**The 5 Laws of Leading Yourself Successfully – Mentor’s Guide**

**Introduction**

This should be a video – welcoming the student to the mentoring process. (Mike write out a script and shoot a video for this - (from the intro down to “Patterns”?? – in green)

Welcome to The 5 Laws of Leading Yourself Successfully! This is a guide to help you learn the principles that God has put in place to help all of us live lives full of purpose and joy.

You may or may not be in a bad place. Chances are, you started reading this because there are some things in life that are NOT going well. Maybe you’re frustrated with some things. Maybe everything seems to be working against you. Maybe you’re at the end of your rope, and this is a last ditch effort to find some answers. Or, maybe you just know you could do things a little better.

For whatever reason, you have come to the right place, at a perfect time. God is here, with us, right now, and He has so much planned for you. He can’t wait to take this journey with you, because on the other side, He knows you will arrive at the other side not just experiencing a better life, you will be more useful for His purposes.

This is part of our LEADER Track, and before you get all nervous, not thinking you were entering a Leadership Class, let me just qualify!

You are entering a Successful Life Class… but in truth, the steps to success and victories in life are centered around **leadership.**

 1. Leading Yourself

 2. Leading Others.

Here’s an interesting Note**: #1 is a choice. #2 you do whether you know it or not.**

You don’t HAVE to lead yourself. However, you are always going to be leading others because of your positions in life. BUT – if you do not do #1, you will do #2 POORLY.

(Note: Please understand that this is always grounded in an understanding that we are all to be led by God…and through the Word and His Spirit, we are challenged to lead ourselves Better – so that we can lead others toward HIM!).

Successful people lead themselves WELL.

Those who don’t, live life in **circles (or Ruts)**

These people incur the same issues, problems and ruts for decades, like Groundhog Day.

Definition of Success: NOT Rich and Famous – but living a fulfilled life of purpose and calling in Jesus Christ.

**Question:** Do you ever ask yourself**: “Why does it seem like nothing ever changes?”**

**or**

**“What does God want me to DO with my life?”**

These questions are a symptom of poor leadership. Millions of people ask these questions every day, because they are NOT leading themselves well.

So this class is designed to help you understand the principles, or Laws of how to do just that!

So – in this introduction, let’s first get a better understanding of what leadership is.

**Understanding Leadership**

The first thing you know is that

1. Leadership is NOT a position - Leadership is LIFE!

Leadership does NOT mean Ministry Leader, Business Owner, Manager.

Leadership is who we are! And leadership is how we live….in every area of our lives.

 We are all leading…positive, negative, or stalled out (negative). How?

 We Lead Ourselves -

Every morning you wake up - you begin to LEAD yourself into choices, behaviors and actions throughout the day that will create certain short term and long term outcomes. (discuss patterns-outcomes?)

We develop patterns around Our choices each day, what we read, how we make decisions, spend $, choose to act/react to others, what purpose we choose to live for.

 Spiritual: You make choices to include God in these choices every day - who will surely effect how you lead yourself, and in essence what the outcome will be.

 We Lead Others –

Once we come into close relationship with others, we begin to lead (influence). Spouse, kids, employees, others we influence. We lead others whether we like it or not.

And how we lead others is usually hinged on how we lead ourselves, **and if God is at the center of that leadership.**

The 2nd thing you should know is that:

**BELOW in Red cut out?**

2. Leading Yourself Well is Expected by God.

*“bodily discipline is only of little profit, but godly discipline is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.” 1 Tim 4:8*

There’s a common myth that is held by many believers, and that is that:

If you Believe in God and EVERYTHING just falls into place.

Jeremiah 29:11 *“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”*

 “God’s got all my plans laid out!”

BUT - in context: Where were the Israelites? In exile! Why? They made bad

 choices….and did NOT lead themselves well.

 God’s promise is to restore them so they can:

“*Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me with all your heart*.”

God expects you to Lead Yourself in relationship to HIM, as a discipline, so THAT you can enjoy all that He has for you*.*

1. God does NOT live your life for you, or make your daily choices to lead yourself for you.
2. **And He will NOT keep you from falling when you don’t lead yourself.**
3. If you want to experience the Plans HE has laid out for you - you need to lead yourself well and include Him in the daily process.

(Grace - When we fall, He will teach and restore us.)

