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Leaders Need Followers

January 14, 2024



For The King - Rocky Ramsey

If we want to see Christian leaders raised up in our nation, then we need to support them. This episode is a call to play our part as followers, and rally around men worth following!

Key Text:

2 Samuel 15:6

Parallel Christian Economy

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Transcript

Hello, For The King listeners. I am not your host, Rocky Ramsey. My name is Will Drzyski, a brother in Christ and friend of Raku's, whom he has generously invited onto the show in order to verbally showcase my artwork to you in 50 seconds.

As an artist, I strive to accurately reflect the glory of God and everything that I paint, and through that process, I hope to flood as much of the earth as possible with paintings, which accurately proclaim the undeniable fact that Jesus is Lord, and the creation which he made commands us to worship him. So if you would like to join with me in distributing clean, refreshing artwork showcasing the creativity of the God who made us, I would be overjoyed to have your help. I run my own website called Reflected Works, where I showcase the artwork I've done in the past, sell original paintings and prints, and take requests for unique commissions.

Once again, that's ReflectedWorks.com, all one word, and I'm looking forward to helping you further the Kingdom of God right now here on this earth by putting some of your free wall space to productive use. Thank you very much for your kind attention, and now, enjoy the show. With a rod of iron! And I'll not apologize for this God of the Bible.

Welcome to the For the King podcast. I am your host, Rocky Ramsey, and on this podcast, we proclaim the edicts of the king, namely and chiefly, that Yahweh reigns. So bend the knee to him.

Do it now. I am joined this episode with Brother Bryce, per usual. How you doing? I am doing very well.

Good. And we are also joined with... Jason. Brother Jason.

And this episode, we're going to be discussing the idea of how important it is to be a good and faithful follower, and how needed that is in our present time in history, in church history. We have lost this emphasis on building up good leaders in all the full range of society that the Lord has placed us in. So not just pastors.

Yes, you ought to submit to your pastor and be a good follower in that sense. And we'll talk about the local church level, but we want to expand the conversation to also include things like, can you rally behind good Christian scientists? People in the civil sphere that

are leading in political science and political discourse. People just in politics, maybe holding a public trust in office.

Academics, writers, people that write novels. You know, there's a lot of ways that society is led, and this episode is going to be dedicated to advocating that those types of positions are only enabled and possible with a huge amount of followers, right? Elon Musk could not do what he does without all the people that rally behind him and his cause. Or Joe Rogan.

Why is Joe Rogan hold so much sway in our society? Because millions and millions of people follow him and listen to his podcast, okay? So that's what I'm trying to advocate for. We're so fractured in the West in our church, and we just had a recent episode about how dis-unified we are in the West, and we want to kind of continue that conversation and advocate for the brothers that are doing this kind of work, even if they're an Anglican, even if they're an Episcopalian, even if they're not in your tradition of faith. If they're doing good work in that realm, we need Christians there regardless of some of these secondary issues, right? So that's kind of how I want to frame and set up the conversation.

Do you guys have anything you wanted to add, getting into it? The formal doctrine that we're talking about here is really, it's called elitism. It's recognizing that elites are a necessary part of society that needs, you have to have elites in order for a society to function. You can't merely just have grassroots movements.

Grassroots movements are very good, and we should seek to have reformation happen at the local grassroots level. But at the same time, you also need elites. You see this all throughout Israel's history.

You had to have the king and the priests and those who were over the laity, you had to have them walking in righteousness and the people following and supporting them in order for the society to thrive. So you really need to have both the elites in the laity, the elites in the grassroots movement at the same time. You can't merely just have the grassroots or else it'll always fail.

Because you have to have elites, you have to have leaders. Leaders are a necessary function of society just as being a follower or as those elites is necessary. You can't have a leader without a follower.

It's an oxymoron. It's impossible. Think about Absalon stealing away the hearts of the people.

You mentioned that this morning. How was he able to do what he did? Could he have done it with no followers? No, he couldn't have. He could not have happened if the people's hearts weren't stolen away.

It's that vital that you'd be a good follower and select men to follow that are wise and just do everything to add before we kind of really get into it. A good leader is going to learn how to follow before he becomes a leader. So I think that you have to have the humility to learn from those who have gone before you and not exalt yourself or put yourself in a high place before you've learned to be able to follow yourself.

