

Hi, I'm Crawford Loritts with a Legacy Moment.

I think there is sometimes too much pomp and circumstance surrounding some of our leaders. I once read a disturbing story in one of our local newspapers about a pastor in our area who does not allow people to touch him before he preaches, and he does not take a lot of time to interact with his congregation. He doesn't schedule too many appointments with his church membership. Now some may think this is a little extreme, but to be honest with you, I think it is very sick.

We have to be careful as leaders that we don't get intoxicated with the idea of recognition and position. Ephesians chapter 4, verses 11 through 13, presents the perspective a leader ought to maintain and have. Listen to these words; “And He gave some as apostles and He gave some as prophets and some as evangelists and some as pastors and teachers for the equipping of the saints for the work of service to the building up of the body of Christ until we all attain to the unity of the faith.”

Here we have these positions of leadership, these offices of leadership in which He didn't give them to the leaders for them to have some little select group or some fraternity unto themselves. No, He said, “I'm giving these positions for the equipping and empowering of the saints, not for the leader.” With leadership comes enormous responsibility. The gifts and the opportunities are not given to benefit the leader but to bless God's people.

Here's what I want you to remember today. The primary task of a Christian leader is to equip and empower others. If God has given you a position of influence as a leader, realize that it's not for your benefit, but it is for the honor and glory of God and the health and wholeness of His church.