

Chuck's Talk Notes  
Rock Solid Breakfast  
September 2025

- Intro

Brothers, you know how important this annual gathering is to me. I'm constantly asking the Lord to guide me in what to share with this very special fraternity of Kingdom leaders.

In that spirit, I want to make some initial comments and then create a conversation in our respective circles.

**But first, I want to invite the Spirit of God to fully occupy this time/this space.**

- Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Big question. A question I want us to wrestle with this morning:

- **How do you become a leader people want to follow?**
- How do you become the point person that others choose to get behind?
- How do I position yourself to be the person that brings light and life to those entrusted to your care?
- **How do you become a leader people want to follow?**

Have you ever had a leader you didn't want to follow? I think we've all been there. What a tragedy to have the privilege/opportunity to lead...only to discover people don't want to follow!

- Circle Discussion

- Talk

Of all the things that have been/could be said, I want to focus on one particular 'how'. Let me set it up with a story...

Go back a few months with me. We are at Cooperstown, NY --the iconic city of MLB's Hall of Fame. Today Ichiro Suzuki is to be inducted into a place where all players aspire, but very few attain. The induction ceremony is called to order. The audience waits in anticipation. Suzuki steps to the podium to offer his acceptance speech. And what he delivers no one saw coming. Suzuki doesn't talk about his resume/his accomplishments (which included over 3000 hits). He doesn't talk about his athletic prowess. Instead, he talks about the secret to his success.

*"If you consistently do the little things, there is no limit to what you can achieve," he said. "Look at me, I'm 5'11" and 170 pounds. When I came to America, many people said I was too skinny to compete with bigger Major Leaguers. The first time I ran out on the field, I was in awe of the competition. But I knew if I stuck to my beliefs about preparation, I could overcome the doubts. Even my own."*

Did you hear it? “If you consistently do the little things...  
The secret sauce to Suzuki’s success was CONSISTENCY.  
He wasn’t the biggest. He wasn’t the strongest. He wasn’t  
the fastest. But mark it down: Suzuki had an unrelenting  
commitment to the GRIND. Showing up. Putting in the  
work. Doing the reps. **And repeating it until the  
scoreboard reflected the outcome he desired.**

RS Bros, I think you see where I’m headed...

- Here’s the takeaway:

1. **People don’t follow inconsistent leaders.** They may  
tolerate them, but they won’t follow them.

- What does that look like for you? With your wife?  
With your kids? With your co-workers?
- If you’re getting resistance/push back...more than  
likely it’s the result of inconsistency.

2. **You EARN the right to influence others by being  
remarkably consistent in your words, your actions, and  
in living out your values.**

- Are people saying: “I’m hearing the WORDS...but  
I’m missing the ACTION”
- You don’t/you can’t demand it, you EARN it.
- You’re the opposite of a moving target...you’re an  
ANCHOR.

### 3. What you do DAILY determines whether people CHOOSE to follow you.

- Leaders do consistently what others do occasionally.

RS Bros, Do you want a Hall of Fame life? HOF influence?

Then double down on doing the little things

CONSISTENTLY.

- Because at the end of the day, the scoreboard always catches up with the things you do day-in and day-out.
- That's not just advice from a ball player, it's the truth from the Creator. In short, we reap what we sow...

*7 Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. 8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. 9 And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. –Galatians 6*

Can I share very personally for a moment?

I'm 71...and by the grace of God, I've entered a season of growing influence in the lives of others. And in many ways, this influence is made possible by the compounding interest of starting each day in God's presence.

- You see, I happen to agree with Ichiro Suzuki...it's the little things done consistently that matter most.

What will YOU reap in the coming seasons of your life?

Will people choose to follow you?

- I can answer that...and more importantly so can you: Take a look at what you are sowing...
- **What you will reap tomorrow is made possible by what you sow today.**

- Personal Application

**What little, seemingly insignificant thing is God asking you to embrace more consistently so that you are becoming more and more a leader that people WANT to follow?**

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What small, seemingly insignificant practice/habit/pattern is God asking you to embrace more consistently so that you are becoming a leader that people WANT to follow?

What small, seemingly insignificant practice/habit/pattern is God asking you to embrace more consistently so that you are a more fully prepared servant-leader in your circles of influence?  
To that end, what is your next faithful step?

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- Focus
  - Like you, I am tired of reading about the moral failures of Christian leaders...
  - Question:
    - How to I become a great leader?
    - How do you become a more Christ-honoring leader who runs the race with honor...and who finishes with strength?



