

The Heart of the *Hope for Addiction* Leader

Identify the leaders in your church:

Walking with someone who struggles with addiction can be a daunting journey. Specific qualities are helpful to build a strong ministry within your church. Identifying the right people within your church to lead your *Hope for Addiction* ministry will assist in creating an effective outreach to those you are caring for. This person should:

- Believe in the mission and purpose of *Hope for Addiction* as a gospel-centered ministry for addictions. Someone who holds value in the Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous or the "Christian" Twelve Steps is probably not a good fit. Holding to a secular method (even a Christianized version) or embracing the culture's view of addiction would put someone at odds with the purpose and approach of *Hope for Addiction*. (See beliefs/values),
- Be mature in their faith, passionate about the gospel, able to apply gospel truths to everyday life, investing in others.
- Have a willingness to learn, teachable and willing to understand more fully biblical application as it applies to addiction (idolatry, sin).
- Exhibit these qualities:

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. Colossians 2:6-7

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3:12-15

And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all. 1 Thessalonians 5:14

As you consider these qualities, who in your church comes to mind? This is the heart of the person who will excel in leading within *Hope for Addiction*.