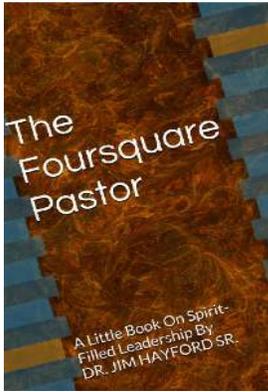


Dr. James W. Hayford Sr..
The Foursquare Pastor: A Little Book On Spirit-Filled Leadership

[Amazon Kindle Version](#)



This assignment is divided into five weeks. Each week you will read a few short chapters, reflect on the content of each chapter and highlight some passages that are especially encouraging and/or challenging. Share your reflection on the SED Church Planting FB page. Please be certain to both share your reflection and comment on some of your cohort members thoughts.

Chapters

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Chapter 1 Diversity yet Unity

The worldwide community of Foursquare pastors numbers in the tens of thousands, and there are probably not two very much alike. We have one savior, yet... different ages, different backgrounds, different cultures, different educations, different languages, different styles and, yes... different theologies.

Ours is a very diverse community of leaders. Our common bond is found in the person and work of Jesus Christ.

There are tens of thousands of Foursquare churches in the world. Each one is a unique and creative work of Jesus, the Lord of His church. I have had the privilege of visiting or ministering in well over 500 different Foursquare churches worldwide. And, as it is with their pastors, I have not found two very much alike!

Their common bond is found in the worship of God, the preaching of the word of God and the ministry of the Holy Spirit of God. This diversity of ministry style and even content based on local autonomy combined with entrepreneurial creativity is, perhaps, both the greatest strength and the greatest weakness of our movement. It is difficult for our leaders to unite us, yet we share a common bond that holds us together: our individual relationships with Jesus and our sense of the Holy Spirit placing us in the Foursquare movement keep most of us focused and engaged.

The unique nature and personality of The Foursquare Church inherently calls for a special kind of leader. If we are to be at all coordinated in our efforts, I believe the following chapters must be taken into consideration.

Chapter 2 Moderation

The Foursquare Church was born in the midst of a Pentecostal revival. Signs and wonders accompanied the preaching of the gospel by flamboyant and controversial evangelist, our founder, Aimee Semple McPherson. Thus, The Foursquare Church's DNA is solidly Spirit-Filled, entrepreneurial, missional and nontraditional.

One of Sister McPherson's strongest convictions that she stressed when training her young followers would become known as the doctrine of moderation ("What The Foursquare Church Believes," Article 13). It has survived the generations as a core value to be embraced by Foursquare pastors.

[Foursquare Creedal Statements](#)

[Foursquare Declaration of Faith](#)

Most Pentecostal and Holiness contemporaries of the emerging Foursquare movement in the early 1920s were pronouncedly legalistic in their interpretation of Scripture. This was particularly true in regard to physical appearance, social conventions and fashion as those things pertained to women. Mrs. McPherson defied these restrictions, liberating Christian women to serve God in ministry outside their homes, an exception to the rule among classic Pentecostals caused our movement to be seen as the "black sheep" among their more legalistic and predictably excitable Pentecostal brothers and sisters.

The moderation position was a statement about ministry style as the new church sought a middle-of-the-road position as far as liturgy was concerned. Both the excesses of formalism and hyper-emotionalism were to be avoided. This quest for moderation continues to be an enduring characteristic of most Foursquare churches today, where services are free, open and joy-filled, yet safe. Foursquare pastors, for the most part, avoid the judgmentalism and religious pride

connected with religious legalism, while contending for a healthy reverence for God and a commitment to the moral cleanliness of a consecrated life.

The Foursquare Church, by its corporate culture and personal conduct, communicates to a confused and waiting world, "Whosoever will to the Lord may come" (Rev. 22: 17). The Foursquare Church is, first and foremost, a human response to the Great Commission of Jesus Christ to preach the gospel and make disciples.

Most Foursquare pastors prepare and preside over worship services that contend for the authentic manifestation of the Holy Spirit, avoiding useless traditions that are void of life, no matter how artistic or beautiful. They maintain a biblical criteria for public behavior; the ministry of spiritual gifts and the ministry of the Word are presented in a way that is always decent and in order (1 Cor. 14: 40).

For the most part, there is a pronounced informal conduct and dress, with an emphasis on authenticity and individuality in our public gatherings. Unchurched people can quickly relax and understand more of what is going on and why.