So are you good leaders had good leaders before them? So learning how to follow before you can lead and understanding how people are. You do gain a following just by you lead your life. We can't all be leaders.

So we have to be able to follow as well. Yep. And this is an early point brought up by even in the American Revolution and to the constitution of the country.

Like it was already seen that you need to be 35 and older to be the president. And why is that? Because you need to have experience and to rebuild. That's why Peter in first Peter, he talks to the young men in the congregation.

He says, submit to your elders because young men are going to be so prone to not submit to their elders and want to be leaders themselves because they have strength. Yeah, exactly. Right.

Young men are glory is their strength. An old man is his gray hair. Exactly.

What he's learned. So a young man can show true godly leadership qualities like Jason's bringing up when he does submit properly to those who are above him. Yeah.

And knowing that he, if he does this correctly, if he takes the low seat, he will in the future be asked to take the higher seat. Yeah, I guess that's a big point of the podcast today. Like we need to learn in the West as Christians how to be good followers and really put our money where our mouth is and leverage what God has given us for his glory by rallying behind the leaders he's provided to us.

So yeah, first, let's start with the local church level. The local church is that small outpost of the kingdom of God and it has a hierarchy to it. And as you as a member of your church, you know, you ought to submit to your elders and the things that are lawful and biblical, obviously, and be faithful there and learn what it means like Jason was saying how to how to be humble and to be a good follower.

That's where it starts. So if you want your, if you love your pastor, and you think that he's doing a great job, the best thing you can do to him as a leader as a leader is to be a great follower, to continue to encourage him and exhort him to continue to lead well, that is his service leading well. That's how he's serving is by leading well.

So really, the first rung in all of Christendom in the West is going to be the local shepherd and elder. And is he leading well and his leadership is only going to be

amplified by good followers, humble church laity. So that's, I think, where it starts.

Any thoughts there? I think that one's very clear. And that's a struggle for brothers and sisters all across Western Christendom. So we need to start there and then we can move out from there.

So where do we go next? You know, if you're a part of a church tradition that has a higher hierarchy than that, then you also need to submit to those elders and a presbyterian or an Anglican system, the bishops, the priests, that kind of thing. So be humble where you're at, wherever you find yourself and be a good follower and support them. Now, when we think about what I think is very important in this conversation is going to be civil leaders.

Right now, we're at a time in church history where there are no hardly any public civil leaders across the whole face of the globe that are godly Christian men. It used to be a thing. It's not a thing any longer, unfortunately.

So how do we create an environment where men like that are raised up? It seems to me like right now in the West, we're so fractured and divided and divisive that we can't rally behind one guy if they're not exactly agree with us theologically on everything. And I think that's an issue. So, Aaron Rinn just had a good article about why Catholics and Anglicans are so good at this creating elites, creating an elitist leadership in the higher echelons of society.

The other traditions are not good at that because they're just not as structured and they don't have an emphasis on that. So, my plea is we need to start considering, regardless of all these secondary issues, how we can start rallying behind maybe the Anglicans, the Protestants that are doing a good job and start moving towards that. So, what do you guys think? Really, what you're tackling there is we need to be people who are seeking to build institutions that are not necessarily at the local church level, right? Like we need to be building educational facilities.

We need to be like in the old school Protestantism. We need to be building up hospitals. We need to be building out Christian businesses in your society, Christian political activists, like stuff like that.

So, when it goes to building institutions, we will be foolish to think that if all it takes to build a Christian institution is to have a leadership structure established for an institution. That's stupid. You have to have people who are backing that institution.

It's the same thing with missionaries, right? Christians love to point out that there are those who are sent and there's those who are sending, right? Christians love to point that out. There's people who are supporting missionary efforts because there's people who are called to go cross-culture missions and they ought to be supported. Well

enough, well good.

So, when it comes to building institutions, it's the same exact mindset. You might not be equipped with all the regular classical education, but yet you are a carpenter and you can support somebody who is building such an institution that you deem to be good. So, that's the sort of mindset that we ought to be having.

Recognizing the station in which you live and also seeing how you are connected as an organic body to these other members of Christ's kingdom who might have a gift for having an incredibly scholarly-like mind. So, these brothers ought to be supported that they can get a very high level of education, that they can have time to write material, to read, to start putting forward a scholarly voice in the society, right? And this is pretty much the marrying of both the grassroots movement and the elitist together. If somebody feels as if they are gifted for running for political office, they should be rallied behind by other Christians who may not have the same sort of gifting.