The 3rd thing you should know about leadership is that:

3. Successful Self-Leadership, in any area of life, is **PREDICTABLE**

Do you know that you can look at most people around you and determine if they will be successful at reaching their goals and God’s Vision for their lives?

We all do this daily on a lower level: “They won’t amount to much.” Judgment.

But truly, the success of someone in reaching their goals, God’s ultimate calling on their life, can be both predictable and measurable. Here are a few ways:

**Success is Predictable by Principles**:

Even though we consider God to be the one who gives or holds back success,

God has instituted Principles that guide the way in most cases for a successful life (Bible), and for successful leadership.

SO: If you discover and follow His principles, you will move toward success.

BUT - Its up to us to discover these principles and so they can shape our PATTERNS that guide our life. That’s the next one:

**Success is Predictable by our Patterns**:

a. Patterns Predict Success...or Failure!

 Patterns are your systematic behaviors and methods you use to go about life.

 People follow patterns in all areas of life (Finances, Relationships, Communication) that begin to PREDICT their futures even more than education, opportunity or luck.

 But are they patterns that are guided by principles, or by bad behaviors learned from others?

b. Patterns can be formed out of bad examples, crises, or even comfort levels.

 Who did you learn your patterns from?

Role Models: “I do it cuz my daddy did it.”

 Reactions: “I’ve been burnt, so I don’t trust.” “I can’t let people in.” (Get healing)

 Resolved: “I don’t feel like I need to do anything different” “I’m comfortable here.”

 But if patterns steer us - then actions from all the above patterns will steer us AWAY from God’s ultimate vision for our lives…and being fulfilled.

**The below exercise should be homework (designated by brown), where the video breaks so the student can go do the exercise, and answer questions in the appendix exercise. Then come back in to video 2. Mike – maybe insert better questions in the appendix for the student to answer.**

**Illustration Exercise:**

**Observable Pattern:** A woman sees everyone she meets as a potential friend & help to her life, so she connects well, and makes friends fast.

**Where will she be in 10-20 years?**

 She is never alone, and always has people around her helping her succeed.

**Observable Pattern:** A man works hard at the same job, always dreaming to get ahead in his finances. So he buys lottery tickets on the way home from work on pay day, only to keep scratching losers. So he tries making a few bucks selling some things he purchases at garage sales…but he never has enough time, so he usually breaks even. Seems like no matter what he does, he struggles financially.

**Where will he be in 10-20 years?**

He will struggle all his life to get ahead, and may even lose his current job because he doesn’t ever use it as the tool for advancing financially.

One seems to lead herself well, and follows healthy patterns, and the other does NOT.

 **Biblical Illustration of observable patterns? Read about Sampson (Judges)**

**Patterns…How about you?**

What are your patterns:

in marriage (how do you communicate?)

in spending (do you tend to do therapy spending?)

in eating (ice cream to feel better?)

at work, tend to feel grumpy when you are told what to do?

IN travel (what way you take to work and why?)

**Case Studies:** Group Activity \* Appendix 1

**Now we are going to do a case study found in your Appendix 1. (go to end)**

Each table will go to a Post It on the wall and TEAM Analyze 3 stories.

**Your behaviors (patterns) predict your future.**

**Is #4 needed for the mentoring process? Makes it a little long. Maybe just a short statement?**

Now the 4th thing you need to know about leadership is:

4. Successful Self-leadership happens when you Connect Results with Patterns.

* Most people NEVER make the connection between their patterns in life and the outcomes they experience.

 Why?

A. Time Disconnect between pattern choices and outcomes.

 Often years separate the two so it goes unrecognized.

 i.e. Poor leadership by communication skills learned from childhood.

 i.e. Failed marriage in year 10 because of bad patterns of communication.

B. Observing our Negative Patterns is Painful. “Who wants to do that?”

**Truth Is, when it comes to success and failure:**

* Most people think: success is from the luck of the draw, who you know, or just

 for the privileged.

* And Most people think Failure is someone else’s fault.
	1. Most people attach the results of their lives to something or someone else, and never they never change their patterns to see true change.

So - we will be examining the patterns of your life - and sifting them through proper principles to determine whether or not they need to change.

