

May 2009

Dear Friends

Odour, Odour surrounding 'Order, Order' has now become O' Dear O' Dear - mi Lord!

The abuse of privilege and the tensions of power in our parliamentary system have been laid bare.

Not to be smug, the tissues of trust were tested in our own constitutional development this week, as the fear of corruptive influence is ever present among the saints. Further, whilst our own expense system has been largely trimmed in favour of transparent salaries, we are equally vulnerable to the lure of travel and one-up-man ship with the latest in technology. But for the grace of God....etc

Leadership is often evaluated through the use of intuitive aroma. Even 'servant Leadership' can devolve to a 'grovel and guilt' mechanism when not authentically embraced.

'You can take a horse to water but you can't make it drink' is an idiom that indicates the ultimate helplessness of leadership. Educators have long recognised this reality and thus contemplate the merits of '**Invitational Leadership**' which Stoll and Fink characterise with four key qualities:

Trust-the highest form of human interdependence that assumes the risk that people will behave in concert with integrity.

Optimism – recognises that people have untapped potential for growth and development.

Respect - for the individuality of people through civility and politeness, courtesy and care encouraging vigorous discussion and discovery.

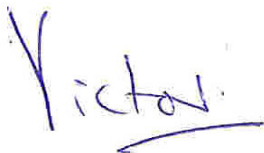
Intentionality – being supportive, caring and encouraging without being manipulative.

Whilst this may seem an arbitrary selection, it corresponds in application to Paul's selection of Faith, Hope and Charity and Jeremiah's "*I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.*"

Indeed the Revelator concludes with an invitational theme: "*the Spirit and the bride say, **Come**. And let him that heareth say, **Come**. And let him that is athirst **come**. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.....He which testifieth these things saith, Surely **I come** quickly. Even so, **come**, Lord Jesus.*"

Once again, I would want to take the opportunity to thank you for the fragrance of your integrity and your desire to repeatedly invite those we serve, to their higher calling in Christ Jesus. May the good Lord give you the generosity of spirit to enfold those entrusted to our care, to His love.

Yours truly



Victor Pilmoor