- Answer:
  - I keep up with some of the major headlines of MLB...big Dodgers fan.
  - Ichiro Suzuki was inducted into the Hall of Fame...seated in rarified air of over 3000 hits.
    - Wasn't biggest...wasn't strongest
    - So what was the secret to his success?
      - The secret sauce to his success was CONSISTENCY.
      - You just show up, do your work with excellence...and repeat it until the scoreboard reflects the outcome you work for.
      - He was committed to the GRIND.
      - His teammates, his coaches, and his fans knew exactly what they could expect from him. He was remarkably BORING.
  - Here's the takeaway:
    - People don't follow inconsistent leaders. They may tolerate them, but they don't trust them.
    - You EARN the right to influence others by being consistent in your

words, your actions, and in your values.

- What you do DAILY will determine your destiny.
- You want a Hall of Fame life? HOF influence? Then...
  - Because at the end of the day, the scoreboard always catches up with the things you do with CONSISTENCY.

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Hand out 4x6 card:

**What small, seemingly insignificant practice is God asking you to embrace more fully so that you are a more fully prepared servant-leader in your circles of influence? To that end, what is your next faithful step?**

One-liners for response time:

- Leaders fall in private long before they fall in public.
- Small ball.
- Every large-scale, damaging decision is precipitated by a string of small seemingly insignificant ones.

- Your present patterns set the table for your future outcomes.
- You either reap the rewards of compounding interest or you sit in the sad reality of an empty account.
- We all have a trajectory...right now...not something you wish or hope for, but something you control...accountable...answerable...you cast a vote on your trajectory every day.
  - And while people won't see how you vote today, eventually, over the long haul, they will either reap the benefits or pay the price for how you voted. It's that simple. You choose.
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Start with a bunch of headlines re leadership failure.

- O create 3-4 questions for breakout groups:
- What practice keeps you on the straight and narrow? And why?
  - What do you now know about leadership that you wished someone had told you in your 20s?
  - What are some ways for us to measure our success as Kingdom leaders?
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- What advice would you give to your Timothy?
  - Develop a dashboard

- What do you now know about leadership that you wished someone had told you in your 20s?
- What role does community play in your fidelity?
  - On a scale of 1-10...

#### Closing

- Perhaps focus on finding a huddle partner
- ? Tell the story about Dusty and the skateboard and the bullet constrictor and talk about got what do you need to shove into and drowned

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Three reality checks...three metrics...three opps to look in the mirror...

- The principle of [Small Ball](#)... Daily Decisions:  
Reality/Outcomes: Leaders fall in private long before they fall in public.
  - A large-scale, damaging decision is precipitated by a string of small seemingly insignificant ones...
  - Reap what you sow...what we sow...and ultimately, what we water, yields a harvest that brings soul satisfaction...or one that potentially destroys (or sidelines).
- The principle of Patterns: Your present patterns set the table for your future outcomes.
  - Compounding interest
- We all have a trajectory...right now...not something you wish or hope for, but something you control...accountable...answerable...you cast a vote on your

trajectory every day...and while people won't see how you vote, over the long haul, they ultimately will be able to witness how you vote...

It's not what you do occasionally but what you do consistently that forms and fashions greatness.

Sample Headlines:

[https://churchleaders.com/voices/512378-abuse-of-unchecked-celebrity-michael-tait.html?utm\\_source=cl-](https://churchleaders.com/voices/512378-abuse-of-unchecked-celebrity-michael-tait.html?utm_source=cl-)

[https://churchleaders.com/news/515933-cindy-clemishire-defamation-trial-against-robert-morris.html?utm\\_source=cl-today&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=title&utm\\_campaign=cl-today-2025-08-02&mumara\\_id=36546104](https://churchleaders.com/news/515933-cindy-clemishire-defamation-trial-against-robert-morris.html?utm_source=cl-today&utm_medium=email&utm_content=title&utm_campaign=cl-today-2025-08-02&mumara_id=36546104)

[https://click.em.churchleaders.com/campaign/clicked/?log\\_id=Mjc1MDk1MzM5&schedule\\_id=Mjl1Njc%3D&contact\\_id=MzY1Mjg1NDQ%3D&campaign\\_id=Mjl3NzM%3D&list\\_id=37&link\\_id=0&user\\_id=2&url=aHR0cHMLM0ElMkYlMkZjaHVyY2hsZWFKZXJzLmNvbSUyRm5ld3MlMkY1MTU2MjAtamFzb24teWF0ZXMtGxYWRzLWd1aWx0eS1jaGlsZC1zZXgtYWJ1c2UtbWF0ZXJpYWwuaHRtbCUzRnV0bV9zb3VyY2UIM0R0ZXh0LWxpbmslMjZ1dG1fbWVkaXVtJTNEZW1haWwIMjZ1dG1fY29udGVudCUzRCUyNnV0bV9jYW1wYWlnbiUzRHRleHQtbGluay0yMDI1LTA4LTAzJTl2bXVtYXJhX2lkJTNEZmY1Mjg1NDQ=](https://click.em.churchleaders.com/campaign/clicked/?log_id=Mjc1MDk1MzM5&schedule_id=Mjl1Njc%3D&contact_id=MzY1Mjg1NDQ%3D&campaign_id=Mjl3NzM%3D&list_id=37&link_id=0&user_id=2&url=aHR0cHMLM0ElMkYlMkZjaHVyY2hsZWFKZXJzLmNvbSUyRm5ld3MlMkY1MTU2MjAtamFzb24teWF0ZXMtGxYWRzLWd1aWx0eS1jaGlsZC1zZXgtYWJ1c2UtbWF0ZXJpYWwuaHRtbCUzRnV0bV9zb3VyY2UIM0R0ZXh0LWxpbmslMjZ1dG1fbWVkaXVtJTNEZW1haWwIMjZ1dG1fY29udGVudCUzRCUyNnV0bV9jYW1wYWlnbiUzRHRleHQtbGluay0yMDI1LTA4LTAzJTl2bXVtYXJhX2lkJTNEZmY1Mjg1NDQ=)

