Comment:



Development Objectives:
Life, Leadership, Excellence,

For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. [2 Peter 1:5-8 ESV](#)



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Henry begins this segment with an inspiring illustration from his brother-in-law, a distinguished Navy Seal, whose “makeup was molded by his development.” Theoretically, anyone could go through Seal training and accomplish things that he did. How important do you think *Mark's sense of calling* might have been for him to not just be efficient and effective; but *exhibit virtue* in his service? [Discuss]

Henry states: “You have energy of heart, mind, soul and strength to be invested in time...As you apply your energy over time, you become a force.” That force causes things [people] to move around and behind you and leaves a wake. Leaders are judged by their wake. Just like a boat wake has two dimensions, leaders’ wakes are judged by *results and relationships*. On those two dimensions, how would you rate yourself as a leader? [Discuss]

Henry states that he does not want leaders’ opinions on themselves. He does pursue the opinions of those in the leaders’ wake. Why would the opinions vary? Why do you think he ignores leaders’ self-reflective evaluations? [Discuss]

Henry suggested a way to solicit input from followers to understand the effectiveness of our wakes. What might be gained from this process? Do you have a similar self-evaluation process? [Discuss]

Select the topic above that would make the most impact or warrants immediate attention and answer the following questions:

1. Should I apply this concept or practice to my business or personal life?
2. Can I commit to a schedule to implement this application? [explain and discuss with the group, if necessary]

Comment:

For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

[2 Peter 1:5-8 ESV](#)



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Henry references Psalm 85:10 ESV “Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.” God’s Word translation says: “Mercy and truth have met. Righteousness and peace have kissed.” The truth and love marriage is followed by a reference to abundant harvest. How does *failure to express truth in love* impact the *harvest or profitability*? [explain]

Henry begins covering six critical dynamics of leadership with the concept of *trust* at the team level. In another FCCI series, he explained that low trust is toxic and leads to high threat levels to the team. Self-preservation short circuits higher level motivations and creative problem solving is one of the first things to disappear. Have you ever experienced this as an employee or as a leader? [explain & discuss]

With *trust* as a foundation, *truth* is much more likely to abound. The very best reckoning point or idea usually comes from a worker who is closest to the front line challenge. Trust gives the employee far more confidence that their thoughts will be considered, valued and potentially acted upon. The Pixar illustration upholds a rule: “**Ideas have no rank.**” *How do you* approach coming up with the best solutions to business challenges? [review Proverbs 18:13 & 18:17, then explain]

At peer level [like your FCCI group], mutual trust and esteem is often easier to express when the group is converging on opinions or approaches that differ from your own. Do you experience transferrable skills from your FCCI interaction that help you build and maintain trust at your team level? [Explain]

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Comment:



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With *trust* as foundation and *truth* resting on it, *results* can be enhanced. As a starting point in exploring *results*, Henry explores the **Ready | Aim | Fire**, vs. the **Ready | Fire | Aim** and the **Ready | Ready | Ready** action templates. Have you ever experienced unmet results due to the last two? [explain]

Embracing negative realities requires leaders to move toward failures or unmet expectations. Jesus said in John 16:33 “In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.” How might you apply Jesus teaching to run toward negative outcomes and deal with them constructively? [explain & discuss]

Increase means that leaders grow things. They cannot remain static or not grow. We must grow before we can grow others. We must not remain complacent in our own comfort zone; but always be pressing onward and upward. Do you agree or disagree? [Consider Phil 1:6 before you explain]

Transcendence in Henry’s leadership model is continual reference to values that govern daily decisions, are tied into the Vision and Mission; provide unity and the glue that hold things together. For the Christ following leader Biblical values help us experience God’s favor. How might Isaiah 66:2 apply to the concept of *transcendence*? [See reference below, reflect and discuss]

Select the item above that would make the most impact or warrants immediate attention and answer the following questions:

- 3. Should I apply this concept or practice to my business or personal life?
- 4. Can I commit to a schedule to implement this application? [explain and discuss with the group, if necessary]

Comment:

He helps us in all our troubles, so that we are able to help others who have all kinds of troubles, using the same help that we ourselves have received from God. 2 Corinthians 1:4 GNB

“These are the ones I look on with favor: those who are humble and contrite in spirit, and who tremble at my word. Isaiah 66:2 (NIV)



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