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# TRUE NORTH

FINDING YOUR LIFE HEADING



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# LEADING LIKE JESUS

MATTHEW 9:1-38

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***In Jesus, we see the epitome of greatness***

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# A GREAT LEADER SUPPORTS HIS WORDS WITH ACTION

Matthew 9:1-7

Jesus climbed into a boat and went back across the lake to his own town.<sup>2</sup> Some people brought to him a paralyzed man on a mat. Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, “Be encouraged, my child! Your sins are forgiven.”

<sup>3</sup> But some of the teachers of religious law said to themselves, “That’s blasphemy! Does he think he’s God?”

<sup>4</sup> Jesus knew what they were thinking, so he asked them,



# A GREAT LEADER SUPPORTS HIS WORDS WITH ACTION

Matthew 9:1-7

“Why do you have such evil thoughts in your hearts? <sup>5</sup> Is it easier to say ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or ‘Stand up and walk’? <sup>6</sup> So I will prove to you that the Son of Man has the authority on earth to forgive sins.” Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said, “Stand up, pick up your mat, and go home!” <sup>7</sup> And the man jumped up and went home!





## *Check Your Course*

*Effective leaders don't make threats or promises or give orders that they don't have the power to keep.*







## *Check Your Course*

*If you want to be an effective leader, don't say something unless you mean it, and be ready to back up your words.*



# A GREAT LEADER RECOGNIZES THE POTENTIAL OF OTHERS

Matthew 9:9-13

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at his tax collector's booth. "Follow me and be my disciple," Jesus said to him. So Matthew got up and followed him.

<sup>10</sup> Later, Matthew invited Jesus and his disciples to his home as dinner guests, along with many tax collectors and other disreputable sinners. <sup>11</sup> But when the Pharisees saw this,



# A GREAT LEADER RECOGNIZES THE POTENTIAL OF OTHERS

Matthew 9:9-13

they asked his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with such scum?”

<sup>12</sup> When Jesus heard this, he said, “Healthy people don’t need a doctor—sick people do.” <sup>13</sup> Then he added, “Now go and learn the meaning of this Scripture: ‘I want you to show mercy, not offer sacrifices.’ For I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners.”





# *Check Your Course*

*Jesus saw something in Matthew that no one else could see.*





## *Check Your Course*

*If you can't see their potential,  
you can't develop their  
potential.*



# GREAT LEADERS FOCUS ON WHAT IS IMPORTANT NOW

Matthew 9:14-17

One day the disciples of John the Baptist came to Jesus and asked him, “Why don’t your disciples fast like we do and the Pharisees do?”

<sup>15</sup> Jesus replied, “Do wedding guests mourn while celebrating with the groom? Of course not. But someday the groom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast.

<sup>16</sup> “Besides, who would patch old clothing with new cloth?”



# GREAT LEADERS FOCUS ON WHAT IS IMPORTANT NOW

Matthew 9:14-17

For the new patch would shrink and rip away from the old cloth, leaving an even bigger tear than before.

<sup>17</sup> “And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. For the old skins would burst from the pressure, spilling the wine and ruining the skins. New wine is stored in new wineskins so that both are preserved.”





## *Check Your Course*

*Jesus is saying that we have got to learn to think differently...to think smart...to think about what is most important now.*





# GREAT LEADERS ARE NEVER TOO BUSY TO DO WHAT THEY ARE CALLED TO DO

Matthew 9:18-26

As Jesus was saying this, the leader of a synagogue came and knelt before him. “My daughter has just died,” he said, “but you can bring her back to life again if you just come and lay your hand on her.”

<sup>19</sup> So Jesus and his disciples got up and went with him. <sup>20</sup> Just then a woman who had suffered for twelve years with constant bleeding came up behind him. She touched the



# GREAT LEADERS ARE NEVER TOO BUSY TO DO WHAT THEY ARE CALLED TO DO

Matthew 9:18-26

fringe of his robe, <sup>21</sup> for she thought, “If I can just touch his robe, I will be healed.”

<sup>22</sup> Jesus turned around, and when he saw her he said, “Daughter, be encouraged! Your faith has made you well.” And the woman was healed at that moment.

<sup>23</sup> When Jesus arrived at the official’s home, he saw the noisy crowd and heard the funeral music. <sup>24</sup> “Get out!” he told



# GREAT LEADERS ARE NEVER TOO BUSY TO DO WHAT THEY ARE CALLED TO DO

Matthew 9:18-26

them. “The girl isn’t dead; she’s only asleep.” But the crowd laughed at him. <sup>25</sup> After the crowd was put outside, however, Jesus went in and took the girl by the hand, and she stood up! <sup>26</sup> The report of this miracle swept through the entire countryside.





## *Check Your Course*

*"There is always time to do everything God called you to do."*

*Pastor Rick Warren*





# *Check Your Course*

*We can never allow ourselves to become too busy to do what God has called us to do.*



# GREAT LEADERS DO NOT DRAW ATTENTION TO THEMSELVES

Matthew 9:27-34

After Jesus left the girl's home, two blind men followed along behind him, shouting, "Son of David, have mercy on us!"