<https://briandoddonleadership.com/2025/07/28/what-is-the-foundation-of-achievement-3-leadership-lessons-from-ichiro-suzukis-hall-of-fame-speech/>

# 3 Leadership Lessons from Ichiro Suzuki's Hall of Fame Speech

The following are three leadership lessons from  
Ichiro's speech:

## 1. Consistency Is the Engine of Greatness

Ichiro was not the biggest or the strongest. But he  
showed up *every single day* with the same discipline,

focus, and commitment to his craft. Leaders, that is your competitive advantage. While others chase trends or burn out trying to do too much too fast, consistent leaders build empires brick by brick.

You do not need to hit home runs every day. You just need to show up, do your job with excellence, and repeat it until the scoreboard reflects your discipline.

Ichiro knew exactly what it took to become elite. The same applies to us: if we want to be great leaders, we have to confront our own limitations, take ownership of our growth, and commit to the grind.

## **2. Consistency Builds Trust**

From 2001 to 2011 (eleven seasons) these were the numbers of hits Ichiro had each season – 242, 208, 212, 262, 206, 224, 238, 213, 225, 214, and 184.

One of the great leadership traits is *predictability in excellence*. Ichiro was not just consistent with stats — he was consistent in preparation, mindset, and professionalism. Teammates, coaches, and fans knew what they were getting with him.

In leadership, people do not follow inconsistent leaders. They may tolerate them, but they do not trust them. If you want to earn the right to influence others, be consistent in your words, actions, values, and results.



# 3. The Reward Is in the Routine

Ichiro's legacy is not just 3,000+ hits. It is the daily commitment to batting practice, stretching, nutrition, mindset, and excellence. The lesson? Never get bored with the fundamentals. Fall in love with the process, not just the outcome.

Leaders, what you do *daily* will shape your destiny. And the most powerful, sustainable form of leadership is consistency.

## Conclusion

If you want a Hall of Fame life, lead like Ichiro played:  
with integrity, clarity, and relentless consistency. The  
After all, the scoreboard always catches up with your  
habits.

<https://www.mlb.com/news/ichiro-suzuki-hall-of-fame-induction-2025>

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- At the get-go...pause...have everyone speak out loud:  
“come, HS, come”
- Do prayer over Carl
  - A few days after the fires, i called Carl to see how they are doing...before I could even asked, he boldly stated: “we’ll be ready for the RS Breakfast!”
- Create a plenary time of witness: What does being rock solid/dangerous look like at this season of life?
  - Ask 5-7 guys ready to be prepared
- Story
  - Consider telling story about saying goodbye to Dusty at PLNU

- Trajectory
  - Leaders fall in private long before they fall in public.
  - Right now your life is on a trajectory. Right now!
    - A trajectory that will not end well.
    - Or a tr
    - 
    - In large measure, you set that trajectory with how you start your day
      - on your knees
      - Desperate
      - compounding interest
  - Compounding interest with your money is a good thing; compounding interest with your daily rhythms is an essential
  
- Talk about verse in Isaiah

In the midst of turbulent waters, I will be your shining beacon of hope. When navigating rivers of hardship, you will emerge stronger and more resilient. When walking through the fire, you will rise unbroken and empowered; it will not define you. —Isaiah 43.2

- Talk about one of the lies in JMC Live No Lies

- Your downstream impact is made possible by your upstream intake.

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- Did you hear it? “If you consistently do the little things...
- The secret sauce to Suzuki’s success was CONSISTENCY.
- A person whose life is marked by consistency, just shows up, puts in the work, does the reps...and repeats it until the scoreboard reflects the outcome that is desired.
- He had an unrelenting commitment to the GRIND.
- His teammates, his coaches, and his fans knew exactly what they could expect from him.
  - In short, Suzuki was remarkably BORING.