

From the Pastor

June 13, 2017

The staff here at St. Mark's has been studying and discussing a book by Patrick Lencioni called ***The Ideal Team Player***. Lencioni is founder and president of the Table Group, a management consulting firm specializing in executive team development and organizational health.



In *The Ideal Team Player*, Lencioni identifies steps members of an organization can take to become better team players. An ideal team player, he says, embodies three virtues: humility, hunger and people smarts.

The three traits are defined as follows:

Humble

Ideal team players are humble. They lack excessive ego or concerns about status. Humble people are quick to point out the contribution of others and slow to seek attention for their own. They share credit, emphasize team over self and define success collectively rather than individually.

Hungry

Ideal team players are hungry. They are always looking for more. More things to do. More to learn. More responsibility to take on. Hungry people almost never have to be pushed to work harder because they are self-motivated and diligent. In the atmosphere of the church, we might say good team members are spirit-motivated!

Smart

Ideal team players are smart. They have common sense about people. Smart people tend to know what is happening in a group situation and how to deal with others in the group in an effective way. They have good judgment and intuition around the subtleties of group dynamics and the impact of their words and actions.

All of us at St. Mark's are part of a great team. All of us can become more effective team members as we seek to be humble, hungry and smart. As we follow the one who embodies those virtues more fully than anyone, we will grow in our effectiveness in helping others become followers. Thank you for your examples of what it means to be a great team player and keep up the good work!

Blessings,

Craig