## **Personal Growth Is One Thing You Can Control**

Most things are out of our control. About the only thing you can directly improve is yourself. However, when you do improve yourself, everything else within your sphere of influence begins to get better. When you grow yourself as the leader, you allow God to grow your ministry and your people through you. You could say that the key to changing the ministry is changing the minister, the key to improving the ministry is improving the minister, and the key to growing the ministry is growing the minister.

Paul told Timothy, "train yourself in godliness" (2 Tim 4:7). No one else could do it for him. As Christians, we understand that we are not the victims of our environment. What we are is more the product of our decisions than our conditions.

God says that we will have to give an account of ourselves when we stand before Him (Rom 14:12). No one else is responsible for our personal growth. No one else can grow for us, earn for us, and improve for us. We have to grow, learn, and develop for ourselves.

Build time into your schedules to help you grow as a leader and as a person.