And then these leaders shouldn't be pointing at the followers and saying, we need more leaders or the followers shouldn't be pointing at the leaders saying vice versa. We need to have an attitude of building up people who are trying to act in accordance with the giftings that God has given to them. So, we really need to recover this mindset of lifting up God's gifted people.

Exactly. Yeah, I totally agree with that. What I'm kind of thinking of is having a fund in your church to support something like that, you know, like it is a tough place when a church is... You're not going to do much culture building if your church can't even support one pastor, right? Like that stinks.

The goal of the church should reach some kind of maturity where you get to the point where you are making a political thinker, somebody that engages in civics at an academic level, somebody that can refute evolution because they have a PhD in biology from an Ivy League school and demolishes it, you know, defends six-day creationism. Like we need to create more academics that can defend these kind of ideas. And it's... You would hope that would happen through the church because we are presuppositional in our thinking.

Like they're going to... If they're going to do it well, it's going to be in a presuppositional way. So, I don't know if that's helpful at all, but eventually you'd want to open up some space like that in society. So, I guess the goal was just, can we be followers that continue to support those that are like engaging in that? So, I think we found some people that are starting to do that.

I think a great example would be all of the brothers in Moscow, Idaho, they've created an institution. They have a for-profit public publishing house called Canon Press. It's not a non-for-profit.

It's not even a... It's not even tied to... It's for-profit. It's not like it's a ministry. It's literally a for-profit business, but they're providing resources for the next Christendom, or even New St. Andrews College.

First Things Magazine, Touchstone Magazine, these are places where they're getting together the experts in some of these fields that are Christians and supporting them and creating a space for them to talk. But I think the reason why they are so successful is because they've got leaders who are willing to engage the political realm. Yeah.

And I think where the Western church specifically here, because I've heard this from pastors, they don't want to touch on politics because of their so-called misunderstanding of separation in church and state. Yeah. So, when you're shepherd of that local congregation, if he's not willing to speak into the political realm, and if you're sheep or not educated enough to understand even what that encompasses, they're going to follow him.

Yeah. And they're probably not going to be as engaged to it as they should be or paying as much attention to it as they should. So, I think the reason they are making an impact, even though it might be small, is because their leaders are willing to engage that.

Exactly. And that needs to be more emphasized, I think, across the country. Yes.

I mean, I just, there's a lot of, when, what we saw in 2020, it was a complete opposite of what we should have seen. We saw pastors bowing the knee to bale and embracing lokeness and DEI and all of these things, when they should have been doing what these guys in Moscow were doing, which can understand and being vilified and being hated, because they were actually doing what I think would be a biblical response to the tyranny. Yeah.

And our pastors, I don't want to generalize and say it's 100%. It's not. But generally speaking, there's a big misunderstanding of separation in church and state and thinking, well, I can never speak to the political realm because of this misunderstanding.

And I think that we can get back focusing on pastors being more brave and more willing to be bold, to speak out publicly, knowing that they're going to be vilified for it. That's what's going to happen. You know, men in your church are going to be, they're going to want to follow more men like that, not for the sake of just being rebellious, but in their minds, they're men.

They want to see things improve. They want a better life for their children, for their wives. So you're just more willing to follow a leader who is more bold as one who is bowing to everything that's new.

Yeah, I think what I wanted to tap into a little bit there, you were kind of getting at the myth of neutrality. The guys in Moscow don't believe in that. They think all Christ for all

life.

So a lot of Christians have bought into that, oh, why would we want to produce an elite PhD in biology to refute evolution? It's all neutral. Biology is neutral. Why do we even need to do that? Why can't we just find some conservative thinker like Jordan Peterson that can just represent conservatism for us? Because everything's neutral, right? You know what I mean? So there's this modern day spirit of neutrality, where not everything needs to be subjected to Christianity.

And yeah, what we're trying to advocate for is we need elites in every field that are presuppositionally Christian. They're going into it as Christians and creating a coherent worldview with Christianity in mind in those things. And you brought up specifically politics, like that's what's appealing about Moscow and that vibrato, you know, of being strong and standing on the scriptures in every area of life.

