

# Loyalty vs. Disloyalty

Discipleship Training

## WHY LOYALTY?

### Scripture:

“Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.” (1 Cor. 4:2 KJV)

### Loyalty is crucial for:

- Being a qualified minister
- Fighting the “5th column” (hidden opposition)
- Allowing the love of God to fill the church (John 13:35)
- Building a large and successful ministerial team
- Developing a mega church
- Establishing a long-lasting ministry
- Reaping your full reward

**Note:** *Disloyalty is like an odorless gas—it can enter unnoticed and choke your spiritual growth.*

## EIGHT STAGES OF DISLOYALTY

### 1. The Independent Spirit

- Subtle and often unrecognized as disloyalty
- Belonging to an organization requires submission; independence is not always spiritual
- You can be spiritual and still be independent

### 2. The Offense Stage

- People wounded by past events may become separatists if not healed
- Offense can quickly turn someone into an enemy
- Hurts and offenses pave the road to disloyalty
- Reflection: What offenses are you harboring?

### **3. The Passivity Stage**

- After offense, some become disengaged or uninvolved
- Passivity is dangerous because it leads to the critical stage
- Observation: The bystander notices flaws that others miss

### **4. The Critical Stage**

- The disloyal person begins magnifying faults
- Perspective is shaped by what you focus on—critical eyes see only imperfections
- A hypercritical environment can severely damage a church

### **5. The Political Stage**

- Disloyal individuals try to influence others with their ideas
- Often discuss leaders' shortcomings and speak on behalf of others
- Tactics: "Many people are saying..."

### **6. The Deception Stage**

- Rebellious people may believe they are greater than their leaders
- Deceived by recent successes
- Not only defect but actively fight against leadership

### **7. The Open Rebellion Stage**

- Full-blown opposition to authority
- Gains support of others to challenge leadership openly

### **8. The Execution Stage**

- The ultimate end of rebellion is execution
- Biblical consequence for witchcraft is execution
- Many rebel out of innocence and ignorance

## **KEYS TO BUILDING A CULTURE OF LOYALTY**

### **Scripture:**

"As the heavens are high and the earth is deep, so the hearts of kings are unsearchable." (Prov. 25:3 NIV)

Proverbs 25:23 – "As surely as a north wind brings rain, so a gossiping tongue causes anger."

- **The North Wind Key** – Confrontation when needed
- **The Pruning Key** – Removing negative influences
- **The Fire Key** – Staying passionate and spiritually alive
- **The Willing People Key** – Work only with those who choose loyalty
- **The Teaching Key** – Consistently teach against disloyalty

## LESSONS ON LOYALTY

### **Core Truths About Loyalty:**

- Loyalty demands full persuasion.
- You must be fully convinced in your heart.
- Loyalty must be to the higher authority.
- True loyalty looks upward, not sideways.
- A loyal person does not withhold information.
- Honesty is the foundation of trust.
- Loyalty is based on principles, not emotions.
- Feelings change, principles remain.
- Loyalty will cost you relationships and friendships.
- Not everyone will understand your commitment.
- Loyalty may cost you physical things.
- Sacrifice is often required.

## SIGNS OF DISLOYALTY

### **Be watchful for these warning signs in leaders and team members:**

- A leader who disappoints in times of pressure or crisis.
- A leader with moral or financial weaknesses.
- Leaders who are worldly or think they can do it better than you.
- Leaders who attack or dishonor their spiritual father/senior leader.
- Wounded leaders who never recover from past hurts.
- Leaders unwilling to be trained or retrained.
- Leaders who resist doing menial tasks.
- A persistently stormy marriage.

