

Point of View



A LEADERSHIP COMMENTARY ON LIFE TODAY BY BOB SHANK

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Dear Marketplace Friend,

“Read any good books this summer?” I hope you have some friends whose queries go beyond *sun and sand*, and reach toward *substance*. Summer vacation is a great time to get caught up on your reading; I hope I’ve been able to help point you toward some thoughtful subjects over these weeks...

I’m still reading; hope you are, as well. But as of this week, I’m back on the road, leading quarterly session days for **The Master’s Program**, across America. The marketplace is anemic, but the windows of opportunity for the Kingdom have never been more inviting. What is it that we do?

Our participants are mostly leaders; there are some managers who are growing toward leadership in most groups. Their expertise has been shaped by their careers; we help them align their past with their future, and coach them toward the discovery of their Kingdom Calling.

American military sophistication has introduced the idea of Force Multiplication to modern conflict. “*Force Multiplication (FM) refers to an attribute which makes a given force more effective than the same force would be, without it. FM existed before anyone had a name for it...*” (Wikipedia). Example: a ground force of 100

troops can accomplish “X” results, but support that company with unmanned drones – for recon, or for attack – and the potential of that ground force has now been increased to “5X.” The drones are Force Multipliers...

Think of the hierarchical system of all social organizations: these chains-of-command position people as leaders (*the top*), managers (*the middle*) and followers (*the bottom*). Effective organizations help people to find their best position in the pyramid... and accomplishment is possible. Career life – happening in Monday-Friday real-time – assumes that people will be rightly placed...

Here’s a recurrent disconnect: leaders from Career Life cross over into Kingdom Life and sign up to labor as followers, or are asked to serve as managers, with no recognition of their proven potential as effective leaders. Military management would never hand a rifle to a combat-decorated, West Point graduate colonel and send him to a front-line trench. He would be an “addition,” but it would be at the expense of his strategic contribution that would represent a chance to “multiply” the odds of victory.

Force Multiplication did exist before warriors had a name for it; it was woven into Jesus' strategy for advancing His Kingdom: *"Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain. Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, multiplying thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times."* (Mark 4:7-8)

In The Master's Program, we help *Career Leaders* to become *Calling Leaders*. As members of the Christian lower caste called *"the laity,"* most are already serving, but they are in positions where their contribution to the cause is an *addition*. Here's the breakthrough we're seeking: *we help them look for – and, to find – the leverage point where their service enables multiplication.* God never said, *"Be fruitful and add!"* From the beginning, God always points *leaders* toward *multiplication!*

Go to this web page:

www.mastersprogram.org/Briefing.aspx

That is a list of cities and dates where we're offering mealtime introductions to **The Master's Program**. If you're a **TMP**er, it's a place to bring friends whose leadership has not yet become a FM for the Kingdom. If you haven't experienced **TMP** yet, I want to invite you to come be challenged to stop underperforming, and become a FM: *"I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father."* (John 14:12)

Twelve Apostles changed the world, 2000 years ago. With the FM of the Holy Spirit, they rocked. You have the same Power they had; is your effect on Eternity comparable to theirs? Join us at one of those Briefings – bring some leader friends with you! – *and let's seize the day, for the Kingdom!*

Bob Shank

Bob Shank is Founder and Chief Mentoring Officer of The Master's Program (TMP).

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