Chapter 3 Interdenominational Spirit

The Foursquare Church has been called a nondenominational denomination. The interdenominational nature of the church does not try to mask the point that Foursquare is a highly organized network of congregations within a shared bylaws, articles of incorporation, statement of faith, operational procedures, ministerial standard of ethics, and executive leadership construct. The Foursquare Church operates in scores of countries as a state-recognized nonprofit organization, subject to all laws and regulations governing such. Although a few local Foursquare churches in the United States behave and present themselves as sectarian institutions, there is definitely an interdenominational disposition that comes through to seeker and member alike.

Because of our diversity, all Foursquare pastors must interrogate their reality by being informed of and compliant with the documents and polities of our denomination. We have willingly chosen to associate ourselves with an earthly organization; we carry its license and tax-deductible status as we minister within our communities. We are not exempt from, nor can we be indifferent to, its system of beliefs and policies. If we are Foursquare, we must act like it! I am afraid that there is no perfect church. Any endeavor involving mere mankind is fundamentally flawed. We have in our country scores of denominations in existence to prove my point, as we ceaselessly seek to improve upon one another.

Each of us as a Foursquare pastor has the privilege of orderly dissent and the safety of counsel found in our convention body. If you choose to be a part of this admittedly flawed organization of preachers, then, it seems to me, we should participate in the betterment of the source of our ministerial credentials. Perhaps we all fall into one or more of the following categories that I have devised as a construct to test our involvement, attitudinally, towards the Foursquare organization:

- Critical: Negative or even hostile.
- Consumer: Simply needing a license or an appointment or a title to do your own thing.
- Indifferent: Not your problem!
- Passive: Nothing you can do or care to do to help.
- Nominally participative: Involved in the aspects that benefit you and "your" church

- Actively participative: Enthusiastically involved in most aspects offered and available to pastors and churches.
- Volunteer: Available to help at divisional, district, national or international levels when given the opportunity.
- Employed - Livelihood derived from serving at the district, national or international level by appointment or election.
- Retired: Not under active appointment, but deeply committed.

Where are you in this? Are you doing all you can to make The Foursquare Church better? For example, we are essentially a worldwide church-planting movement. If so, why would any Foursquare pastor willingly choose to have nothing to do with church planting?

Foursquare Videos:

[Foursquare History](#)

[We Are Foursquare](#)

Chapter 4 Distinctly Pentecostal Heritage

The Foursquare Church can trace its roots to the modern Pentecostal awakening at the beginning of the twentieth century. Aimee Semple McPherson, our founder, attributed her introduction to Pentecostalism to her first husband, Irish missionary and evangelist Robert Semple. Angelus Temple, the first Foursquare church (1923), was fueled by the aftermath of the Azusa Street Pentecostal revival (1906-1915), which took place essentially in the same Los Angeles neighborhood where the Temple is located.

Our roots are clear—and simple. Over the years The Foursquare Church emerged into an international evangelistic movement, proclaiming the "Foursquare Gospel": Jesus Christ is the Savior, the Healer, the Baptizer with the Holy Spirit and the Soon-Coming King. This was a bold new declaration of Jesus Christ, with signs and wonders following.

This young movement empowered women in leadership and embraced all races in leadership. These practices distinguished it and distanced it from many of its sister Pentecostal denominations in those early days.

In the mid-1960s, The Foursquare Church gradually lost its impetus as a movement. Official reports in this time period clearly show the church languishing in all measurements of growth and influence. Valiant efforts and considerable prayer were the order of the day, attempting to reverse the trend. That decade brought with it one of the few worldwide spiritual awakenings (revival) in recorded church history. It was known as "The Charismatic Renewal"* and accompanied by "The Jesus Movement," among young people. The Foursquare Church, for the most part, was desperate enough to embrace that move of God. Many classical Pentecostal churches and groups resisted the idea of mainline Christians and long-haired hippies experiencing the reality of Pentecost. But The Foursquare Church found itself in the middle of this sovereign move of God around the world. Churches were revitalized, missionaries commissioned, discipleship schools launched and churches planted at a rate not seen since the earliest days of our movement. People such as Coleman Phillips, Bill Burnett Sr., Jerry Cook, Jack Hayford, Ralph Moore, Roy Hicks Jr. and Sr., Jean Darnall, Evelyn Thompson and many others led us into the middle of this exciting time that literally put The Foursquare Church back on the Evangelical "map."