<sup>28</sup> They went right into the house where he was staying, and Jesus asked them, "Do you believe I can make you see?"



# GREAT LEADERS DO NOT DRAW ATTENTION TO THEMSELVES

Matthew 9:27-34

“Yes, Lord,” they told him, “we do.”

<sup>29</sup> Then he touched their eyes and said, “Because of your faith, it will happen.” <sup>30</sup> Then their eyes were opened, and they could see! Jesus sternly warned them, “Don’t tell anyone about this.” <sup>31</sup> But instead, they went out and spread his fame all over the region.



# GREAT LEADERS DO NOT DRAW ATTENTION TO THEMSELVES

Matthew 23:11-12

The greatest among you must be a servant. 12 But those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.







# *Check Your Course*

*If you want to be a leader, you have to be a servant.*



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# *Check Your Course*

*It's not your reputation that matters; it's your character.*

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# GREAT LEADERS HAVE A GREAT VISION

Matthew 9:35-38

Jesus traveled through all the towns and villages of that area, teaching in the synagogues and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed every kind of disease and illness. <sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep



# GREAT LEADERS HAVE A GREAT VISION

Matthew 9:35-38

without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup> He said to his disciples, “The harvest is great, but the workers are few. <sup>38</sup> So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields.”



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***Check Your Course***

***The harvest is great.***

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## *Check Your Course*

*The opportunity for greatness exists. It is staring us in the face. We've got to take advantage of it!*



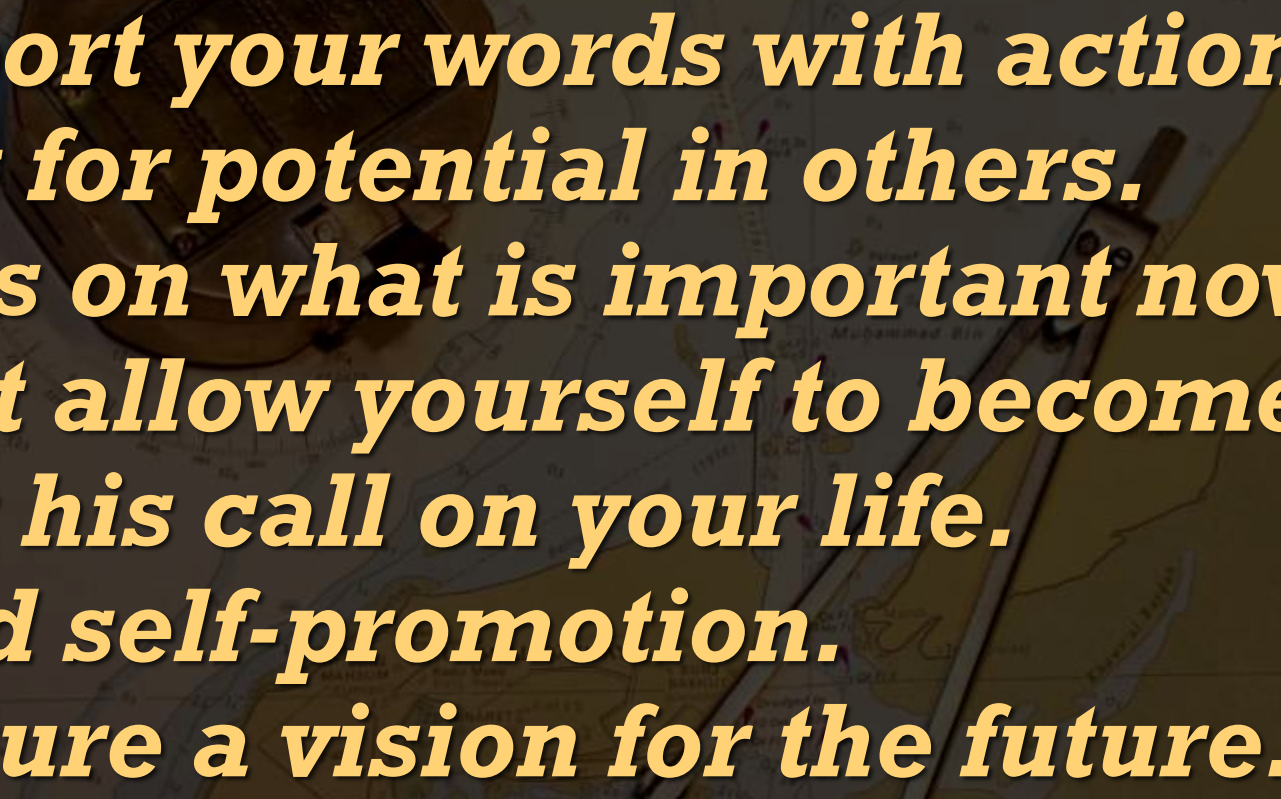


# *Check Your Course*

*God has not called you to a life of futility.*

*He's called you to a life of possibility.*





***Support your words with actions.  
Look for potential in others.  
Focus on what is important now.  
Don't allow yourself to become too busy to  
obey his call on your life.  
Avoid self-promotion.  
Capture a vision for the future.***







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