



Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are my God and Savior. Psalm 25:5a

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Greetings from the LWML LD Committee

The 2007-2009 Leader Development Committee is ready to serve you! Amy Bartels of Osage Beach, Mo, was a Young Woman Representative to the 2007 LWML Convention in Sioux Falls, SD. Cheryl Mattil of Sherman, Texas, served as Vice President of Christian Life in the Texas District LWML. Patti Ross of Tulsa, Ok, recently completed her term as Oklahoma LWML District President. Chairman Barb Virus of Orange, Ca, is a past Pacific Southwest District President and served on the LWML Nominating Committee. Jesus is our TEAM Leader. We look to Him for guidance as we seek ways to encourage and support present and future leaders.



Product Promotion

Are you a newly elected or appointed officer or committee member? Do you want to know more about your LWML office or committee? We have handbooks and guidelines to help! Look on the LWML Web site's LWML store (<http://shop.lwml.org>) under "Handbooks and Program Resources" or in the LWML Catalog under the heading "Helping You Lead." These easy to follow booklets give guidelines, suggestions and resources for many of the leadership positions in LWML societies, zones and districts. They are available in a complete set of 12 guidelines or can be ordered individually for particular offices. Order yours today!

Mentor? Just Call Me Your Friend

In my 61 years, I've been called mom, wife, friend, daughter, sister, aunt and grandma, just to name a few, but recently a younger LWML woman called me her "mentor". I've never been called that before and it makes me feel very humbled and unworthy of such a title. I think, please just call me "friend." That's a word I can handle. As a mother of three girls, it's always seemed so natural to encourage others, especially in LWML. You see, I love LWML!!! I love serving our LORD with gladness. I love the fellowship of my sisters in Christ. Why wouldn't I want others to know that kind of joy and happiness?

To me being a mentor means being a friend. Friends share life lessons, encourage each other and are always there

to offer a strong shoulder when things don't work out the way you thought they would. Being a mentor means letting things be done a new way! Trying something different! Thinking outside the box! Giving up your way (even if you don't think it's going to work). Going out of your way just to say, "Hi" or give a hug. Remember, I've walked your path. I've had the kids that screamed in church. I've had the busy schedule, trying to get everyone to church on time. I've stayed up all night with sick babies. I know.

Make a special effort to get to know one of your younger members. It may be the start of a wonderful friendship.

*Diane Knutson, Lake Ozark, MO,
Missouri District LWML*

Yielding to the Spirit

I grew up listening to Paul Harvey. I still listen to him when I get the chance. He has had a unique way of turning a phrase that makes it a pleasure to listen to his broadcasts. Often times before describing a situation that has gone out of control, he will lead into the story by saying, "Self-government won't work without self-discipline." That phrase has always stuck with me. That simple phrase expresses a profound truth.

The ability to discipline yourself is valuable commodity and a necessary trait for leadership. Most people recognize that, but not everyone comes from the same perspective. There are many definitions of self-discipline. Some say it is the ability to get yourself to take action regardless of your emotional state. Others equate it to will power. Still others say it is the ability to regulate your conduct by good judgment rather than impulse or desire.

In the church, we recognize that our self-

discipline must be a part of sanctification, the new life we live after being led to faith. We can discipline ourselves properly only when we are disciples of the one who lived and died for all men. It is part of our grateful response to the forgiveness and salvation that God has given us in Christ. Paul addressed this when writing to leaders in the early church:

Titus 2:11-13 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Self-discipline for a Christian does not emphasize self. It is yielding to the Spirit's guidance and direction rather than letting your sinful nature be in control. (Galatians 5:16 ff.)

*Rev. Michael Mattil, LWML Junior
Pastoral Counselor*

Encourage Your Fellow Leaders

Do you have an idea or leader tip to share? Has your district or zone presented a successful leadership event? Share the details with us for a possible future *The Team Leader* article. Send your ideas to Barb Virus at bvirus@juno.com.

Leader Tip 2008-2

Preparing for Public Speaking

1 Get Ready!

- Ask for God's help in making the most of an opportunity to share about Christ.
- Define an objective and write it down. Ask yourself, "What do I want to accomplish?" "What do I want to happen as a result of my speech?"
- Define two more things – what the audience expects, wants and needs to hear and what *your* needs are as you deliver the talk. Write these down in list form – three or four key thoughts for each. These lists may well become the outline for your speech.
- Make an outline. It can be as simple as answering the question, "What are the three or four most important things I want to say?" Or pretend that you've been asked to give a television interview and you have only 30 seconds to "give your speech". List those thoughts and you have a basic outline. Then you can add an introduction, conclusion and other points.

2 Put it Together!

- Keep it simple.
- Brevity is as important as simplicity. Normally it takes longer to deliver a speech than to read it. So if your speech is to last 20 minutes, write one that takes no longer than 15 minutes to read. Do set a time limit.
- The introduction and conclusion of your talk are very important and may be most remembered by the audience. Each should be memorable and relate to the main topic of the speech.
- Use personal stories to gain the attention of the audience.
- Quotes and illustrations from books, periodicals and the media can help you make your point.
- Sometimes humor can be effective, but it must be well done.

- Involve the audience. Make them a part of your speech and they will feel the presentation has been tailor-made for them.

- Organize your speech on paper. Some speakers prefer to write out the speech so they can rehearse and/or memorize it. Others prefer to work from an outline. Still others prefer to deliver a speech from an outline they have memorized. Any of these approaches can work well.

3 Introduction

- Have someone introduce you so the audience will know the qualifications you bring to the topic.
- Prepare a short biography for the person introducing you.
- If you are willing to answer questions following your speech, tell the person who is to introduce you — so she can include the Q&A as part of the introduction.
- The person who introduces you can end the session by watching the time during the question period and announcing, "Time for one more question."
- Finally, acknowledge the person who introduced you as well as acknowledging your audience.

4 Presenting the Speech

- Being nervous is natural. Think of nervousness as extra energy you can channel into your speech. Ask God to help you be at your best and let your special attributes shine as you give your talk.
- Words account for only a small portion of the overall impact of the speech. Remember the old saying, "It's not what you say, it's how you say it." Use expressions, gestures, pauses and tone of voice to match the content of

your talk. Express your feelings as well as the words. Pause occasionally to let your point sink in.

- Practice can be helpful. Rehearse your speech out loud, perhaps in front of a mirror, into a recording device or to a friend.

- Eye contact will increase your effectiveness. Establish eye contact with someone in the audience and hold it for several seconds and then move on to another person in another part of the audience.

- Props, posters, slides, etc. can make your presentation more interesting, but they are not necessary. Use them only if they are essential to making your point.

- Proper attire is essential! Wear clothing that does not attract too much attention. You want the audience focused on you, not your hair, jewelry, makeup or clothes.

- Keep written notes to a minimum and as inconspicuous as possible. Generally the smaller, the better.

- Test microphones and public address systems before your actual speech. If a lavalier microphone is available, use it. Being stuck behind a podium usually diminishes the effectiveness of a speech.

- After your speech, listen for feedback. What did the audience hear? How did they react? Did they miss the point or did they capture it and keep it? What you learn by evaluating your efforts will make your next speech even better.

If you follow these tips, the preparation and delivery of your speech will be easier. Say a prayer of thanks to God for giving you an important message to share and for the privilege of speaking it to others.

Adapted from "When You Are the Speaker" – Prepared for the LWML Member Development Committee by Paul Devantier, November 1992