**Five Areas of Personal Change Required for Next Level Leadership**

In the course of my own church leadership journey I have been influenced and blessed by pastors, staff and lay leaders willing to embrace inner change that in turn changed their personal ministries and the churches they led and served.

I have observed that in their path towards personal change they intentionally and regularly focused on making significant changes in five key areas: *Knowledge, Values, Practices, Relationships and Habits.*

As these leaders made continually changes in these five areas, they inevitably experienced next level leadership and their churches experienced next level growth. As you strive to lead your church to next levels of Kingdom effectiveness you may find it helpful to regularly ask a series of questions around each of these areas of personal inner change.

1. **KNOWLEDGE:** *How can I increase my own sense of competence, contribution and confidence?*
* What do I need to learn to become a next level leader?
* What do I need to unlearn that might deter me from becoming a next level leader?
1. **VALUES:** *How can I increase my sense of what is priority by changing what I value?*
* What do I need to value more to become a next level leader?
* What do I need to value less to become a next level leader?

1. **PRACTICES:** *How can I increase my own sense of purpose, meaning and spiritual vitality?*
* What do I need to practice more of to become a next level leader?
* What do I need to practice less of to become a next level leader?

1. **RELATIONSHIPS:** *How can I increase my own sense of influence and being influenced?*
* Who do I need speaking in to my life to become a next level leader?
* Whose life do I need to speak into as a next level leader?
1. **HABITS:** *How can I increase my own sense of mission, vision and goal alignment?*
* What do I need to spend more time doing to become a next level leader?
* What do I need to spend less time doing to become a next level leader?

After answering these questions establish an annual plan with specific initiatives and measurable goals you will undertake to see these changes through. Find an accountability partner or team to validate your goals and initiatives and to share progress with periodically.

We become change agents by first accepting the pain of personal change and altering ourselves. If your church is in need of change then embrace that change begins with you, and that you can become a next level leader through an intentional inner rhythm of changing your Knowledge, Values, Practices, Relationships and Habits.