

God's Vision and Faith as the Basis of the Effectiveness of a Church Leader's Ministry

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ABSTRAK

The purpose of this study was to analyze God's vision and faith as the basis for the effectiveness of a church leader's ministry, using a qualitative method approach by collecting data from books, journals and interviews. First, the point of the ministry of church leaders is the fruit of God's vision and firm faith that the leader has received. A leader is essentially a visionary because the concept is the foundation of every plan to achieve goals or targets. However, it has been suspect that some Christian leaders, especially in the Church, do not have a clear vision, causing the implementation of services in the Church to be less effective. In conclusion, the effectiveness of ministry for a leader in the Church is greatly influenced by the collective vision and faith because they are one unity and the grace of God to support the Church.

INTRODUCTION

Leadership is crucial in the sustainability of an organization because, through the role of a leader and the way he leads, the fate of any organization is at stake. Therefore, leaders must be active and creative to develop their organization.

LITERATURE REVIEW

According to (Suherman, 2019), leadership is the skill or ability to influence people individually or in groups to achieve a vision or goal. An effective leader in his leadership affects those he leads to achieve the desired goals, which also impacts organizational effectiveness in terms of performance (Nanjun Deswaraswamy, 2014) because the strength of a leader lies in his responsibility to deliver the vision and mission of the organization.

Christian leadership is based on God's plan and will that calls and establishes a leader. According to (Sitepu, 2019), Christian leadership in church organizations cannot separate from how God has entrusted His servants' work. The reason is that there are two dimensions in the Church: an organism and an organization that is faced with administrative and spiritual problems. Therefore, Christian leadership is usually effective because he has driven by faith and a clear vision of God.

(Manansang, 2020) Revealed that in the city of Jayapura, the Papuan GPdI specifically experienced problems in leadership at a certain period related to the character and vision of the leader. It harmed church growth because it seemed that local churches' development was slow, so the GPdI organization has not officially reached some areas in Jayapura. This fact shows that leaders who do not have a vision become a very important and critical homework assignment to be evaluated in Christian leadership. Because without a clear vision, they will threaten the organization's sustainability. Therefore, (Ronda, 2009) views the leadership of a shepherd as a leader as not about management activities but about bringing the people he leads to growth.

Based on the Big Indonesian Dictionary, vision is the ability to see at the core of the problem or even look ahead. Vision provides hope; therefore, the balance between determining a possible vision can not be limited to a thin line. Because if a vision is considered too big, it is impossible to realize it; the vision will not inspire an organization. On the other hand, the vision discourages him because a vision that does not contain challenges will not generate the motivation needed to work towards achieving his goals.

Grace changes the Christian leader's vision and makes the spiritual goals achieved clearer. Jesus Christ continually spoke to His followers about the importance of their work. He provided opportunities for the common people to partake in something extraordinary by example by calling those mending the

nets with the offer of making them fishers of men (Matthew 4: 19). It is a testament to that through that calling, as a gracious leader, He sees the present state as well as the future state. That vision was more important than what the fishermen did at the time.

Therefore, leadership in Christianity must emerge from existing leadership, namely, leadership based on faith related to God's grace, with a clear vision because it comes from God to achieve His plans and will. So, The purpose of this study was to analyze God's vision and faith as the basis for the effectiveness of a church leader's ministry.

METHODOLOGY

The purpose of this study was to analyze God's vision and faith as the basis for the effectiveness of a church leader's ministry. The method used is descriptive qualitative with a literature study approach by collecting data through journals, various books, interviews and documents related to the studied topic. Interviews have been conducted with several church leaders in the Jakarta area. According to (Hamzah, 2020), interviews aim to obtain problems more openly. Data analysis was carried out by examining all the data obtained from the sources and then reducing to get the core and process, as well as fixed statements under the research objectives (Sugiyono, 2017).

RESEARCH RESULT

An effective Christian leader his strength lies in his faith in God because without a firm belief in his calling as a royal priesthood; he will find it difficult to carry out his responsibilities as a leader when facing challenges and obstacles (Hutabarat, 2022) who is the youth leader of GBI Tangerang Poris. To be effective in his leadership, a Christian leader must prepare himself to face any bad situation in any form; it will be possible if he stays focused on the God he serves and on the vision that God has given him (Nainggolan, 2022). According to (Yosua Budi, 2022), just as the temperature of the sun is the most important source of heat in the earth's atmosphere, so a leader, because of his faith and the goals or vision, can control the atmosphere of the organization by providing energy that burns and ignites the fire that is already burning in their hearts under his leadership as believers.

The senior pastor (Willem, 2022) said that without a vision, the leadership of a Christian leader is equivalent to a leader who is bullshit. An effective Christian leader is a weather expert and a weather monitor, someone who functions as someone who observes and understands the patterns of change that occur within the organization he leads to create a beneficial atmosphere in it, according to (Gunawan Sarjono, 2022). Every organization has a "climate", so a capable Christian leader knows how to react to various conditions and situations within the organization he leads, whether in stormy conditions, calm, full of

pressure, lightning, or thunder, because leadership is needed. who have a clear vision (Alfons Abednego, 2022).

Based on the interviews conducted, it can be concluded that effective Christian leadership really depends on the quality of the leader's faith in God, who has called him and also on his vision. So, effective Christian leadership comes from leaders who have a vision. Second, effective Christian leadership comes from leaders who have a faith in God. So, the effectiveness of a church leader's ministry is the fruit of God's vision and the firm faith that the leader has received.

