



AIMCHURCH.ONLINE with Dr. Andries and Liz van Schalkwyk

Leadership Development + Purpose for Seniors / Adults

Are you a senior or someone who can't attend church in person? AIMCHURCH.ONLINE is a brand-new live Zoom church, created especially for seniors and those unable to attend in person. We are a caring, welcoming, interactive faith community where you can worship, learn, pray, and connect from the comfort of your home. Whether you are homebound, seeking encouragement, or looking to reconnect with faith, you are never alone here at AIMCHURCH.ONLINE, church comes to you!

Leadership Development + Purpose for Seniors / Adults By Dr. Andries van Schalkwyk

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Leadership Development + Purpose for Seniors / Adults

Introduction

Many people believe that when they get older, their purpose becomes smaller. But in God's Kingdom, **purpose does not retire — it matures.**

Age does not cancel purpose. In God's Kingdom, **purpose does not retire**; it matures. Many of the greatest leaders in Scripture stepped into their calling later in life. Seniors carry wisdom, experience, and spiritual maturity that younger generations need.

Jesus Christ developed leaders by **walking with them, teaching them, demonstrating truth, and releasing them into purpose.** The same method works today.

Some of the greatest leaders in the Bible stepped into their calling later in life.

For example, Moses was 80 years old when God called him to lead Israel (Exodus 7:7).

This means your **age is not a limitation — it is preparation.**

The 4 Discipling Methods of Jesus for Leadership Development

1. Jesus Called People into Purpose

Before training leaders, Jesus **called them to follow Him.**

Example:

When Jesus called the disciples, He said -

“Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.” — Matthew 4:19

The key phrase is **“I will make you.”**

Leadership development begins when someone responds to God's call.

Practical Applications for Seniors - Even in later years, God still calls people into purpose.

Biblical Example:

Moses was **80 years old** when God called him to lead Israel (Exodus 7:7).

Discipleship Question

- What is God calling you to do in this season of life?
- Who can you influence spiritually?
- Who can I pray for?

Motivation

- Your age is not a limitation.
- It is a **qualification through experience**.

2. Jesus Developed Leaders Through Relationship

- Jesus did not train leaders only in a classroom.
- He trained them through **daily life and relationships**.
- He walked with them, ate with them, and allowed them to see how He lived.

Example:

Peter the Apostle learned leadership by **observing Jesus closely**.

Peter watched Jesus:

- pray
- teach
- perform miracles
- respond to opposition

Leadership is often **caught before it is taught**.

Practical Application for Seniors

Seniors can mentor younger believers by simply **sharing life and wisdom**.

Examples:

- Mentoring younger Christians

- Leading a small Bible study
- Praying with others
- Encouraging new believers

Biblical Example

Paul the Apostle mentored Timothy and raised him as a spiritual leader (2 Timothy 2:2).

Motivation

Your wisdom may be the **missing key in someone else's destiny**.

Your story can become **someone else's breakthrough**.

3. Jesus Trained and Developed Leaders Through Participation

Jesus allowed His disciples to **practice leadership**.

He sent them out to minister.

Example

- Luke 9:1–2
- Jesus sent the disciples to preach the Kingdom and heal the sick.

They were not perfect yet, but Jesus **trusted them with responsibility**.

Practical Application for Seniors

Leadership development happens when seniors:

- Allow others to serve with them
- Give younger believers opportunities
- Encourage people to step into ministry

Biblical Example

- Barnabas believed in Paul the Apostle when others doubted him (Acts 9:26–27).
- Barnabas helped release Paul into his purpose.

Motivation

Sometimes your greatest leadership impact is **helping someone else succeed**.

4. Jesus Released Leaders into Their Assignment and Purpose

Jesus eventually released His disciples to lead.

After His resurrection and before ascending to heaven, He gave them the **Great Commission**.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations.” — Matthew 28:19

The disciples became leaders who changed the world.

Practical Application for Seniors

A senior leader’s role is not just to serve but also to **release others into purpose**.

This can include:

- mentoring future leaders
- sharing testimonies
- teaching spiritual principles
- encouraging bold faith

Biblical Example

Elijah trained Elisha to carry the prophetic mantle (2 Kings 2).

Leadership continues when **others are raised up**.

Why Seniors Are Powerful Leaders in God's Kingdom

Seniors carry:

- wisdom
- patience
- spiritual insight
- life experience
- strong faith foundations

Scripture states:

“The righteous will still bear fruit in old age.” — Psalm 92:14

God designed later seasons of life to be **fruitful, not idle**.

Simple Leadership Activation

1. Who can I encourage spiritually this week?
2. Who can I pray with or mentor?
3. What wisdom from my life can help someone grow in faith?

Purpose grows when we **invest in others**.

Final Inspiration

God does not measure leadership by age.

He measures it by **faithfulness**.

Just like:

- Moses
- Abraham
- Caleb (who was strong at 85)

Your greatest influence may still be ahead of you.

Your wisdom, faith, and testimony can **ignite the next generation**.

Practical Worksheet

Section 1 - Practical Questions - Discover Your Purpose

1. Reflect and write your answers.
 2. What life experiences has God used to strengthen your faith?
-

2. What wisdom could you share with younger believers?
-

3. Who has influenced your spiritual life the most?
-

Section 2 — Learning from Jesus' Discipling Method

Jesus Christ developed leaders in four ways:

1. Calling people into purpose
2. Walking in relationship
3. Allowing participation
4. Releasing leaders

Personal Reflection

Which one do you feel God wants you to practice?

- Encouraging others
- Mentoring someone
- Praying for future leaders
- Teaching Scripture

Section 3 — Identify Someone to Disciple

Write the name of one person you can encourage spiritually.

Name: _____

How can you help them grow?

- Pray for them
- Encourage them
- Study the Bible together
- Share life wisdom

Section 4 — Leadership Action Step

This week I will:

- Encourage someone in their faith
- Pray with someone
- Share my testimony
- Help someone discover their purpose

Prayer

“Lord, thank You that my purpose continues in every season of life. Use my wisdom, faith, and experiences to help others grow and fulfill their destiny. In Jesus' name, Amen.”