

# 5 Things That Kill A Leader's Growth

THE ART OF   
**CHURCH GROWTH**

## **MISTAKE ONE: YOU TRY TO RUN EVERYTHING**

**“Don’t assume you have all the best ideas.”**

As you begin to release the need to lead and control every aspect of your ministry, you may still be tempted to hold on to the desire to initiate everything. The problem with this desire is it assumes you have all the best ideas. When you gather smart and passionate people, they’ll have great ideas. Harness those ideas in service of your mission and let them lead.

## **MISTAKE TWO: YOU’RE LEADING EVERYTHING**

**“Move others into places of leadership.”**

When you’re leading something, especially when it’s going well, it’s difficult to look around and take notice of the others who could lead. When you encourage and release them to lead, they get to use their gifts and you see growth. The first step is simply this: stop leading every ministry your church offers.

## **MISTAKE THREE: YOU’RE CONTROLLING EVERYTHING**

**“You have to empower and release leaders to lead.”**

Leading is one thing; controlling is another. Many leaders struggle with controlling tendencies. The reality is, you’re going to limit your reach if you have to have input on every decision and detail. Even if you’re not leading everything, your desire to control things will limit the scope and effectiveness of your ministry. Having a clear mission, vision, and strategy will help you feel you don’t need to jump in all the time, and it will help your leaders know exactly what they’re released to do.

## **MISTAKE FOUR: YOU’RE ATTENDING EVERYTHING**

**“When you stop attending everything, you release people to be the church.”**

This shift is perhaps the hardest one to make. It’s a defining moment for the church when the pastor no longer attends every event the church holds. It’s also a sign that the church is finally embracing a mission bigger than one person. Lead them through this season by providing clarity of the vision that’s before you and by releasing them to use the gifts God has given them.

## **MISTAKE FIVE: YOU TRY TO KNOW EVERYTHING**

**“If you’re going to grow, you have to let go.”**

As things grow, you will also need to stop knowing everything that’s going on at your church. While the senior leader is ultimately responsible for everything in the organization, you simply can’t know every little detail. In all honesty, you shouldn’t even try. There are wonderful people at work in your organization doing incredible things. If you release them to do what they do best, you will get phenomenal results.

# Discussion Questions

1. What current expectations does your church have about the personal involvement of the senior leader in it's ministries? In your view, are they realistic or not?
2. Review the Five Mistakes described in this video. Which mistakes (if any) have you made?
3. What do you think your senior leader is best at?
4. Where does he or she add the most value to the mission?