**Video #2 – cover the 5 Laws below…quickly.**

**This Class - 5 Laws**

This class is all about: *learning to Lead Yourself (and your patterns) - toward the successful life God has determined for you - using 5 Laws that seem to determine much of Life’s Outcomes.*

These laws are like the law of gravity. They are in existence whether we use them or not.

**Gravity -**

You can use to land a plane, or crash a plane.

**Formula:**

To land a plane - you use gravity along with other laws, thrust and resistance (physics) to fly a 200 Ton Jet, and guide it safely to the ground.

If you don’t use it to your advantage…**the plane crashes.**

These 5 Laws are there…observable and usable for anyone. No partiality.

The suburban kid or the urban kid have shown to use them for great success for God’s purposes.

Gifted Leaders are seen to use them along with biblical principles like character, to lead great lives and organizations….sometimes without even knowing it, because they have observed these Laws at work in other leaders.

Poor leaders avoid them…because it is not a fast food approach.

**You will Survive or Thrive based on YOUR willingness, and determination to incorporate these principles into your daily life.**

6. The 5 Laws

The Law of Vision and Values

This law governs the direction and destination of every area of our lives. Vision is the end goal of each area of our lives as it is derived from knowing God and knowing ourselves.

Values are the types of roads we choose travel to get our vision.

The Law of Frequency

This law determines our rate of acceleration toward achieving our Life’s Objectives (vision) by utilizing the “change factor.” This IS the NAVIGATION part of the journey, our flexibility to change, that reveals our willingness to move forward at whatever the cost.

The Law of Perception

This law strives to a proper perception of ourselves by incorporating the views and perceptions of others. This practice gives us a much broader view of our life map, and where we really are as it relates to our Vision Goals.

The Law of Accountability

This law DEMANDS that we OWN our contributions to the results we experience, and allows others into our lives to make sure we stay the course of Vision. It allows us to have complete control over our patterns rather than our patterns controlling us, simply by becoming humble and teachable. Those who master this drive in the passing lane.

The Law of Leadership

This law includes other valuable people in your path…seeing them as allies instead of adversaries. The broader view of leadership always runs with others, and develops the next generation.

These Laws are found in Scripture, and are principles God has put in place.

These laws develop patterns that will predict your future…in all areas of life.

And knowing them can help you determine what others need to turn their ship around.

**Chinese General Sun Tzu - The Art of War. 2500 Years ago.**

 Principles used today in business and group dynamics classes.

 Law of Predictability: “In ever battle ever fought, the results are most often determined prior to fighting the battle.”

**Homework: This is important for the mentor to help them walk through when they meet…so explain it better!!!**

**For the next two weeks…observe your life, relationships, actions and decision.**

**List 3 Patterns in your life (Good or Bad) that you exhibit in life that will contribute or hinder your success.**

Here are some examples:

Being negativity in life, in humor, in relationships? Critical?

 Being upbeat, positive? Lifegiving?

 Being afraid of commitment?

 Being trusting of others?

 Quitting jobs every 3 months?

 Stubborn Pride, sensitive ego?

 Humility and Teachable?

What 3 Patterns do I exhibit that will contribute to my success in that area of my life?

What 3 Patterns do I exhibit that will hinder my success in that area of my life?

Appendix 1: Patterns Predict Success

1. Identify the patterns in the person’s life.
2. Identify the kind of leadership in his/her life.
3. Identify the probable results (destination) of his/her patterns.

1. A man has developed severe anger issues because he feels like he has been abandoned throughout his life. His anger and negativity continue to drive people away from him, thus enforcing his anger. His marriage is in danger, and his kids barely talk to him.

1.
2.

2. A woman who is bitter about a husband’s infidelity pushes him and other men away because of her guarded, emotional disconnectedness and lack of trust. Feeling closed off, the men in her life are liable to seek more emotionally satisfying relationships elsewhere, thus fueling her bitterness and lack of trust.

1.
2.
3.

3. An assistant to a Ministry Leader in a large church is passed over for promotion when the leader moves on. He never asks his direct reports for a reason, but starts to resent coworkers and other leaders, seeing them as competition and the reason for him not being promoted. This resentment leads to stifled communication and poor rapport with fellow team members. He isolates. His increasing obvious sense of disconnect from his work environment will likely guarantee that he will be passed over for future promotions, thereby fanning the flame of his resentment.

1.
2.