

# The 17 Indisputable Laws of Teamwork

## Introduction

-- Pastor Paine

I really believe that this will be transforming. One of the goals is to make this duplicatable, so that those of us who work in the ministry worldwide can use this training. As we see this spread throughout our ministry, I believe that we'll see these as usable, duplicatable tools.

Rod and I will be taking turns every other week, teaching. Depending on my travel schedule, Rod may teach for two weeks and I might teach for two weeks.

How many have at least read some of the textbook already?

*A few hands*

-- Rod Williams

We are a team; we're together. If you have questions or need assistance, we're all here for each other. Everybody here comes from different walks of life, different backgrounds. How many of you have been on sports teams? How many have worked in a corporation?

*(Most hands up)*

Did everybody get a teamwork book? Make sure you write your name in there. The last page is 46; make sure you have all the pages. If you're missing any, please let me know. We put these workbooks together, and there may have been some human error.

Since we're going to be doing this for 17 weeks, I'd like to get to know everybody.

*(Each of the attendees stood up and introduced themselves.)*

As you read the book and fill in your workbook, a lot of the answers won't be there, but we'll teach on that. But as you get to the applications part, you will definitely want to fill it in, because we'll get to it.

*(Moving people around to create three-person tables)*

Each of these tables represent a team. You should have at your table a marker and a piece of paper. You and your team have five minutes to come up with a team name and choose a team captain.

*(five minutes, followed by team captains standing and announcing the team name)*

Now every team has a name. I want each of you to write down your expectation for this course.

*(five more minutes of silence and writing...)*

If there are no objections, I'd like the team captain from each table

- How to work better in a team
- How to get people to work as a team
- How to lead a team
- How to build a team that brings results
- Be able to talk to anyone, anytime
- Convey my thoughts so they're easy to understand
- Build group cohesiveness
- Develop skills to be an effective team leader and player
- Learning to become a good teacher
- Work better with others and with my leader
- Learn more about leadership and how to become an effective team leader
- Motivate individuals to achieve and grow
- Learn values and importance of teamwork
- Be able to resolve team issues
- Better leadership and training skills
- How to motivate others
- Get to know others in the ministry better
- Conflict management skills
- Compare and expand with past training on teamwork and leadership
- Wisdom, knowledge, and understanding
- Treasures from heaven
- Fellowship
- New and different perspectives
- Encouragement
- Understand how to be more effective when working with different people
- Increase skills on teamwork and be able to teach others
- Learning how to ask for help
- Learning to work *with* other people, not just *for* them
- Learning how teamwork applies to everything we do
- How teamwork relates to scriptures
- Be more capable of working together
- Promote unity of spirit
- Build, lead, and work with teams
- Be aware of principles of teamwork
- Stay motivated in applying them

Please pass in your expectations. As we listen to these expectations, they have a wide variety. The reason why we did this is that we want to learn what you need, so we can teach toward these. It would be an injustice to you for us to teach something without knowing what you want to learn.

There are thirty people here, so bear with us if your expectations aren't met in the first hour. One thing I like about teamwork is that it requires a team. While we're here, we'll learn about each other. Being part of a team doesn't mean you'll like the people on your team. You'll want to, but it might be a challenge. There might be conflicts. But if you have one common goal, that goal will override our differences.

We want to have a positive, relaxed atmosphere. We want to make it fun.

Will everyone pass your team names forward? Some of you are reluctant to give up your team name. That's good. Now I'd like to invite Pastor Paine to lead a question-and-answer session.

## Questions and Answers

*If we have somebody new come in, how will we make them part of a team?*

We'll find a spot for them on one of our teams.

*Is there homework?*

Yes, every week. We'll assign reading every week.

*Matt's got the workbook. Should I get one, too?*

We'll work with the workbooks we've provided.

*What if you miss a week?*

We'll do our best to help you fill in the blanks. If you miss a week and get with Bob, he can share his notes with you.

Also, if you miss a week, we're all part of a team. There are thirty of us; I'm sure we can help each other out.

*Is this information on our church website?*

We haven't done that yet, but that's a great idea. We'll make that happen.

*If the weather is nice, can we have classes outside?*

That's a great idea, too. We might do that.

*My wife wants to take this course too. Can we share the same book?*

Yes, but I'd like her to have her own workbook.

*Is this course pass/fail?*

No, but we will give a certificate of completion.

*So how many weeks can you miss, and still get a certificate?*

That's a good question, but I don't think there's a statistical answer. If you're committed to this thing, we'll work together as a team.

*I'd like to hear your and Rod's answer about expectations.*

I've been ready for that. My expectation is to understand the different personalities that go into teams. You have a different personality, and I'd like to learn how to work with that.

Mine is two-fold: From the teaching side, I want to give you tools to help you be more effective team leaders and team members. From a personal perspective, I'd like to get better at troubleshooting the problem when there is one. I'd like to get better at going right to the source when there's something wrong. I'm really a troubleshooter.

*Can you tell us about your most successful team-building endeavor?*

I don't have just one. But when I was a senior pastor in Waukegan, one of our goals was to pay off the mortgage. That seemed like a big, big goal, but in two years, it was paid off. To see everyone rally around that cause was a good thing. We had a coach come in and help us, and one of the things he told me as a pastor was that if this thing is going to work, I'd have to back off and let my team leaders take charge. So that taught me to back off.

One of the goals of this and other programs like this is evangelism. This is the kind of activity that you can invite someone to, and they can come be a part of it. There's no cost for it. We made the books available, but they can either get the book here or get it on their own. Also, there will be team exercises. No, not jumping-jacks, but they will be designed to reinforce the team concept.

## Homework

I want each of you to read through chapter one in your textbook, so that we can discuss it next Saturday.