

Freedom in Christian Leadership through Authority

G. M. Naidoo, H. Rugbeer & Y. Rugbeer, University of Zululand

Abstract

The philosophical concept of 'freedom and authority' initially tends to be paradoxical; yet it has great scientific and spiritual value for human development. Freedom in itself is ironic since one cannot be absolutely free. In order to ensure that one's freedom does not allow one to self-destruct or to destroy others' peace, the person has to operate within certain constraints. For example, if a one year old child is given the freedom to play, he/she must be placed in a safe environment to avoid accidental injury.

The spiritual laws of leadership operate in a similar way. Simply, pastors (and other church leaders) must lead according to the principles of God in order to enjoy freedom of spiritual leadership. This study examines how 'freedom and authority' form an essential part of Christian leadership. It examines issues such as manipulation and deception which flout the principles of the Bible to achieve carnal desires.