



# MUSTARD SEED LEADERSHIP PODCAST

## - BY BRENT BRADING



## Part 1: The Fruitful Leader

### 7 Truths about fruitfulness

*Exodus 1:7 (NIV)*

*7 but the Israelites were exceedingly fruitful; they multiplied greatly, increased in numbers and became so numerous that the land was filled with them.*

### Introduction:

#### The Israelites were in a bad situation

- They were enslaved in Egypt
- They were under an oppressive dictator
- They were set up for failure

*Exodus 1:12 (NIV)*

*12 But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread; so the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites*

How is it that the Israelites were so fruitful in a such a bad situation?

### 7 Truths about Fruitfulness

#### 1. God is the God of fruitfulness

#### God can make anyone fruitful anywhere and at any time

- This is the revelation that a fruitful life is built on
- First comes revelation - fruitfulness is the fruit of a relationship with God and not our hard work
- Fruitfulness belongs to God
- Fruitfulness is the result of being in covenant with the God of fruitfulness

Look at God's word to Jacob:

*Genesis 35:11 (NIV)*

*11 And God said to him, "I am God Almighty; be fruitful and increase in number. A nation and a community of nations will come from you, and kings will be among your descendants.*

### FIRST REVELATION. THEN FRUITFULNESS

**First** God declared to Jacob WHO is is - "*I AM God Almighty*"

**Then** he commands Jacob to be fruitful

**First** Jesus tells his disciples that: *Matthew 28:18 (NIV)* "*All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.*"

**Then** he commissions them to be fruitful: *Matthew 28:19 (NIV)* "*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...*"

### Fruitfulness must come from somewhere

- **Option 1: YOURSELF** - looking to your skill, ability, gifting or experience

- **Option 2: SUPERSTITION** - Satan always wants to point us towards a counterfeit source - false gods, rituals, Eg. Baal worship was to the god who was supposed to bring fruitfulness to the land
- **Option 3: THE GOD OF THE BIBLE**

**BIG IDEA: GOD IS THE GOD OF FRUITFULNESS**

**ILLUSTRATION:**

Often shared the story of when we started the church we now lead

- Had a big fear of failure
- Was anxious with a whole performance mentality
- Then God gave us the revelation of His Gracious Hand upon us
- That set me free and has become the source we look to for fruitfulness and success

**GOD IS THE GOD OF FRUITFULNESS**

**QUESTIONS:**

1. How would you define fruitfulness?
2. What do you look to for fruitfulness or success? Your skills, experience, gifting, luck?
3. Think for a moment - in your mind is fruitfulness connected to the right season or conditions?