



Everybody Rows

If we are going to win together, we have to row together

Leadership Behavior: Leaders Are Better Together

1 Corinthians 9:22–24 (NKJV)

22 I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. 23 Now this I do for the gospel's sake, that I may be partaker of it with you. 24 Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it.

WINNING TOGETHER REQUIRES A UNIFIED PURPOSE

Paul reminds us, *“I do [this] for the gospel's sake.”* The sharing of the gospel is our primary purpose. The church exists to save the lost. We become all things to all people to save the lost. We expend ourselves to save the lost. We are in the soul winning business! We must be willing to do anything short of sin to save lost. We go for souls and introduce them to the life Jesus gave His life for them to discover!

What keeps you rowing? What is your purpose?

Winning as a team requires the purpose to be:

a) Clear

Without a clearly defined goal your team finds itself rowing aimlessly in the open water with no destination. In a race, the goal is clear – its marked with a finish line.

It's important to define your win. What does a win look like for you and your team?

b) Compelling

Not only should a purpose be clearly defined, it must also be compelling. There needs to be a white hot sense of mission. Without an urgency to mission at hand, expect the performance to be lacking.

Is your purpose/mission compelling? Is there a white hot sense of urgency? How can you bring that urgency to the center of the mission?

WINNING TOGETHER REQUIRES EQUAL PARTICIPATION

Paul says *“all the runners run”*. This race requires each member of the team to contribute and give it their best. This requires a unique intersection of purpose and passion.

Passion without purpose is drudgery. Purpose without passion makes a visionary, but purpose married with passion makes a missionary. - Ravenhill

Famed football coach P. J. Fleck led his teams at the University of Minnesota and Western Michigan with a simple call to action, “row the boat.” Fleck attributed this mantra to an extremely challenging time he experienced in 2011 when he lost his newborn son Colt. Fleck told ESPN, “I lost my second son to a heart condition. As you hold your son as he takes his last breath, that’s pretty tough to go through — and your whole life changes. You’re living your life for someone else. He’s on my back, always. That’s where ‘row the boat’ originated.”

“Row the boat” has come to mean – never give up, keep going, give it all you have.

Fleck continued “People tend to stop rowing in storms, they give up. When you row the boat, everyone has got to be in one line. Everybody has got to be rowing in the same direction, at the same speed, and with the same efficiency to get from point A to point B in the most efficient and fastest way possible.”

How Fleck breaks down “Row The Boat”:

The Oar - What you bring to life. These are your gifts, passions, talents, time and energy. You decide if your oar is in the water or not.

The Boat - The Sacrifice. What are you willing to give up for something you’ve never had before?

What are you passionate about? How does that align with our unified purpose? Is your oar in the water and are you sacrificing equally?

WINNING TOGETHER REQUIRES A CLEAR PLAN

Finally Paul says, “***Run in such a way that you may obtain it.***” A runner doesn’t receive the prize because he ran, he receives it because he ran in ***such a way*** as to obtain it.

We don’t rise to the level of our goals we fall to the level of our systems. - Craig Groeschel

Why was it the early morning hours that I’d catch the rowing team? It was the best time for them to get their strokes in, to practice together, to work on their skills and prepare for the race. It was that time spent together when no one was watching that made them winners when everyone was watching.

That’s why consistent, constant work on our vision, mission, message, values, and systems are so important. It’s what we do when no one is watching that makes the difference when every one is watching.

Our Vision - Is Revival

To build an apostolic revival community of believers who are passionate to see the Nature Coast discover life in all its fullness.

Our Mission - Is Life

To experience the fullness of life that Jesus gave His life for. To awaken ourselves, families and community to that full life.

Our Message - Is Jesus

We simply show them Jesus!

Our System - Aquire - Connect - Train - Send

Our Values - Honor, Humility, Hunger, Holiness

Our Behaviors - Leaders...lead leaders, are all in, lead themselves first, make it better, are better together

It's one thing to know the play book, it's another to put it to practice. Have you embodied these and put them to practice on a daily and weekly basis?