Chuck Smith, founder of the Calvary Chapel movement born at this time, was formerly a Foursquare pastor. Another couple with Foursquare roots, Gordon and Freda Lindsay, established a broad-based interdenominational ministry during this time; they were co-founders of Christ for the Nations in Dallas. Most of the large Foursquare churches in existence today were birthed in that Pentecostal/ Charismatic revival. Places such as Van Nuys, California; Eugene, Oregon; Fresno, California; Kirkland, Washington; Hermosa Beach, California; Escondido, California; Danville, California; Beaverton, Oregon; Eureka, California; Prescott, Arizona; and Gresham, Oregon were either planted, or experienced amazing renewal and growth during that time. Those churches then began to initiate rapid church multiplication. The Northwest, California, the Northeast and Hawaii were probably the "hottest spots," but, throughout the land, The Foursquare Church experienced profound renewal and unprecedented growth. In more recent years pastors such as Roger Archer, Wayne Cordeiro, Farrell Lemings, Ted Olbrich, Jim Tolle, Joe Wittwer, Nate Poetzel, Matthew Barnett and Jeff Kolodziej experienced phenomenally fruitful ministry. All of these leaders can tell of the influence they experienced from mentors who lived through the revival. Internationally, The Foursquare Church mushroomed in size as church movements multiplied and scores of new nations were opened to Foursquare ministry. In our early days, we fervently proclaimed "Around the world with the Foursquare Gospel." In the sixties and seventies we actually experienced that!

This revival period emphasized passionate evangelism, the baptism and fullness of the Holy Spirit, spiritual gifts and ministries and a renewed expectancy of the return of Jesus Christ.

Here we are today with the burning question: Will the Foursquare pastors at the beginning of the twenty-first century preach and practice all four "corners" of the Foursquare Gospel to their generation?

Our general condition as a movement today, while far richer and larger, is becoming similar to what it was 40 years ago before the revival. Churches are stagnating and numbers are down; spiritual zeal seems to have been replaced by strategic plans.

Chapter 5 Cultural Relevance

A historical examination of The Foursquare Church from its founding to the present would suggest that local churches prosper when they balance culturally relevant ministry models with an uncompromised presentation of the transforming power of the gospel in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Where gospel and Spirit are compromised in the name of cultural relevance, that ministry is ultimately doomed to failure. Substance— not style— makes the difference in human lives. The blessing God has promised is specifically placed on the message, not the presentation. Message must always drive presentation. Content, not style, commands God's blessing!

Having said this, it is still our responsibility to attract and communicate to an audience that is largely defined and influenced by culture. We must meet people at the point of their felt needs and their corporate or age-specific attention spans. If we ignore the modern and post-modern mindset in our planning, our ministries will become irrelevant. Cultural relevance is more than lighting, instrumentation, graphics and dress. These issues must be taken into consideration, but, in themselves, they are not game changers.

Cultural relevance more has to do with a holistic response to human need, based on identified felt needs in your community. It is not incomplete assumptions based on other leaders' experiences or styles. Foursquare pastors are men and women who are comfortable with their own identities and callings. They find it unsuitable to simply caricature other churches, leaders and programs; they are determined to seek the Lord for unique direction for their own contexts.

What is God telling you to do about the challenges and pain in your place of ministry? In asking that question, you have just truly arrived at the outskirts of a place called "Cultural Relevance."

Chapter 6 Kingdom Mentality

The Foursquare Church has for 90 years broadly defined itself by the words etched on the cornerstone of Angelus Temple: "Dedicated Unto The Cause Of Interdenominational and Worldwide Evangelism." As previously mentioned, our church did not begin by definition and purpose as a sect or a denomination. "Foursquare" was a message.

Foursquare pastors should treat this value as one of our birthrights. By this I mean that one of the reasons the Lord Jesus created Foursquare as yet another expression of His body was to help unify the seriously divided and splintered presence of Jesus on this planet.

The metaphor I embrace for this unification process is encapsulated in the phrase "Build bridges, not walls." The unity of the body of Christ in many communities across the country and around the world can be traced to the catalytic influence and efforts of Foursquare pastors who understand that one of the most important assignments of our church is to help unify, not further fracture, the body of Christ. We must eliminate needless duplication of efforts in our communities and find ways to unite the manpower and resources of the body of Christ. It was this very thing that God used Angelus Temple to do in Los Angeles almost 100 years ago.

Chapter 7 Biblical Preaching

Foursquare Pastors "Preach The Word." This battle call has been memorialized in the stirring anthem composed and written by our founder, and it has been ardently sung for generations in Foursquare churches. The song is rarely heard today; however, we have many Bible preachers in our churches.

