

LEADERSHIP: BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE AND CONTEMPORARY  
CHALLENGES TO ADMINISTRATION IN IKA-ZION BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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## ABSTRACTS

Misunderstanding of what Christian leadership is has been a major problem in church leadership today. For this reason, the project examines leadership: Biblical perspective and contemporary challenges to Administration in Ika Zion Baptist Association of Aniyoma Delta Baptist Conference. Leadership is an important aspect of human endeavors. Every individual directly or indirectly desires and pursues it, not minding whatever the consequences would be at times. In fact, pastors are not left out. Today Christian leadership is being misrepresented with that of the secular. This brings about the leadership problems which include; lack of fund, opposition from forces in the community, succession crisis, fear, lack of confidence, insecurity, to mention but few. These pose problem to administration in the church and associations. The objectives of this work therefore are: (1) to examine the concept of leadership with respect to the Biblical perspective. (2) To emphasize those personal qualities and Christian virtues that will produce the best for today and tomorrow. (3) to help Christian leaders to get a clearer picture of what they ought to do in performing their leadership role in the Church or organization. (4) To challenge leaders to strive towards the higher qualities that can lead to better leadership. (5) to identify some challenges of leadership to administration in Ika Zion Baptist Association and proffer practical solution to them. The aim of this work is to examine what leadership means especially among the pastors and church members, some problems associated with it and its challenges to administration in the contemporary time. To do this, the researcher engaged primary and secondary sources as tools to collect information's. While descriptive, analytical and simple percentage methods were used in issues discussed. Major findings revealed that leadership has some problems which are challenges to administration. Hence, some recommendations were made. The leaders should have the understanding that leadership is a call for service to meet the needs of people. Leaders must be well informed by regular training and teaching on the relevance of leadership in administration. They must communicate well with the people. Lead as models in exemplary life. They must avoid the mistake of feeling that can do it all.

## 5.2 CONCLUSION

The concept of leadership and administration is all encompassing. Going by the findings and some challenges being encountered by the leaders in the contemporary times, every leader should see it as a major concern in order to enhance effective leadership and administration.

This study so far has been able to examine the opinions of Baptist pastors, lay leaders and members of the church on the concept of leadership. Biblical perspective and contemporary challenges to administration and discovered from considerable opinions that the concept is well embraced and applied. At the same time, leaders are bombarded with a chain of challenges as identified by this research. The concept of leadership could however be seen as solution to many challenges in administration if thoroughly studied and applied.

To this end, the concept of leadership must be thoroughly understood and applied to meet the leadership challenges to administration in the contemporary time. It must therefore be a concern to the pastors, lay leaders and church members and seriously embrace the concept and probe into its practicality among the contemporary leaders. Therefore, as much as there are opportunities, leaders should endeavor to submit themselves to be trained continuously for good leadership and effectiveness in administration.

### 5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the summary of the findings and challenges identified the following recommendations are proffered to combat the challenges identified in the study:

i. In order to uphold the integrity of leadership leaders must understand well that leadership is a call for service meant to meet the need of humanity to fulfill God's purpose not for selfish end or enslaving others.

ii. Leaders must be able to understand the nature and complexity of the church, organization or group they lead by understanding the members so as to know how to impact them and settle some conflict among them.

iii. Leader must undergo a serious training and biblical teaching on the relevance of leadership in administration in the contemporary time.

iv. Leader must also learn effective way to relate and communicate with people in clear and understandable language to avoid misunderstanding by the people.

v. As a very important quality mentioned in the research, leaders must lead by modeled exemplary life. Like Christ they must be able to exercise love, humility, patience, by objective while leading people in order to avoid rivalry, lack of cooperation and the like.

vi. In order to meet the pressing needs of the people, the leaders must keep themselves abreast of dynamics of changes that are taking place in the contemporary time and be ready to appropriate them in the live of the people by being, informed through trainings, workshop, refresher course and involvement in decision making and being sure that they have control over what they do.

vii. Leader must avoid mistake of feeling that they can do it all. Instead they should learn to identify capable people around them and share responsibility with them.