

CHARACTERISTICS OF EFFECTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

“As a fellow elder, this is my appeal to you: Care for the flock of God entrusted to you. Watch over it willingly, not grudgingly — not for what you will get out of it, but because you are eager to serve God. Don’t lord it over the people assigned to your care, but lead them by your good example.” 1 Peter 5:1-3 (NLT)

1. **INTEGRITY:**

*They lead by example “Follow me as I follow Christ” (1 Cor. 11:1)
Know what I know/obey like I obey*

- * Model the lifestyle of a fully-devoted Christ follower.
- * Personal change precedes corporate change.
- * People of hope who act with courageous faith in a BIG God!

2. **INTENTIONALITY:**

They lead with a clear focus on biblical purposes and priorities

- * Begin with the end in mind. Keep the main thing the main thing.
- * Measuring ourselves by our mission.
- * Practising the 3R’s: Retain, Revise, Remove.

3. **QUALITY:**

They lead with a commitment to excellence.

- * Leaders are learners - Pursuing continual improvement.

4. **COMMUNITY:**

They lead as an interdependent team.

- * Build strong relational bonds of mutual accountability.
- * Listen and draw out the unique contribution of each person.
- * Maintain open, honest communication, speaking the truth in love.
- * Value unity in the midst of diversity. Speak with one voice.
- * Separate issues from personalities.
- * Maintain direct communication. Avoid “they” references and triangulated talk.

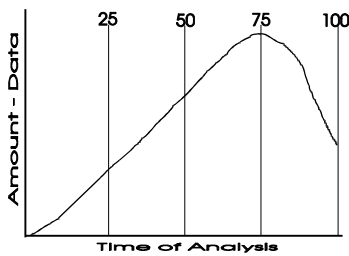
5. **EFFICIENCY:**
They make wise, spirit-guided, faith-filled decisions.

TIME MANAGEMENT GRID

<p>Quadrant I</p> <p>URGENT and VERY IMPORTANT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requires immediate attention - Timely response 	<p>Quadrant II</p> <p>NOT URGENT, but VERY IMPORTANT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Essential to achieving mission - Produces greatest results - Must NOT be neglected - Intentionally block out time for
<p>Quadrant III</p> <p>URGENT, but NOT IMPORTANT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tyranny of the pseudo-urgent - Must be managed without becoming all-consuming 	<p>Quadrant IV</p> <p>NOT URGENT, NOT IMPORTANT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Routine tasks must be standardized - menial, yet, necessary jobs need to be delegated - Trivial projects need to be discarded

Effective Decision Making

- Learn to pull the trigger!
- Keep focussed on the main thing.
- Establish lines on the field of play (*when in and out of bounds - when score: criteria for success*)



- * Weigh the relative importance/priority of each issue and devote corresponding time.
- * Distinguish between broad policy setting and micro-managing.
- * Think Process - best way to deal with issues: refer to staff, delegate to Standing Committee, establish Task Force, etc.

6. **FLEXIBILITY:**
They keep organizational structures flexible.
- * Eliminate in order to concentrate - Less can be more
 - * Form follows function.
 - * Streamline and decentralize wherever possible.
 - * Guard against having more harness than horse.

7. **ENERGY:**
They lead with Spirit engendered boldness.
- * Celebrate short-term wins.
 - * What gets rewarded gets repeated.
 - * Empower and encourage!
 - * Turn problems into solutions.
 - * The leaders two buckets of influence: gas and water.
 - * Affirm 1st: “What I really liked about that was.....”
 - Correct 2nd: “I could have been even better if.....”

RESOURCES

Leading Leaders by Aubrey Malphurs, Baker Books, 2005.
The Unity Factor by Larry Osbourne, Owe’s nest Publications, 3rd Ed.
Elders and Leaders Field Guide, The Center for Church Based Training, 2003.
The Leadership Baton by Forman, James and Miller, Zondervan, 2004.

INTERACTION EXERCISE

1. The quality of an effective board member I resonate with the most is: _____
Because

2. The quality I would especially like to see some growth in is: _____
Because

3. I believe God could use me to contribute to our elders team in the following ways:

4. In order to maximize my effectiveness as a board member I need other members of the team to . .