One of my personal mentors was Dr. N.M. Van Cleave, considered by his generation as a "Prince of Preachers." The five years I spent as a young man working daily and directly with him is one of my personal life treasures. He wrote the book "A Handbook on Preaching" that for years was a required text for expository preaching students at all of our Bible colleges.

One of Dr. Van Cleave's greatest concerns as a district supervisor was the drift away from verse-by-verse Bible teaching and preaching. He would say to me: "Jim, give people the Word every time you stand before them. We must give to them the only thing the Holy Spirit can work with in their internal lives—the Word of Truth."

Dr. Van Cleave taught me early on that stories, jokes, anecdotes, clichés and sentiments, no matter how effectively presented, do not endure; neither do they transform lives. The anointing that transforms men and women is reliant on the clearly articulated eternal Word of God (Isa. 55: 11).

As I write this, more of us are slowly succumbing to the mind-numbing effect of the culture that shortens attention spans and relegates the search for truth away from the pulpit. Dr. Van Cleave's concerns of 50 years ago have reached pandemic proportions on Sunday mornings! I am convinced that pastors are first "feeders" by virtue of the word rendered "shepherd" in the Bible. We are to understand; then we become educators, disciple makers.

Too many pastors perceive themselves as entertainers of sorts. Immensely more of their preparation time is spent on music rehearsal, staging, activities, storytelling or humor instead of prayerfully searching Scripture. Let me say it again: "Preach the Word!"

Chapter 8 Prophetic Community

Members of a prophetic community believe God is still talking; they learn to discern His voice and then share what they heard and do what He says. They are people with a "vision."

I have often been asked by many who called me pastor over the years to share with them my vision for our church. Their expectation was for me to share goals that I had that could be materially or quantifiably measured, i.e., attendance numbers or building projects. After years of trying to come up with answers that both satisfied me and those asking, I settled on the following: "My vision is to see our church family become infinitely reproducible disciples of Jesus Christ, participating together in a prophetic community of joy."

My definition of vision as it relates to vision casting to those you lead is "Sharing my preferred outcomes." Outcomes, of course, involve personal, individual and corporate dynamics. As pastor, I have a vision for me, for you and for us.

A "prophetic community" dynamic in the local church should be a very high priority for Foursquare pastors. Let me explain:

- Prophetic: Listening for and hearing God.
- Community: Listening, hearing and obeyng God together.

Prophetic communities corporately "put their ears on," believing that God, by His Spirit, is still and always talking.* Prophetic communities believe that, when God speaks, He never contradicts what He has recorded in Scripture historically.* Prophetic communities are not looking for new truth, but they are looking for fresh truth. Prophetic communities welcome and celebrate the gifts of the Holy Spirit to be manifest in a sane, sensitive and sound way.

Foursquare pastors are to be people who still believe that God is actively involved in the human condition; that He is predictably good and trustworthy; that Jesus Christ has not changed His modus operandi. "He is the same yesterday, today and forever" (Hebrews 13: 8).

Chapter 9 Personal Accountability

Wise Foursquare pastors will surround themselves with accountable relationships. Most of our pastors serve in small churches where no other salaried staff members are salaried. It is easy to settle into a solo lifestyle with little communication. However, relationships with colleagues and peers can provide the safety that comes from having wise people speak into their lives (Pro. 11: 14). The Foursquare Church has created a construct of accountability for its pastors through divisions and districts. These alignments are inconsistently dynamic and effective due to the importance placed upon them by superintendents and supervisors. If the opportunity is, in fact, being offered to you to get together with other Foursquare pastors, you should do so. If this opportunity is not provided consistently, then get something started yourself! We need each other.

Counsel and accountability relationships can come from different sources:

- Mentors can help provide accountability. A mentor is a listener, a sounding board, someone you trust. A mentor should be someone you meet with on a fairly regular basis. And a mentor should have permission to speak into your life. Coaches can be professional therapists or skilled disciple-makers.

- Coaches teach skills to cope and succeed in your calling. You give coaches the privilege to interrogate and observe your life.
- Community peers are other pastors who may or may not be Foursquare. These are people you share your community and its needs with; they are people you cooperate with, not compete with.
- Spouses and parents are those closest to us. Accountable relationships should begin and end at home. Our spouses, parents, siblings, aunts, uncles and, to some degree, our own children can provide the necessary input. A family circle of healthy relationships is a Foursquare pastor's frontline support system.

