



Authority & Relationships DCS & DLC

BLD Newark District
Servants' Recollection
September 19, 2009

Nature of Authority

- **Matthew 20:26-28**
 - **Whoever wishes to be great among you shall be your servant, whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave. Just so, the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give His life as ransom for many.**

Nature of Authority

- John 13:14-15
 - If I, the Master and Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet. I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do.

Nature of Authority

- John 21:15-17

- “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to Him, “Yes Lord, you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Feed my lambs.” “Tend my sheep.” ... “Feed my sheep.”

Nature of Authority

- **BLD Statutes 4.1**

In the BLD Covenant Community, no member possesses authority in his or her personal capacity. Authority is legitimately exercised only when it is used to implement the statutes and Policies and guidelines of the BLD Covenant Community, and the decisions of the governing body of the BLD Covenant Community.

Nature of Relationships

- **Matthew 6:9**
 - **This is how you are to pray:
Our Father in heaven...**

Nature of Relationships

- 1 Corinthians 12:12, 24-26; 27
 - As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ...But God has so constructed the body as to give greater honor to a part that is without it, so that there may be no division in the body....

Nature of Relationships

- 1 Corinthians 12:12, 24-26; 27
 - ...but that the parts may have the same concern for one another. If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy. Now you are Christ's body, and individually parts of it.

Nature of Relationships

- Galatians 5:13
 - For you were called to freedom, brothers. But do not use this freedom as an opportunity for the flesh; rather, serve one another through love.

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Nature of Relationships

- BLD Vision

We are a *communion* of individuals, couples, and families called together as one people through a moment of encounter and the process of renewal to a *relationship of faith, hope, and love of God*.

Nature of Relationships

- BLD Vision

We are *reconciled* with the Father by our *saving faith* in Jesus Christ, our *renewing trust* in the Holy Spirit, and our *uniting compassion* with one another.

Nature of Relationships

- BLD Vision

We are blessed with personal *gifts* - spiritual and natural, innate or acquired - which we *yield* to the Word and the Spirit. We *give freely and fully* of ourselves; *love and serve* one another as we *seek and Proclaim* God's Kingdom.

Nature of Relationships

- BLD Vision

We commit, as disciples of Jesus, to *speaking the words and doing the deeds Of Christ* among all peoples and nations to whom we are called by the Lord.

Structure of Authority

- Ecclesial:
 - Universal Church: Pope
 - Diocese: Bishop
 - District: Bishop
 - o The diocesan bishop has the primary and ultimate authority over the community
 - o Bishop's representative: District Spiritual Director

Structure of Authority

- **Community:**
 - **Global: Community Spiritual Director**
 - Executive Council of Servant Leaders
 - Community Council of Servant Leaders (CCSL = ECSL + DSL)
 - **District**
 - District Council of Stewards
 - District Leadership Conference

Sharing of Responsibilities

- **Community Spiritual Director**
 - Spiritual guidance and direction
 - Pastoral care - CCSL
 - Discernment of appointments to CCSL, ECSL decisions re: new districts, new programs
- **District Spiritual Director**
 - Spiritual guidance and direction
 - Pastoral care - DCS

Sharing of Responsibilities

- **Executive Council of Servant Leaders**
 - Discernment - global directions, policies & guidelines, DCS appointments, confirmation of DLC appointments
 - Pastoral care - DCS of all districts
 - Oversight of Apostolates
- **DSLs**
 - CCSL resolutions
 - Pastoral care - DCS of districts in cluster
 - Endorsement of DLC appointments

Sharing of Responsibilities

- **District Council of Stewards**
 - **Discernment**
 - District Directions, Goals, Strategy, Policies & Guidelines, Appointments to DLC/ministries
 - **Pastoral care of district leadership conference (by apostolate)**
 - **Oversight of district apostolates and foundation**

Sharing of Responsibilities

- **District Leadership Conference**
 - **Individual:**
 - Ministry operations
 - Pastoral care of ministry members
 - **Collective:**
 - Inter-ministry collaboration, community operations
 - Consultations by District Council of Stewards

Sharing of Responsibilities

- **Board of Trustees (DCS + Secretariat & Treasury Coordinators)**
 - **BLD Newark Foundation operations**
 - o Compliance with federal and state laws
 - o Financial oversight
 - o Contracts

Principle of Subsidiarity

- The larger unit should not do what a smaller unit can do better
- Underlying Principle: allow exercise of gifts by each member of the body as determined by the Holy Spirit
- Purpose: proper functioning of the body

Policy Decisions & Consultation

- **BLD Policies 12.7**

All policy decisions affecting the BLD Global Covenant Community shall be made collectively and consensually. No policy decisions may be amended except by the unanimous agreement of the governing body; namely, the CCSL (ECSL and DSL) for global matters and the DCS for district matters.

Policy Decisions & Consultation

- **BLD Policies 12.7.1**

The disciples of all Districts, who are affected by the consequences of or who may significantly contribute to the soundness of the policy decision, shall be consulted and be provided with ample opportunity to express their opinion through the DLC, DCS, and DSL or SDC.

Policy Decisions & Consultation

- **BLD Policies 12.7.2**

Upon the substantive completion of the consultative process, the ECSL for the Global Community or for a specific District, and the DCS for the Ministries/Homesteads in the District, shall deliberate, discern and form a decision on the policy question on hand.

Policy Decisions & Consultation

- **BLD Policies 12.7.3**

Any member of the CCSL or the DCS who may have any reservation to the proposed policy, based on the Word of God and on the Church teachings, shall officially register in writing the nature and rationale of his reservation. In such case, the proposed policy shall be approved with the reservation noted and recorded.

Closing thoughts from the CCC & Mystici Corporis

- As members of the body of Christ, what one member does affects the other
- The Trinity forms a perfect community of self-giving love, and the Holy Spirit, as the love shared between the Father & the Son, brings us together

Closing thoughts from the CCC & Mystici Corporis

- We exist not for ourselves, but for each other
- We are called to engage in relationships that mirror God's love. We need each other to grow in holiness

Reflection

- How do we apply these principles with regard to the relationship between the DCS & DLC?
- What commitment are we willing to give to each other to promote the proper functioning of both functions & of the community?
 - DCS with DLC
 - Within DCS
 - Within DLC