



# MUSTARD SEED LEADERSHIP PODCAST

## - BY BRENT BRADING



## #2: The Value of the Leader

8 Part series designed to smash the limitations a poverty mentality places on a leader

### Catch up:

1. A **POVERTY SPIRIT** or **poverty mentality** is a limiting way of thinking built on a spirit of lack, defeat, neglect of helplessness.

## #2: What is the root of a Poverty Mentality?

PERSONAL CONVICTION: "*Every problem is a gospel problem and every solution a gospel solution*"

- So what about the Gospel am I preaching wrong?
- Why are so many Christians who have heard the Gospel still living with such a poverty mentality?

### BIG IDEA: And then it hit me

- the gospel doesn't start with **Jesus**
- And it doesn't start with **me and my sin**
- The Gospel actually starts with the Father

*John 3:16 (NIV)*

16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

*Ephesians 1:3 (NIV)*

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

*Matthew 28:19 (NIV)*

19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

**BIG IDEA: The Gospel doesn't start with me and my sin or Jesus and the Cross.**

- It starts with the LOVE of the Father. **AND...**
- **And the gospel doesn't end** with me having my sins forgiven or even going to heaven:

*John 14:6 (NIV)*

6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

**The Gospel starts with the FATHER and Jesus closes the loop to CONNECT us to the Father**

- It is when that LOOP IS CLOSED that spiritual poverty is turned to blessing as we are connected to the Father
- It is when that LOOP is not closed that a POVERTY SPIRIT remains and rules our hearts
- A poverty spirit is a **SIGN** that a child of God has not been **CONNECTED** to their **HEAVENLY FATHER**

**WHY IS CONNECTION TO THE FATHER SO IMPORTANT?**

**A POVERTY SPIRIT is not about finance at all**

- It is about VALUE - YOUR SENSE OF VALUE TO GOD
- It is ROOTED in a low sense of VALUE, and MANIFESTS in poverty, apathy, neglect, poor stewardship etc.
- And a sense of value doesn't come from your bank account or resources
- It comes from a **GOOD FATHER**

**BIG IDEA: Good fathers impart a sense of value to their children. Bad fathers rob their children of value.**

**ILLUST:** Lady who struggled with her sexuality - a lesbian and confused and desperate for help

- Dad always wanted a rugby playing son and “all he got” was a daughter
- So he raised her as a rugby playing son
- Never knew what it was like to be feminine - only knew what it was like to be a boy
- Good news: “A bad father has led you into this mess. But your perfect Father will lead you out”

**Gospel doesn't just forgive sin and give you a ticket to heaven - it **CONNECTS** us with the Father who restores us**

**Next BIG IDEA: In the world, value is earned. In the Kingdom of God it must be RECEIVED.**

*2 Peter 1:17 (NIV)*

*17 He [Jesus] received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”*

Jesus RECEIVED glory and honour from the Father - the source of his value

- If we don't RECEIVE it from the Father
- We will try and EARN it from the world

**BIG IDEA: Once you are connected to your Heavenly Father, you learn to receive value, security and identity from your Father and so the rebuilding and restoring can begin**

*Ephesians 3:14-17 (NIV)*

*14 For this reason I kneel before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. 16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.”*

**WHAT DID WE LEARN?**

1. A poverty mentality is a Gospel issue.
2. The Gospel doesn't start and finish with Jesus - it starts and finishes with the Heavenly Father
3. A poverty mentality is not about money but about our sense of VALUE.
4. When we are connected to the Father through the Gospel, we learn to receive value from the Father and stop trying to earn it from the world.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. You might know your sins are forgiven, but do you have a real relationship with your Heavenly Father?
2. In what ways have you tried to 'earn' value from the world in the past?
3. How can you better receive value, security and identity from your Heavenly Father?