



# MUSTARD SEED LEADERSHIP PODCAST

## - BY BRENT BRADING



## Part 2: 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. The God of the Bible is the God of fruitfulness
2. God commands us to be fruitful and so expects us to be fruitful - it is a command not an option

Eg. First commandment

*Genesis 1:28 (NIV)*

*28 God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."*

- To obey God is better than sacrifice. Ie. It is the best form of worship
- And the first commandment God gives mankind is to be fruitful and multiply

#### The implications are:

- God could never command you to do something that you can't do - which means that fruitfulness is possible for all of us
- Obedience is a decision. It requires us to submit rather than to try harder

*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."*

#### Remember that the command follows the revelation

- The only reason God can command us to be fruitful is because HE is God Almighty
- This is saying yes Lord to who He is, more than yes to what you think you are capable of

- Fruitfulness is rooted in God not in your ability

FRUITFULNESS IS COMMANDED OVER US

**ILLUST:** God challenged me about praying to many “Please Lord prayers”

- If all my prayers are “please Lord” then who is leading who?
- More of my prayers, like Jesus, should be ‘Yes Lord’ prayers
- If God commands you to do something you don’t have to ask permission or ask God to do it for you
- You simply say ‘Yes Lord!’

**Challenge:**

**How do we say Yes to greater fruitfulness?**

1. Yes to the revelation that God is the God of fruitfulness
2. Yes to the fact that fruitfulness is dependent on God and the Covenant and not our ability
3. Yes to stop limiting God with small thinking and expectations
4. Yes to start expecting greater and greater fruitfulness

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Have you ever thought of fruitfulness as a command rather than a result?
2. Are you praying more ‘Please Lord’ prayers or ‘Yes Lord’ prayers?
3. Of the four challenge statements above, which one challenges you to say YES to the most?