

EP101

Are you a Speaker of the word?

10 Questions to ask yourself as a leader

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(Dudley Daniel "Leading the Church" 1989, Chapter 1 - Biblical Leadership)

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### ARE YOU A SPEAKER OF THE WORD?

God's Word is much more powerful than our opinions!

Some leaders love to use their leadership position to share their opinions with everyone. But our opinions are only that - our opinions.

### The Word of God however is very powerful!

Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)<sup>12</sup> For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to divide soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

### God spoke His Word to create the universe:

Genesis 1:3 (NIV) "And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light."

That's the power of God's Word proclaimed - the Will of the Father, proclaimed through Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit

Jesus Himself is called the Word:

John 1:1-5 (NIV)<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup> Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Jesus, the Word of God is ETERNAL, CREATIVE, LIFE GIVING, LIGHT BRINGING AND DARKNESS DESTROYING!

**ILLUST**: Heard a personal nudge of the Holy Spirit to "Let my Word do the work"

So what does that mean practically for us as leaders?

Hebrews 13:7 (NIV) "Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith."

Leaders speak the Word!

People do not need to hear what you think or feel, but what God says.

1 Corinthians 2:4-5 (NIV)<sup>4</sup> My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, <sup>5</sup>so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power.

It is the Word of God and not our wise and persuasive words that change people!

Look at what Jesus said to His disciples:

John 14:10 (NIV)<sup>10</sup>Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work.

He uttered what God gave Him.

#### **CHALLENGE:**

In order to speak the Word of God, you must become acquainted with the Bible AND be able to hear the NOW word of God from the Bible

2 Timothy 2:15 (NIV)<sup>15</sup> Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

#### **PERSONAL:**

What is God saying?

The challenge for us as leaders is get into God's Presence so that we can hear His Word for His people

### Acts 7:38 (NIV)

<sup>38</sup>He [Moses] was in the assembly in the wilderness, with the angel who spoke to him on Mount Sinai, and with our ancestors; and he received living words to pass on to us.

### **QUESTIONS:**

- 1. Are you a speaker of God's Word? Do you spend more time sharing your own ideas or God's Word?
- 2. How good are you at hearing God for yourself from his Word?
- 3. Are you making the study of God's Word a priority in your life?

Next week: Are you a witness?

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