And you know, I just want to, I want us to think about that with even other areas. We need more Christians in every, like we need more good biblical novels, good stories. Like why is every novel, why Stephen King, why is he, why is he getting so many people reading his books? You know, he's a pagan.

What, what good story does he have to tell? Well, apparently a lot of people like it because our hearts have grown wicked and we like bad art. So that's just a few points. The myth of neutrality I think is a big part of this.

And another layer of it is, I mean, we hit on this a ton, but patriarchy and masculinity. You can't build, men are the builders of society and this might offend some people, but women just cannot be elites. It doesn't work.

Anytime a woman try, like you see Nikki Haley right now getting just absolutely obliterated by all these different Republican candidates because women just don't make good elites. Why? Because God didn't make them like that. And that's fine.

There's no issue with that. We should be lifting up people who have these particular giftings. God has not given women the gifts of being elites in society, but he has given men those gifts.

So kind of Jason pointed this out with what he was saying. In order to have these builders of societies, it's a basic prerequisite that you have men and families backing them. This is why the American revolution was so vital.

This is why the Reformation was such a big deal because it really recovered families away from the cloisters within the monasteries and the monks and nuns. It recovered, it had families backing it. That's why it was so successful.

So we need to recover again, masculinity, stop having such an effeminate church and

getting men in the doors, because if we continually have a larger consumer base, or I guess maybe a larger base of churchgoers being women, we will never build elites. And paracentism will continue to just wither away. Why? Because again, women just don't make good elites.

They try to, but it just doesn't work well. So if we really recover again, our masculine heritage, you're going to still get all the women, but you're going to have the masculine husbands with them. But if we keep catering to effeminate Christianity, you'll get all the women, and you won't build society at all, and you'll just die out a couple generations.

So the best way to go about this is to get men. If the men come to church, women come to, if the women just go to church, you don't get anyone else. And that's just the facts.

That's what happens. And that's why you have these different groups that are so effective with building elites, because they have the more national in their thinking. They have more men who are part of their church systems.

They have more money, because men make more money than women typically, not because there's a barrier, but because men typically just get paid more because they do better than different types of work than women. So just all these basic factors really are pretty important. So you can't really deny these things.

No, you're right. I think the patriarchy point is going to be, that's another big, big ticket item to be a good follower. You need to find men to rally behind.

That's what men want. That's really the whole point. This podcast is trying to exhort all of us.

How can we be better followers so we can rally behind the people that God's trying to raise up, but none of us have gotten behind them. There's been men that have come and gone that could have, if they had the people behind them, the Lord has always got a remnant. He's always got men that can rise up literally at any moment.

Like there's William Wallace is out there, and all they need is the men to get on board. And think about this too, like, okay, go look this up. There's a guy named Muhammad Hajiit.

He's this very active Muslim spokesman. He's like six foot four. He's really big, and he has this, everything going on with Israel and Palestine right now, regardless of what the views are out there.

One fact is, you have a man, this guy standing up in wherever he's at, I don't know what area, and he's giving a rallying cry. He has no shirt on. He's super masculine looking, and there are thousands of these Muslim men surrounding him.

And they're chanting on, they're loving it. What seems more influential and terrifying that, or you have a very slim gem, slinky little dude who's getting up and having a talk about how women aren't being paid enough, how women need to be ruling society, and all their women, all these women are screaming out in their high pitched voice, like saying, yeah, yeah, what is more influential? What influences society? And I'll tell you what, the Muslims are going to come and kill and slaughter all these feminists before they have any opportunity to make a change in society. Like, that's just a matter of fact.

Why? Because they have a masculine based religion, which is natural to the way God has already owned a world. So if we're going to combat, feminism, that's no big deal. What's a big deal? Are these super masculine Muslims? That's what's a big deal.

That's what our battle is, not these little slim being little gay boys. Like that's not going to affect society because they don't have men on their side. And that's why Daily Wire are such a big deal.

And why Daily Wire? Here's an interesting thing. Andrew Clavon, you know him? He's on Daily Wire. He just had Douglas Wilson on his podcast.

And it's interesting because Douglas Wilson's having a rallying cry of all these men backing him. There's Jordan Peterson just had the speech somewhere. And some guys like, when are you going to have a talk with Doug Wilson? I know.

