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LEAD 704: The Leader's Role in the 21st Century
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JOURNAL ENTRY FOR WEEK ONE

During the first week, I made a personal commitment to become a competent communicator. I know to perform within a global community, one must have the ability to manage and understand the tools that are essential within the workplace to allow communication competency. I know to become successful that I must be proficient in the use of electronic media in all of its forms. As a result of the COVID 19 pandemic, communication competency will be in more demand than ever before. At this point, I consider myself not being a competent communicator is my primary weakness, and according to Kouzes and Posner (2010), you either lead by example of you don't lead at all. Therefore, my first step to correct this deficiency is to familiarize myself with Facebook, Instagram, Tweeter, and other social media websites. This commitment exposed a weakness about my not leading by example. Also, I found that I must learn to delegate more responsibilities to others so that they may become more aware of the skills needed to lead a profitable business. However, this commitment also shows one of my strengths to focus on the future, looking toward surviving, striving, and living well.

The pastor of Zion Hill Baptist Church has shown at least two of the leadership traits advocated by Kouzes and Posner, and they are focusing on the future, and truth rules. The COVID 19 virus has presented a mystery in that nobody knows what best way to stay in and live or risk going out to doing business and risk dying. How do you do both staying alive and doing business at the same time? Pastor Parker has focused on the future in that he has continuously said the science will tell when it is the best time to open up and be back to business as usual. To

sum up the leadership's traits of Pastor Parker, one need only to read a post in the church bulletin he wrote :

> Final Note:
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> Some may ask, "Why be so cautious? Do you not trust God? Won't God take care of us?" We are cautious, brothers and sisters, because our fellow believers all over the nation, and in many parts of the world, have gotten sick, and passed away from this virus while attending religious services; so I ask the question, "Why knowingly contribute to the suffering and pain when we can do something to try to mitigate them?" The last time I checked the scriptures, Jesus came to heal, not to willfully create conditions wherein people can get sick. And of course, I trust God- I trust God to grant wisdom to make prudent decisions; I trust God to provide people with the expertise to understand matters like viruses, pandemics, and cures; I trust God to hold our church family together in this present, though extremely difficult, mode until our change comes; I trust God to see us through. Please, continue with me in this sacred trust.
>
> In Love and Service,
>
> Pastor Aaron L. Parker

Now, this is the leadership we all need in the time of a pandemic.