

5 Dangers of Putting Prodigals in Power

A backsliding leader can hold his position even while losing his influence. A leader without influence is probably the single greatest inhibitor to the growth of an organization.

The course of backsliding is not always visible because moving away from the cross begins in the heart. We may sense something is wrong in a leader but not fully grasp the pulling away.

A prodigal progression may not be radical. It would be better for an organization if the drift was fast. Damage could be minimized and the organization could move on.

The essence of the prodigal is captured by the word “waste.” A prodigal leader is a waster. Consider these resources:

1. Time – Progress seems to stop under a drifting leader. When a leader is in the midst of a faith crisis, his compass begins to spin and time management becomes irrelevant.
2. People – The talent of others is a terrible thing to waste. Yet a prodigal leader does just that. Training and mentoring evaporates in an organization with a drifting leader.
3. Vision – Drifters have closed their eyes. Sometimes the leader just closes his eyes because he has no desire to see.
4. Opportunities – Because of a dwindling vision, a prodigal leader will miss new opportunities for growth. When a drifter is backing up, it's very difficult to move projects forward.
5. Expenses – It's almost axiomatic that a prodigal leader will waste money. The leader may not even know of the outflow of cash because the leader is not paying attention.

The prodigal son could return and be restored. It's not as easy for a prodigal leader. Influence is most difficult to regain.

God's grace and mercy paves the way home.

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Today's Scripture

"He also who is slothful in his work is brother to him who is a great waster" (Prov. 18:9).

Platform Tip No. 72

I recall that Burger King stopped their highly effective advertising campaign "Have it Your Way" because the board of directors grew tired of the campaign and wanted a fresh message.

What came next was a disaster. The king lost the effectiveness of a great campaign and launched a notably weaker message.

Resist the urge to change your message. Find new ways of saying what the Lord gave you to say.

Someone new will hear you today. They need your message.

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