



Good News

~From Around the Plant~

May 2011

I have always been a student of leadership for whatever reason. I may not be the best leader myself, but I've always admired those who are. There are so many great stories of leadership in the Bible - stories about Moses, Noah, and David and of course, Jesus Himself.

I studied a book on leadership a few years ago that is worth mentioning and reading if you enjoy learning about it or want to hone your own skills. We're all leaders, in our families or of ourselves, if nowhere else. The book is by John Maxwell and is called The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership. Maxwell is an ordained pastor and has spent many years teaching the leadership skills he learned from leaders all over the world. He used them while overseeing several churches which enjoyed tremendous growth and has taught them in seminars nationwide.

These 21 laws are facets of leadership which stand alone. I'll only have room to talk about one of those here, and my choice is the Law of "Solid Ground."

Leadership, as defined by Maxwell, is the ability to influence people - nothing more, nothing less. He says that leadership ability is not static - no matter where you start from, you can get better.

Trust, Maxwell contends, is the foundation of leadership. To build trust a leader must exemplify competence, connection (with people) and character. Character, he states, makes trust possible.

When you lead people, it's as if they're on a journey with you, he says. With good character, the longer the trip is the better it seems. But with flawed character, the longer the trip is, the worse it gets. Why? Because no one enjoys spending time with someone he doesn't trust.

Maxwell says that character communicates respect. He says that when you don't have strength within, you can't earn respect without. And respect is absolutely essential for lasting leadership. How do you earn respect? By making sound decisions, admitting your mistakes, and putting what's best for your followers and the organization ahead of your personal agenda.

Whenever a leader violates the law of Solid Ground, he pays a price in his leadership.

Maxwell concludes that no leader can break trust with his people and expect to keep influencing them. Violate that law, he says, and you're through as a leader.

Trivia Corner

March's trivia question was really more of a silly riddle. The question was "Whom does the Bible direct to make coffee, men or women?" The answer is, "There's a whole book about it; **HE-BREWS**".....Sorry!

Let's try this trivia question for May: **How long did Cain hate his brother?** Call extension 2694 with your answer.

In His service and yours, Chaplain Dan Pulliam

Call Our Plant Chaplain Hotline: 724 284-2694

UAW Local 3303 Chaplains

Chuck Becker	724 586 2421 (h)	Ed Grey	724 283 9771 (h)
		Trucks	
Mary Bureau		Dave Convery	724 991 1706 (c)
North Processing	724 284 2572 (w)	Machine Shop	724 284 2358 (w)
Dan Pulliam	724 285 8382 (h)	Bonnie Harbison	724 283 2873 (h)
Hot Mill Cranes	724 290 1734 (c)	Masonry	724 284 2608 (w)
Bob Rock	724 282 0739 (h)		
Janitors			