

#29: Choose carefully which hills you are going to die on – if it is not a hill to die on, be willing to lose

#30: Make sure you know who you are speaking to

#31: Be careful what you say to people in the congregation

#32: Lots of problems are caused by poor communication

#33: Get fights sorted out quickly

#34: There are some things only you can say

#35: Give it a go – better to try something than do nothing

#36: Stopping a group/ministry is not the end of the world

#37: The church down the road is not the enemy if it is preaching the gospel

#38: You are not equal to such a task but God is good and His grace is sufficient



## WHY DIDN'T ANYONE TELL ME?

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*Lessons of leadership learned the hard way  
in the first five years of ministry*

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**DAN GREEN**

#1: Don't stop learning

#2: Find a Mr Miyagi – someone to be your mentor

#3: Read, read, read (especially these books: *On Being a Pastor*; *The Deliberate Church*; *On Being a Servant of God*; *Ready Steady Grow*)

#4: Ask questions – be deliberate about doing this

#5: Make sure you're wife is up for it

#6: The hours are long – get used to it – but there are benefits

#7: Guard your time off

#8: Productivity is not something you can ignore

#9: Remember every day that this is a wonderful work you are doing

#10: Be patient

#11: Don't forget to pray

#12: You will get better with experience

#13: It's okay to be ordinary

#14: You need friends – inside and outside the church

#15: Be intentional about spending time with Non-Christians

#16: Learn to say “No”

#17: Give people a break – like you, they are a work in progress

#18: If you mess up, own it and apologise

#19: Preaching twice every Sunday is hard

#20: Mark Dever: “*Teach and Pray, Love and Stay*”

#21: Be ready for tricky pastoral problems – they will come

#22: Sheep bite!

#23: Visit the people in your congregation – not just when there is a crisis

#24: People won't leave the church well

#25: You can't please everyone – but you can love them

#26: Make sure you have a clear job description so you know what is expected of you

#27: Lead with God's Word

#28: Appreciate your elders – you need them!