step into MORE

No one else is Coming

Lukas and Trina Bonnett

Elim Church SK

[Do we have a leadership crisis?]



Only 16% of U.S. Protestant senior pastors were age 40 or younger in 2022.

78% Of pastors surveyed said they were concerned about the quality of future Christian leaders.

79% Of pastors agreed that churches aren't rising to their responsibility to train the next generation of Christian leaders.

Barna Group, The Pastoral Succession Crisis Is Only Getting More Complicated, Barna Group, 2023 pastoral succession research.



I looked for someone among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land so I would not have to destroy it, but I found no one.

Ezekiel 22:30 - NIV



1

Point one

Give God your yes. No strings attached.



When your *conviction to say yes is pre-determined, no strings attached, the call to go is much easier.*

Lukas and Trina Bonnett

2

Point two

Count the entire cost.





Luke 14: 28 For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?

Luke 9:23 And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.

“When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die.

— Deitrich Bonhoeffer, The Cost of Discipleship

“

An easy life isnt an option; but an easy yoke is.

John Mark Comer, The ruthless elimination of hurry



The question isn't simply, “What will following Jesus cost me?” The question is also, “What might my refusal to follow him cost someone else?”

Lukas and Trina Bonnett



3

Point three

Put character over readiness

Character that creates ready senior leadership

1

Seek ownership not opportunity

2

Be a champion not a critic.

3

Serve someone else's vision before you lead your own.

4

Point four

Commit to together.





Young leaders need proximity of relationships and vulnerability more than opportunity. They need honesty, closeness, they need spiritual fathers and mothers.

Lukas and Trina Bonnett

5

Point five

Courage. Courage. Courage.





Reflections for Emerging Leaders

1. When you imagine your role in the future of the Church in Canada, what “costs” are you counting the most right now, and how might God be asking you to trust him with those?

2. What would it look like for you to take greater ownership of the local church you are apart of right where you are, and what might be holding you back from doing so?

3. Who are the leaders you need to draw closer to in this season, and what intentional steps could you take to learn from them, grow in character, and prepare for greater responsibility ahead?

4. Write out a prayer of courage for yourself, and daily repeat it as you let God lead your next season.

Reflections for Senior Leaders

1. When you think of your sphere of influence, who are the emerging leaders God has entrusted to you, and how are you intentionally preparing them to carry the mantle?

2. What aspects of your leadership, your expectations, or your approach to ministry might you need to release or reconsider to create space for the next generation to lead faithfully in their own way?

3. Would you consider, being more open and vulnerable with the weight of senior leadership and letting proximity rather than opportunity help you train up the leaders coming up behind you.

4. What stories of courage do you have to share, to help inspire those around you to lead the church of tomorrow.



step into MORE