

Trending Thoughts Part 1: Leadership is Key

### **Description:**

In this first episode of the *Ministry Pivot* podcast, Rev. Russ discusses the importance of effective leadership as a trending thought for 2025. He emphasizes how organizations are only as strong as the leaders who support their mission. He shares three key strategies for investing in leadership development: understanding your leaders' strengths, celebrating achievements, and helping leaders see how their individual contributions connect to the bigger picture.

### **Takeaways**:

* Leaders need to check in with team members about mission-related tasks and their personal lives and aspirations.
* Organizations should understand how their leaders "tick" by identifying strengths and working styles.

### **Other Key Points Suggested by Rev. Russell St. Bernard**

* Leaders should celebrate wins and pause to acknowledge accomplishments rather than constantly moving to the next goal.
* It's important to help team members understand how their individual roles contribute to the overall mission.

### **Resources**

* 5 Minute Pivot and Other Podcast by Rev. Russell St.Bernard <https://ministrypivot.com/conversations/>
* Articles from Rev. Russell St. Bernard: <https://ministrypivot.com/articles/>
* Purchase your Tickets for the TKN Leadership Summit: <https://tknleadership.com/tkn-leadership-summit-2024/>

### **Final Takeaway:**

* Rev. Russ recommends strength assessments (like Gallup) to better understand team dynamics.

**Discussion Questions: (discuss with your team or reflect on your own?)**

* Rev. Russ mentions that "your organization is only going to be as strong as the leaders that help support its mission." How have you seen this principle play out in your organization, and what specific steps can you take to strengthen your leadership team?
* The episode discusses the importance of understanding how your team members "tick." What methods have you found effective for identifying your team members' strengths and motivations beyond formal assessments like Gallup?
* Rev. Russ emphasizes the need to "pause and celebrate" accomplishments. What celebration practices could you implement that would be meaningful for your particular team, and how might you balance celebration with the drive to achieve new goals?

# Podcast Resources

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