



Follow the Leader

Better is a poor man who walks in his integrity than a man who is perverse in speech, and is a fool (Proverbs 19:1)

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This newsletter will focus on the leadership qualities of honesty and openness. What seems like the easiest quality to achieve can often be the most difficult. For instance, how do you honestly answer your LWML sister when she asks you a sensitive question?

Honesty and openness are essential skills for a successful leader. Those who serve with you need to know they can speak to you about anything. They need to be comfortable and confident that you are open to listen to any issue or suggestion with grace, dignity, and a can-do attitude. A leader with an “it’s my way or the highway” attitude will fail. A leader who has a meltdown anytime a problem is presented may also find that she has no followers. At the same time, a leader should be willing to handle the sometimes-tough task of being honest and let someone know that their method isn’t working anymore. They also should be willing to face the tougher task of admitting when they’ve had a bad idea or made a mistake.

When asked about honesty and openness in leaders, LWML Treasurer Marilyn Schroeder had the following to say, “Leaders aren’t perfect, myself included. Being open and honest is paramount. God knows my every action. I intend to be a servant guide, serving with gentleness and trustworthiness, making others feel safe.”

While being a leader can bring you great joy, it can also mean navigating some tricky situations. If you always lead honestly and openly, all the while demonstrating Christ’s love for everyone, you will not fail.

Need additional leader help? Check out www.lwml.org/developing-leaders for more resources including:

- **Time Management: Manage Yourself, Not Your Time**
- **Meetings 101: How to Plan and Conduct Successful LWML Meetings**
- **The Planning Zone**

Miss Leading



“Good Morning Lord!” I jumped out of bed so excited for my big meeting. Then things got a little crazy. The coffee pot was cold, the dog hid one of my shoes, and my mascara was dried up. I still managed to arrive at our meeting place on time and unpacked my agenda, committee reports, sticky notes, purple pen and a stapler (just in case.) But not to be found was my official president’s gavel!

I learned that day that God still blesses your service even when you open a meeting with a prayer and by pounding a stapler (just in case) rather than an official gavel!

Think that could never happen to you? Don’t be so sure. In a recent survey of LWML leaders, I found that meetings have been opened with a pound of the cell phone, juice glass, knuckles, and even a real hammer from the church maintenance room.

Note to self: Pack up needed items the night before an important meeting and always remember the prayer!

Did you find this newsletter helpful in your service to God through LWML? Please take a moment to let us know if this resource is worthwhile. Click [here](#) to link your response with the Leader Development Committee. We would love to hear from you!