Facing a Leadership Challenge

Frontline Communion of Churches

Part 1: Naming Your Challenge

- ✓ Write down one leadership challenge you're facing. Use the prompts below if you need help.
- 1. What do you find yourself worrying about most? Where does your mind wander when you try to work?
- 2. What do you feel guilty about as you consider responsibilities and convictions about "what should be"?
- 3. What do you find yourself making excuses for or avoiding, instead of prayerfully addressing with calm thoughtfulness and strategic boldness?
- 4. Where do you find yourself blaming people instead of prayerfully working for change (e.g., "He's just not coachable," "My boss doesn't care what I think," etc.)?
- 5. What do you complain about regarding what the Lord has entrusted to you? What are the most frequent themes of your complaint? To whom do you complain?

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The relationship between anxiety and seriousness is so predictable that the absence of playfulness in any institution is almost always a clue to the degree of its emotional regression.

Edwin Friedman

Part 2: How Do You Tend to React?

- ✓ As you face that leadership challenge, describe how you might be responding in any of the following ways.
- 1. Giving God the silent treatment
- 2. A quick-fix mentality (instead of allowing time for processes to mature)
- 3. Reactivity (led by each emerging crisis rather than taking a proactive stance)
- 4. Blame-shifting (instead of growing in response to challenge)
- Loss of humor and self-seriousness (rather than self-deprecating humor and the ability to view oneself as flawed but still accepted because of Jesus)*

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Part 3: How Might You Respond?

How might you increasingly respond instead of react to this leadership challenge?

✓ Write down how you might instead:

- 1. Go vertical with your complaint (Hosea 7:14)
- 2. Allow more time for processes to mature
- 3. Take a proactive approach instead of a reactive one
- 4. Grow personally in response to this challenge instead of shifting blame
- ${\bf 5.}\,\,{\bf Regain}\,{\bf your}\,{\bf humor}\,{\bf and}\,{\bf playfulness}$

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