

Welcome to Care Conversations

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CARE CONVERSATIONS

FORWARD
FROM
DR TINA LAMONT // Director TEC



Dear Friend,

We are basing this semester's Care Conversations on the TEC Leadership Matrix.

Christian leadership is a unique privilege. Understanding the nature of Biblical leadership positions us at the feet of Jesus who loved and served those He led. His leadership was compelling as He engaged His kingdom mission of re-establishing God's authority. He led others according to God's agenda and influenced them about truth and reality. Jesus remains our role model for leading others. When we are aligned with Christ, our leadership becomes both influential and transformational. We are co-labourers with Christ; His kingdom builders who cultivate the shape of the kingdom on earth and lead others into a transformational relationship with the King of Kings. What a privilege!

We pray God's blessing on you as you recognise and engage in your leadership roles in your specific spheres of influence.

Yours in Christ,

Dr Tina Lamont

Director TEC

The Excellence Centre



TEC runs day-long retreats for emerging and existing leaders. The purpose is to be challenged to think about leadership from a Biblical Christian perspective and then to develop practices that arise from such thinking.

These retreats take place with small groups (usually less than twenty people) so that an abundance of interaction and development can take place. Significant additional readings are provided.

These times enable a clear focus upon leadership calling and competence. We

investigate the importance of character, convictions and commitments.

We explore how school leaders are primarily culture shapers who communicate clearly the purpose and nature of Christian School communities.

We look at the need for leaders to be both courageous and caring; how to resolve conflict and how to proclaim Christ as the preeminent one.

We all need opportunities to spend time with like-minded people on our journey of leadership development.

An understanding of Biblical Christian leadership is essential so that we might shepherd God's people in ways that are honouring to Him.

A good understanding and practice is also necessary to ensure that we do not fall into the traps of wrong leadership. Much of the leadership we see around us is personality driven. The temptation is to be swept along by the captivating temperament of the leader. Personality leaders often shun accountability and close friendship which brings about encouragement and critique. Most of these types of leaders who fail, often spectacularly, have a dearth of close friendships which keep them accountable.

Another problem, with common concepts of leadership, is the basis of consequentialism. This means a focus on quantitative outcomes only. We easily fall into that trap. When you, as a school leader, meet someone for the first time, how often is one of their initial questions, "How many students do you have?"

When we are primarily pragmatic, the method of growing our school becomes the focus. We may imitate methods that have been successful somewhere else. Considered imitation is fine. Does it fit our desire to be God-honouring; is it appropriate for our community of people?

The danger is that the object of trust in the community becomes the method, rather than God Himself.

"Heresy of method may be as deadly as heresy of message" [1]

TEC Leadership Retreats help us to focus on the importance of Biblical Christian Leadership.

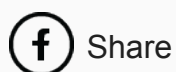
Growing together in understanding and practice.

Brian

[1]A W Tozer

Brian Cox

Consultant in Leadership & Education



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