DISCUSSION

The effectiveness of a church leader's ministry is the fruit of God's vision and the firm faith that the leader has received

What vision means there is a clear vision that comes from God and aims to realize God's plan through that leadership. Neither human agenda nor personal ambition to achieve the desires and desires of the flesh. So (Katarina, 2018) argues that if a pastor as a church leader is less aware of his calling, it can affect the motivation and focus of his ministry so that the results obtained through his ministry are not as expected. On the other hand, as an example, one of the characteristics of Jesus' leadership is giving influence by transmitting the vision and mission to His followers, namely, His disciples (Nicolas and Manaroinsong, 2021). Likewise (Usat, 2019) said that leadership that works professionally contains the element of how to manage the vision and mission, as well as organizational strategy, but also Human Resources who are led and demonstrate responsibility for their safety and progress are effective leaders.

Because leadership is a process that involves many people and for the benefit of many people, vision becomes the driving force for leaders in carrying out their leadership. Just like Moses when God called with a clear purpose, to deliver the Israelites from the land of Egypt (Exodus 3:10 (NIV)). Likewise, Jesus Christ came into the world with a clear vision from God, His Father, to become a sacrifice of salvation by giving His life as a ransom for many people (Matthew 20:28 (ESB)).

Effective Christian leadership is the basis of a divine vision or purpose that is always related to the salvation and deliverance of those shackled by the power of sin and this world's system. For believers, leadership is an act of faith, and faith relates to God's vision. A leader full of grace seeks God's heart, not just His hands because he realizes that when he is focused on living God's vision, God's Hand automatically works to fulfil the vision He has set. So a leader who has the vision is a leader that is completely obedient to God's direction and purpose, a leader by the Spirit and not the flesh, leadership that focuses on a future full of hope even though it has to go through a process that is not easy than leadership that

uses all means and is instantaneous, as long as it fulfils what the leader wants. That's why Christian leaders will not be separated from the will, but from how he works through the leader, He chooses.

(Banatau, 2019) emphasizes the importance of leadership in the Church, where leaders must be able to recombine ecclesiology with missiology because the Church is seen first by the mission given by God. And God's mission is always related to His vision. The leader filled with God's grace is willing to make sacrifices, knowing that even if he does not personally reap the rewards, others enjoy the benefits of what he does according to the Divine will and plan. That is the effectiveness of Christian leadership, productive leadership in the Divine project. An effective Christian leader is a weather expert and a weather monitor, someone who functions as someone who observes and understands the patterns of change that occur within the organization he leads to create a beneficial atmosphere in it, according to Gunawan Sarjono.

A Christian leader first needs to be aware of Who has called him and who he serves. Because everyone who God calls must keep His promises because without God, a leader in his leadership cannot achieve the expected results (John 15:5). Therefore, the faith of a Christian leader must fully hope and depend on God so that through firmness of his faith His followers will continue to blaze in the battle of faith in accompanying Christ because a leader in his leadership must be able to be an example in his faith. This view is in line with Katarina, who argues that there is a difference between world leadership and Christian (spiritual) leadership, namely the awareness that the existence of a Christian leader's leadership takes place according to God's plan and negates personal ambition.

On one occasion, Paul wrote a letter to encourage Timothy, a young leader in the early Church which reads: "Therefore I warn you to kindle the gift of God which is in you by the laying on of my hands on you" (2 Timothy 1:6). So, igniting God's gift is a challenge faced by every leader, because Christian leaders function as priests who fully make God their inheritance. The commandments in Leviticus 6:8-13 are commands addressed to the priests (leaders) to keep the fire from going out because the fire on the altar must remain burning.

It is not necessary to be a scout to know that the flame, if not guarded, will slowly go out. The flame that is on the altar in Leviticus 6 comes from God, just as faith also comes from the Spirit of God (1 Corinthians 12:3) so keeping the fire burning is no different from keeping the faith of a leader focused on God as the source of all things: it is a living faith, constantly burning (Djone et al., 2022). So a leader as a priest is necessary and important to do two things to keep the fire burning: Clean up the burnt debris that, over time, can accumulate and cover, or

at least obscure the goals, methods, and even the people. Next, add wood to the fire to keep the fire from going out due to lack of fuel.

It speaks of a faith that has been renewing daily, that removes and defeats all forms of filth that try to disrupt belief in God and His plans. Because chaos not only causes suffering but can also extinguish the life of an organization unless the organization gets new fuel. The fuel of a Christian organization is a living faith that nourishes the fire of the Holy Spirit within it. Leaders whose faith is alive must be effective in their leadership to affect the Spirit of those in the organization. Thus, (Kasmir, 2016) said that an effective leader is a leader who can find a way to refresh and renew the organization's mental and material capital and human resources.

What vision means there is a clear vision that comes from God and aims to realize God's plan through that leadership. Neither human agenda nor personal ambition to achieve the desires and desires of the flesh. So Katarina argues that if a pastor as a church leader is less aware of his calling, it can affect the motivation and focus of his ministry so that the results obtained through his ministry are not as expected. On the other hand, as an example, one of the characteristics of Jesus' leadership is giving influence by transmitting the vision and mission to His followers, namely, His disciples. Likewise Yahya Usat said that leadership that works professionally contains the element of how to manage the vision and mission, as well as organizational strategy, but also Human Resources who are led and demonstrate responsibility for their safety and progress are effective leaders.

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fulfils what the leader wants. The leader filled with God's grace is willing to make sacrifices, knowing that even if he does not personally reap the rewards, others enjoy the benefits of what he does according to the Divine will and plan. That is the effectiveness of Christian leadership, productive leadership in the Divine project.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The effectiveness of ministry for a leader in the Church is greatly influenced by the vision and faith that are combined because they are one unity and the grace of God to support the Church because vision can be like a "machine" and "faith" as a fuel that allows the machine to move towards the goal to be achieved.

ADVANCED RESEARCH

Writing based on the results of this study, by realizing the limitations contained in it, plans to further examine "the effectiveness of a pastor's ministry on organic church growth".

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