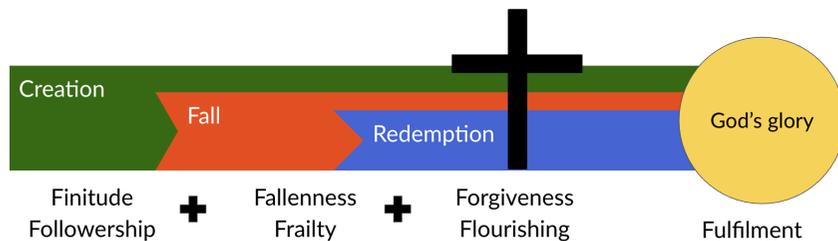


# Transforming Leadership

## Learning our leadership from God's Word

- Case studies of great leaders
- Direct teaching and instructions to leaders (both OT and NT)
- Imagery and metaphor (e.g. Shepherd, servant)
- Wisdom literature (e.g. Proverbs)
- The big story of redemption
- Patterns and figures across scripture
- ...all embodied and fulfilled in Jesus

## The Bible's big story transforms leadership



(not to scale!)

### In creation (Genesis 1 & 2)

Boundaries are a blessing  
 Finitude is foundational  
 Interdependence is intentional

How do these truths challenge some of the accepted norms and practice of leadership in your context?  
 How might embracing these truths transform your own understanding and practice of leadership?

## Under the curse of the fall (right from Genesis 3)

My idol	What others may notice
<b>Control</b> <i>I want it my way</i>	Micromanagement (because nobody does it better...). Focus on tasks rather than on people.
<b>Approval</b> <i>I want to be liked</i>	Do what's popular rather than challenging. Spend time keeping people happy.
<b>Power</b> <i>I want recognition</i>	Selfish decision making rather than 'best for the body'; cultivate those who can open doors for me
<b>Comfort</b> <i>I want an easy life</i>	Avoid taking the lead, hard decisions or difficult conversations; spend time with those I have fun with.
<b>Efficiency</b> <i>I want better, faster</i>	Driven and demanding. Always on, absence of good rhythms. Pursuing results at the expense of people..

Those who lead, and those whom we lead, are both fallen and frail.  
 Does my approach to leading and to my leaders acknowledge this?

### In the midst of God's work of redemption

We need to talk about authority

Authority as intended in CREATION: Good	Authority as experienced after the FALL: Bad	Authority as restored in REDEMPTION: Complex	Authority as we look forward to the NEW CREATION: Good
Supplies	Steals	Sacrifices	Sublime

Philippians 2: 5-11

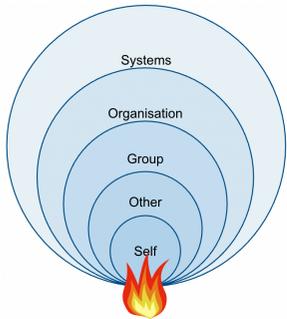
2 Corinthians 4:1-9

**For the glory of God!**

## Session 2

### Layers of leadership

Whether leading one person, a team, a church, an organisation or a network, the state of the leader has a powerful influence. Your character, skills, spiritual vitality, behaviours and relationships infuse everything you lead, whether you intend it or not!

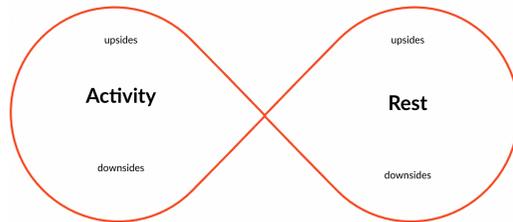


(It's also worth noting that each layer demands different skills. Competence does count!)

The Bible's big patterns help us lead transformatively

### Polarities

Powerful opposites, integrated.  
 '...not an amalgam or compromise, but both things at the top of their energy.'  
 (Chesterton)



Genesis 1 & 2: Who created and how?

- One AND Many
- Personal AND Structured
- Work AND Rest
- Transcendent AND Immanent
- Boundaries AND Freedom
- Safety AND Risk

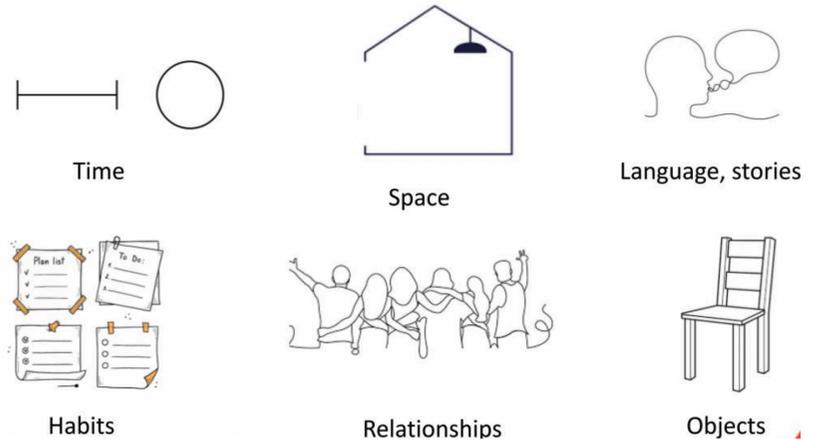
Which of these 'polarities' shows up in or sheds light on a current leadership challenge in your context?

What happens when one side dominates at the expense of the other?

Good examples of both sides working well together?

### Figures

Patterns and rhythms in creation and culture, shaping norms and assumptions about what is counted as truth and what it looks like to live well.



Think of one situation you'd like to see change for the better. Use these figures as categories to help identify the possible choices you could make that might lead to greater flourishing of others.