Like people are starting to get on board with these things. So like Christianity has a wide opportunity to make its cry. Yeah, we're just searching it, bring forward its elites.

And all we need to do is just keep pressing on with it. Keep supporting the good, godly elites and society. Exactly.

Like pushing them, saying in the crowd, what are you going to talk with Doug Wilson? Exactly. Yeah, like until Doug, Lord forbid, gets assassinated, like he's my guy. Like when I look at all the elites and evangelical Western Christendom, it's like Doug's the guy that stands up for what I agree with.

So that I'm always going to have Doug's back. If I'm in public, I'm always going to stand, you know, oh, do you like Doug Wilson or something? It's like, yeah, he's the only dude that says it straight. That's an actual solid Christian man and not some, you know, pagan like Andrew Tate or Joe Rogan.

It's like, men rally behind Jordan Peterson, all those guys, because they'll just shoot straight. You know, they just say what's got to be said, but they're pagans. And in the end, it's still slavery.

But Doug comes with the gospel. You know, it's like, that's what we need. Like more Michael Foster's, more Doug Wilson's that will just shoot straight.

And those men, I'm just going to be honest, they need a larger following. If you don't like those guys, that's an issue because those are like, when I think of who's the main masculine dudes are representing what masculine Christianity should look like. I'm thinking Doug, I'm thinking Michael Foster.

I'm thinking the dudes, you know, G2 doesn't even come to mind. I know. Yeah.

When I just like, when I hear these guys talk, like Scott, and it was just like, oh, yeah, he's, you know, he's got some good theology. He's, you know, he's Calvinistic, you know, good. He says right things.

Nothing's wrong, but there's not that like masculine presence that men are looking for. So I think the masculinity is an important piece. Like Aaron Renz is a good example too.

Like he'll just shoot straight. He'll say what needs to be said. And he's just, Aaron Renz, a great example of like, if you don't know Aaron Renz, go subscribe to him.

He's not even a pastor. He's a layman, but he's a, he's a, he's a public thinker. He is a public voice for conservative.

Evangelicalism. And he's like a consultant for cities. He helps with city planning.

Like he has a whole professional career where he excelled at, and he's not even speaking from like a theological perspective. He's just having good biblical thinking on certain topics. He lives in Indiana.

Yeah. He's in Indianapolis and he lives in Carmel, which is cool. So I think, yes, we need more like solid, more national Christian leaders, someone like Doug Wilson, but I'm almost thinking more someone like Aaron Renz, like more like a public intellectual.

That's kind of more like, we need more of that. Because really the only people that are doing it well right now are Catholics. Catholics have a ton of people that are, that are in intellectual circles and speak at a high level.

Yeah, like, yeah, they have these. Matt Knowles, even the Daily Wire guys. You know what I'm saying? Like, there's really like, there's not a real strong Protestant voice on Daily Wire.

We need like C.S. Lewis. Lewis is a great example. He was just a straight up scholar.

Tolkien too? Yes. You know, Q Catholic. Yeah, what do you do? Yeah.

What do you do? But you can't, but don't you think you gotta, we're talking on a really, really big level. Yeah. The majority of Christians are not in the position to look really focused on a big level.

I think, I mean, tremendous amounts of money to even, even to get into electric governorships. I know, yeah. I know Michael Foster has touched on this and, you know, county before country.

Yes. You gotta start local, I think. That's why we started with local church.

You got to start with a local church, but I'm gonna go even further back from that, is that it has to start within you. If you've got boys, you know, and then you, let them be boys, you know, and then show them out of curtail that anger and that strength and energy and a correct and appropriately a biblical way. Raise them up in the church.

We got, we didn't get into this mess overnight, all this, all this rebelliousness that we're in. And this is just my belief is that can God grant repentance over overnight and change things quickly? Yes, if he wanted to. But I also think that we brief the consequences, we reap what we sow.

Now that doesn't mean that we should fill in the fountain of heat. But I do think that we are in a position to where we're probably going to enter into some really, really difficult times because of our neglect to be faithful with all the blessings that God poured out on this country. We got fat.

Christians got lazy. We got apathetic. We lost our zeal for holiness within this land.