- Leaders who react negatively every time they are corrected.
- People who make excuses or continually justify themselves.
- People who do not keep promises.
- Leaders chasing promotion or recognition.
- Leaders who have an unknown factor.
- Leaders who have never been criticized (untested).
- Leaders who do not engage during preaching (no smile, no 'amen', no notes).
- A person unfaithful to another's work.
- Leaders who do not tithe or give offerings.
- Those who approve of wrong decisions made by others.
- People who poison others with gossip or slander.
- Leaders who resist being birthed into the vision, standards, and spirit of the house.
- People who manipulate their way into leadership rather than serving first.
- A leader with a controlling or ungodly spouse (e.g., 'Jezebel spirit').
- Leaders who constantly shift blame to others.
- Leaders who think too much is spent on the senior leader.
- Leaders who are unduly quiet, detached, or reserved.
- Leaders who are habitually late to meetings.
- Leaders who assume they know the organization's mindset and don't ask questions.
- Leaders uninvolved in practical ministry.
- Leaders who fail to contribute to joint efforts to honor or bless the pastor.
- Leaders who have not been tested by time.

## **WHY LOYALTY MATTERS**

True qualification for ministry is not gifting, but faithfulness and loyalty. (1 Cor. 4:2)

### **Why Judas Betrays Jesus**

Judas was the odd man out among the disciples.

### **Possible reasons for betrayal:**

- Disappointment with the type of training he was undergoing.
- Dissatisfaction with poor accommodation provided by the ministry.
- Frustration with poor transportation arrangements.
- Unhappiness with the food as a full-time minister.
- Saw Jesus as a miser, not generous with His disciples.
- Disliked the way Jesus was treated specially.
- Felt the emphasis and direction of the ministry had shifted.
- Accused Jesus of misusing church finances.
- Desire to get rich quickly.
- Became too familiar with Christ.
- Realized Jesus had discovered he was a thief.
- Worried that if Jesus died, he would lose his job and needed to secure himself.
- Knew too much about too many things.
- Believed Jesus' power and anointing were waning because of His frequent talk about death.

## **LOYALTY – AVOIDING DISLOYALTY**

### **Godly Resignation**

#### **• Two Biblical Examples: Jacob vs. Moses**

- Jacob Style (Wrong Way)
  - Jacob left Laban's household without notice.
  - His departure was discovered only after three days (Genesis 31:20–22).
  - Because of the way he left, he almost brought a curse upon himself.
  - Lesson: Leaving in secrecy and without honor creates unnecessary strife and opens the door for disloyalty.
- Moses Style (Right Way)
  - Moses served faithfully under his father-in-law Jethro for 40 years.
  - When God called him, he left with blessing and honor, not rebellion.
  - Years later, when Moses needed support, he was still able to receive help and counsel from Jethro (Exodus 18).

- Lesson: A godly resignation preserves relationships, honors authority, and keeps doors open for future support.

## THE NORTH WIND – DRIVING AWAY PROBLEMS

Proverbs 25:23 – “The north wind driveth away rain: so doth an angry countenance a backbiting tongue.”

- Just as the north wind clears away storm clouds in nature, so we must deal decisively with potential storms in the church.

1 Corinthians 5:6 – “A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.”

- Even small seeds of disloyalty, gossip, or criticism can spread and affect the entire body. Problems not confronted early become storms later.

## THE WIND OF EXCLUSION – WHO MUST BE DRIVEN OUT OF THE CHURCH

Certain behaviors cannot be tolerated because they endanger unity and loyalty in the body of Christ:

- **Backbiters** – those who secretly speak evil against others.
- **Slanderers** – people who damage reputations with false or malicious words.
- **Double-tongued individuals** – those who speak differently to different people, creating confusion.
- **Murmurers** – people who complain and sow dissatisfaction.
- **Evil critics** – those who tear down rather than build up.
- **Talebearers** – gossipers who spread information to stir strife.
- **Accusers** – individuals who constantly point fingers and attack others.
- **Liars** – those who corrupt trust by spreading untruths.
- **Divisive people** – anyone who seeks to create factions or splits.
- **Quarrelsome people** – those who stir up fights and conflict within the body.