Chapter 10 Intimacy with God/ Personal Disciplines

This must become a life-long quest and a way of life. Intimacy with God is not self-righteousness; it is not being a know-it-all; it is not fanatical or legalistic practices. Pastors are, at the root of their beings, lovers of God. It is this love affair with God that brings pastors to the personal realization that they can do nothing better with their lives than foster this love in the hearts of others. "Follow me, as I follow Christ"* is the life message of every pastor's existence.

An intimate relationship with God must be carefully and tenderly cultivated over a lifetime. The personal relationships of a public person are what always makes sustained fruitfulness possible. It is our private lives that get us through the public challenges, tests and demands.

I believe trust is the most precious commodity in an intimate relationship. Pastors are placed among the people of God to inspire trust by their very conduct and presence. Under-shepherds have to foster a trusting relationship with the Good Shepherd* and transfer that peace and confidence to their flocks.

Two guiding principles stand out in my mind regarding this:

- Read the Bible for yourself before you ever read it for or to others.
- Talk to God about your people more than you talk to your people about God.

The Bible-reading principle is to remind you that the Bible is your primary source of personal growth as the Holy Spirit illuminates it to your soul and spirit. Feed yourself on the Word; take big, heaping portions of it regularly, with no sermons, lessons or counseling sessions on your mind. Just take the Word into your heart. Be a disciple, a student, a lover of God's Word!

The prayer principle goes to say, spend time talking to the God you love and adore. Worship Him, praise Him, adore Him, and pour out the depths of your heart to Him. Become comfortable with being still in His presence so you can hear His voice. We may get too busy giving answers to ask Him questions. Sometimes it is better to be still, admit we do not know what to do and develop our listening skills.

Foursquare pastors maintain healthy ministry and leadership practices through personal discipline. I have learned over the years, sometimes the hard way, that there are no shortcuts. These personal disciplines are essential:

1. Cultivate the habit of reading the Bible for yourself first— and do so every day.
2. Make prayer a real conversation with God. Learn when to talk and when to listen.
3. Admit that you do not have all the answers. But you can help find the answers.

4. Be sure to take care of your own issues; unhealthy people can hurt people. Healthy people can most effectively help others.

Foursquare pastors are to be safe people, fostering safe environments in which God's people can come together.

Chapter 11 Sound Hermeneutic

According to the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, hermeneutics is "The order of understanding and interpreting linguistics and semantics." In other words, it is the meaning of words and symbols used in communicating God's truth, specifically, biblical texts.

When I ask my reader you what your hermeneutic is, this is what I mean: What do you believe about the content of the Bible? What is the filter you use to understand and proclaim it? In other words, I want you to tell me what you are preaching and why.

When I think of a Bible teacher or preacher, I see a very thoughtful, prayerful exegete of Scripture that sticks closely to the text, its original meaning and its contextual application. We all expect brain surgeons and heart doctors to go by their textbooks when they perform surgeries and other procedures. How much more skillful we should be when we pick up a Bible and stand before a hungry, wounded congregation. Give people the Bible— clear, plain, uncompromised.

Chapter 12 Glorifying in the Lord

Someone asked me this startling question some time ago: "What is your glory?" I did not know quite what to make of it, and I had to tell the questioner I would have to get back to him.

This is an incredibly important question for all of us to struggle with. I never really thought of myself and the word "glory" in the same sentence. Boy, was I wrong! I began to realize that I actually had been doing that quite a bit— glorifying myself, that is.

One of the major occupational hazards in pastoral ministry is arrogance. Christians have a tendency to make their pastors either celebrities or villains. Either way, they are making us into too big of a deal.

I sometimes think that the apostle Paul may have been as insecure a man as I have been. He seemed to be very open in his letters about his own fears and insecurities. That trait has endeared him to me and drawn me more intensely to his writings. Yes, Paul cared more than he even wanted to about what folks thought of him. And so have I.

Paul wrote in Philippians three words the Holy Spirit will never let me forget: "I press on" (3: 14). This keeps me focused. I like using the old definition of the word "foursquare": balanced. It is simply all about Him isn't it?

Psalm 34: 2 rises in my heart when I start taking myself too seriously— or when I start paying too much attention to what people are saying about me. The psalmist said "I will glory in the Lord."

You must learn to stay in the shadow of Jesus when people want to shine a spotlight or the menacing glare of a magnifying glass on you. That may require asking the following questions of yourself periodically:

- Why do you do what you do the way you do it?
- Who is your primary audience?