And now we're reaping what we've sown over the course of the last 150 years. Really specifically in the last 70 to 80 years. But my point is, is that we've got to start back at an individual level and start working our way back up.

And it might be some decades before we see some serious progress and where we once were. I think a topic that needs to, I think we should discuss is how do we respond when we're reaping what we've sown? How do we reply to that? How do we respond to what's falling in around us? And all these guys are speaking into it. But I think we need to start small again and start building out from there.

I guess this episode is more goals. Like you're saying, we got a lot of work to do before we're creating mass amounts of public intellectuals. But we got to have goals.

We got to have like men need something to aspire to. So it's like, yes, start with rule yourself, rule your family, and then rule at church if you have that, whatever you need to do at church to be a faithful follower or a ruler. So start there, start at the local level, dominate your county, you know, that kind of thing, and then move out from there.

But we got to have goals. It's like something to aspire to. Especially if you're... Small-scale Idaho didn't happen over time.

Yeah, it did not, it did not. And that's kind of what we're getting at. It's like, what's the

practical level? Kind of like what you're pointing out.

The practical level is, be faithful in the time that God has placed you and do what you can with what God's given you. Exactly. Like with what little resources you have.

Like, yeah, you're not, by yourself, you're not alone going to build up these huge institutions if possible. But that doesn't mean you shouldn't have a goal in mind. And you practically build it up.

And I think that's a really good point you're hitting on that, Jason. That's the method for how we do it. Exactly.

Yeah. It's going to take a long time. But even still, we're called to do it.

So we should be faithful with what we got and trust God to bless it. Yeah. You may not see those rewards later, but you know what? You set the foundation for those to come in behind you.

Yeah, you were faithful. Yeah, you were faithful. We're not, you know, literally did not give forth as well.

So I will rejoice in the Lord. Exactly. Yeah.

Without my salvation. Yeah. So this is goal setting.

You need to just, I guess the goal is, I hope you leave from this podcast having that category in your head, that we need to start moving towards that if we want to see Christendom rebuild. Now, how's it happen? The things Jason just laid out. It starts there, but we need to underslate.

You're not even going to, if you don't know what you're racing towards, then you're not going to really know where to start, right? Like you got to enter the race and then know where you're going. So if you're not trying to, like everything is going to hell in a hand basket and who cares? It's like you're not going to really try to like build up your family in such a way where you're passing on an inheritance to your children. So they can build the institutions that you had hoped for in your life that you were able to in your 80 years that you were here.

You got to have those goals and then start small. And the big goals are never going to come to fruition unless you start with the small stuff. So yeah, the concept of Rome wasn't built today.

Yeah, Rome was a real big. Because the angels weren't built in one generation. Yeah.

So that's cities and societies weren't built in one generation. It is crazy to think about with the cathedrals and the medieval times. They would, hundred plus years, like they

wouldn't start it and pass off the baton to their kids and be like, man, I want to love to have seen it.

But you guys are good to see it. Keep going. Imagine losing the blueprints.

Like, oh my goodness. I can even imagine. Like, shoot, we lost the first version.

Like, what are we? Is there supposed to be a tower there or what? Yeah. Looks like there was a start of a tower. I don't know.

Yeah. So I think that's how we need to think. So I think we'll wrap up there.

The encouragement is be a good follower where you're at. Rally behind the men that are on this path that you can tell they have the goals in mind and aid them and financially support them and talk about some of these public figures. I mean, Christian, especially young men, they're looking for men to rally behind.

If you know young men in your life that are kind of floating, it's like suggest some of these guys we named off in this episode that they can rally behind. These men are going to help them. I know I've been helped greatly by these men.

So I think that's the exhortation walking away. Be a good follower. We're never going to get good leaders if we're not good followers.

Never ever. You have to have people rallying behind you if you're going to be a leader. So be a good follower and find the men worth following and then follow them.

The Lord's put men to rule over us. Let's be faithful. I think that's it.

Any last thoughts? Okay. Thanks, guys. As always, you can go to fortheeking.substack.com and see my blog.

Keep up with that, things that I'm writing and engage with the podcast there. I have a link for my email in the show notes if you have any comments or suggestions on anything that was said. Thanks for listening, guys.

The King of the ages, the mortal, the invisible, the only God, the honored, the glory, forever and ever. Amen. Soleil, Dale, Gloria.