

2024 Outcomes Conference – Jacksonville, FL  
**Workshop: Dyadic Leadership – Friends on Mission**  
April 10, 2024, 2:00 pm

Presenters:  
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Bible League International

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*“Our approach to leadership makes a theological statement to the church and to the world.”*  
-JR Woodward

## Theology of Dyadic Leadership

### The *Imago Dei*



- **Love:** 1 John 4:7-21
- **New Creation:** 2 Corinthians 5:11-21
- **Participation:** Genesis 1:26-28; 2:15-25

### The *Missio Dei*

“Creation, it seems, was not a tableau, a static scene. It was designed as a *project*, created in order to go somewhere. The creator has a future in mind for it; and Human – this strange creature, full of mystery and glory – is the means by which the creator is going to take his project forward. The garden, and all the living creatures, plants and animals, within it, are designed to become what they were meant to be through the work of God’s image-bearing creatures in their midst. The point of the project is that the garden be extended, colonizing the rest of creation, and **Human is the creature put in charge of that plan. Human is thus a kind of midway creature; reflecting God into the world, and reflecting the world back to God.** That is the basis for the ‘truly human’ vocation. And that, as the New Testament declares, is also the goal for which we are aiming – indeed, the goal of all human existence.”<sup>1</sup> - N.T. Wright

Notes:

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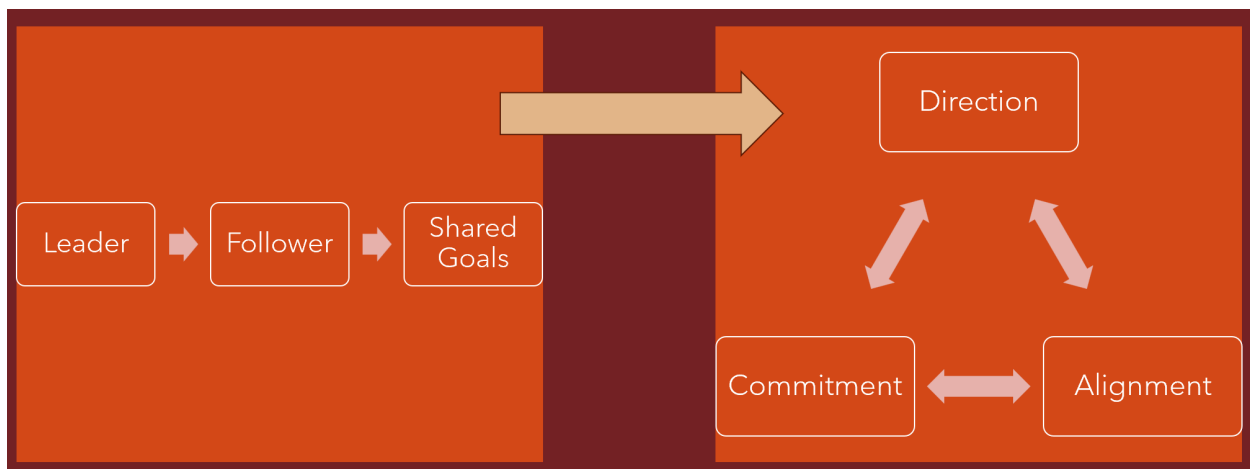
<sup>1</sup> N. T. Wright, *After You Believe: Why Christian Character Matters* (New York: HarperCollins, 2010), p. 74-75.

## The Beauty of Dyadic Leadership

### Leadership-in-Community

#### Adaptive Leadership & Participation

- Participating in the ‘divine trinitarian dance of God’
  - *Perichoresis* – the togetherness, the joy, the self-giving, self-surrender passion, and life shared by the Father, Son, and Spirit.<sup>2</sup>
  - Participating in the love and communion of the Godhead: God is both a relational and a sending God.<sup>3</sup>
- Adaptive Leadership & The Chessboard Environment



- *Communitas*: An intimate, diverse community with a shared identity and mission forged through periods of change and invigorated by the *agape* love of God.<sup>4</sup>
- **What Beauty do you Want to Create?**

“The beauty of the story of God is that our hope is not dependent on our faithfulness. Our hope is in the triune God’s ability to bring about new creation – the redemption of our bodies and the redemption of the world. And the one thing people need today is hope. We can be people of hope because our confidence that the new creation will be fully realized someday resides in the fact that Jesus lived, died and rose again.”<sup>5</sup>

  - *Communion*: What is God’s Spirit doing in me?
  - *Community*: What is God’s Spirit doing around me?
  - *Commission*: What is God’s Spirit doing through me?<sup>6</sup>

<sup>2</sup> JR Woodward & Dan White, Jr., *The Church as Movement: Starting and Sustaining Missional-Incarnational Communities* (Downers Grove: IVP Books, 2016), p. 121.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid. p. 120.

<sup>4</sup> Lee A. Carter, *Leadership-in-Community: The Missiology, Community, & Ethics of Missional Leadership* (Chicago: Kharis Publishing, 2021), p. 82.

<sup>5</sup> Woodward & White, p. 131.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid. p. 109

## The Practice of Dyadic Leadership

### 1. What:

*The leadership dyad can create a unique situation in which two people can combine their efforts to lead in a unique way, achieving results that surpass what could be achieved individually by either member. Depending on an individual's personality, there is a natural propensity to lead in a certain way, but combining different styles can enhance the overall leadership effectiveness. However, leadership dyads need to play to their strengths and develop the skills needed to leverage individual differences for synergy.<sup>7</sup>*

### 2. Who:

- **Attraction:** Being drawn to the other because we see something compelling in them that suggests the possibility of growth in the future.
- **Relationship:** Creating a safe space for trust, intimacy, self-awareness, and vulnerability.
- **Responsiveness:** Attitude of receptiveness, welcome, consistency of presence, and mutuality in responding to each other.
- **Complementarity:** This is the relational artistry – our differences are knit together to create something stronger, healthier, wiser, and more creative than the sum of the parts.
- **Shared Vision:** Both have a shared worldview, values, or desires for the mission.
- **Accountability:** We can rely on each other – what we say we'll do, we do and the other can count on that.
- **Empowerment:** Giving space for others to bring their personality, skills, experiences, and perspectives. Each person is valued and respected (even when we disagree)

### 3. How:

- Prayer
- Friendship (Mutuality) vs. Strangers
- Giftedness
- Vulnerability & Grace
- Time

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<sup>7</sup> Ginka Toegel, Fang Liu, Sophie Linguri Coughlan and Michelle Perrinjaquet, "Leadership Dyads: Playing to Your Strengths," IMD, <https://www.imd.org/research-knowledge/leadership/articles/leadership-dyads-playing-to-your-strengths/#:~:text=Depending%20on%20an%20individual's%20personality,leverage%20individual%20differences%20for%20synergy> (accessed February 25, 2024).