- What is your view of success?
- What do you glory in?
- What is your boast?
- Have you given Him all the glory?

Chapter 13 Making Disciples

We commonly call the training aspect of ministry by the biblical term "discipleship." This word has become somewhat of a catch-all to describe everything from Sunday school to seminary.

I learned early on that there are two sides to the "coin" called the Great Commission: * Evangelism and Discipleship. Simply put, we are to introduce people to faith in Jesus Christ and establish them in the Christian faith. Obeying the command of Christ involves, in my opinion, a balanced approach. Personally, I have found preaching the gospel and introducing people to the Lord to be fun. On the other hand, making disciples of converts is hard work. It has been likened to trying to "herd cats."

Discipling is spontaneous at the personal relationship level and very intentional and strategic when dealing with groups of people. I have identified in my own life a number of discipleship strategies beginning in my own family and moving out to preaching and teaching, leadership development, mentoring one-on-one and building ministry teams.

Foursquare pastors will find themselves involved all these disciple-making behaviors simultaneously. Think of the people you serve as clean slates on which their Creator is allowing you to make indelible impressions that will affect the lives of people washed in the blood of Jesus. This is a sacred trust. We cannot, and should not, die for God's people. But we can live for them!

Chapter 14 Family First

Let me be clear. If you are a Foursquare pastor and choose to be married, your spouse is your first responsibility in life; if you choose to be a parent, your children are your second greatest responsibility.

Listen to me! The Lord will never require or ask you to make them anything less, no matter how busy or important you become. Your spouse and your children are your most sacred trust; nothing accomplished in this life will be more noteworthy to God when we stand before Him. The "well done" we all hope to hear will first take into consideration how we spent and invested our lives for our spouses and children.

Help them keep up with you in your spiritual journey. Does your wife and children understand what you are learning and teaching about God? Share your journey. Disciple your own first.

Is your home a refuge? Be sure those closest to you are safe from prying eyes, public opinions and interruptive traffic. Are you taking your time, or the church's time to raise your family?

While family is first, you are an employee with a job like everyone else in the congregation. Manage your time. Honor your family, but put in your time and do your job conscientiously.

How do you involve your family in ministry? Allow them the joy of being part of the ministry team and sharing the joy of serving people.

Is your family comfortable showing hospitality? I am not talking about entertaining people. I am talking about how family members love and respond to each other. A loving family is a pure reflection of God Himself. We are living in a time of seriously fractured and dysfunctional families that desperately need to see and experience healthy family models.

Chapter 15 Heroic Environment

Seventeen years ago I read one of the most insightful secular books I have ever come across. I am very thankful that I have come to know personally the amazing man who wrote it, Rob LeBow. The book was a bestseller titled *A Journey into the Heroic Environment*. The book has been out of print for several years, but the author has invited me to write an adaptation of the book for church ministry team members. I hope to see it published soon.

The crux of this book is about something I preach in churches and teach in college classrooms fervently: "Viable, sustainable ministry vision and mission must be based on articulated, core values mutually shared by ministry team members." According to LeBow, core values that can revolutionize a church, a team and a pastor include the following:

1. Treat others with uncompromising truth.
2. Lavish trust on associates.
3. Be willing to mentor anyone and be mentored by anyone.
4. Be receptive to new ideas regardless of their origin.
5. Give credit where credit is due.
6. Do not touch dishonest dollars.
7. Be willing to take personal risks for the sake of others.
8. Put the interests of others before your own.

Originally written to the marketplace, this sounds to me like a word for the church today!

Chapter 16 Final Appeal

Sustainable ~ Reproducible ~ Missional ~ Transformational For me, these four terms describe the gospel. It is altogether eternal, transferrable, unstoppable and life-changing.

The Foursquare pastor has been given a "tool bag" by the builder of the church Himself. In it are the gospel of Jesus Christ, the gifts of the Holy Spirit, the Word of God, and the church of Jesus Christ. Learn to treasure and use each one as a "worker who does not need to be ashamed" (2 Tim. 2: 15).

Always remember this. The church is His. He purchased it with His precious blood. So, it stands to reason that we never call what is His... ours, i.e., "well at my church."

It is profanely arrogant to set about shaping and forming a local church in our own image, personality, likes and dislikes. Foursquare pastors must understand that their task is to see the church shaped into the image of Jesus Christ.

Affixed to the back of the pulpit Aimee Semple McPherson preached from in Angelus Temple were the words: "We would see Jesus." May this be the disposition of every man and women privileged to be called a Foursquare pastor.