



MUSTARD SEED LEADERSHIP PODCAST

- BY BRENT BRADING



5) The BIGGEST Kingdom Leadership requirement

Acts 6:3-4 (NIV)

3 Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them 4 and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

8 Week Series on how to practically live a lifestyle full of the Holy Spirit

HABITS:

1. **WORSHIP** - The practice of private surrender
2. **MEDITATION** - Hearing God's voice through His word
3. **PRAYER** - Time on your knees in His Presence

HABIT 4: Fellowship - Jesus focussed friendships

One of my greatest discoveries in the Kingdom is that *friendship leads to fruitfulness*

- Literally it is the investments into godly friendship that leads to greater fruitfulness in your own life and theirs
- In fact discipleship is most effective in the context of friendship
- And one of the reasons is because godly friendships become a source of the life giving water of the Holy Spirit

ILLUST: Each year I do a number of intentional friendship getaways just to spend time with other church leaders to build friendship

- Groups of 12 to 40 visiting a cottage at HITW on the Wild Coast of the Eastern Cape for a week.
- Group of 16 pastors from Zululand visits a beach cottage on the Mozambique Coast for five days.
- Recently started some golf tours with a few pastor friends
- Invite potential leaders to travel with me when I do ministry to other churches and regions just to spend time together

Is this holiday?

- Actually some of the most fruitful ministry time
- These are the times the deep questions are discussed
- Open heart surgery takes place!
- And the life of God is imparted

The Bible uses the word 'fellowship'

- I believe that *fellowship is investing in godly friendships*

This was one of the pillars that the early church built with:

Acts 2:42 (NIV)

42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

But how does this link to a lifestyle of living full of the Holy Spirit?

Proverbs 11:25 (NIV)
25 A generous person will prosper;
whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.

Grant Crawford of the NCMI Team: "*We don't just drink directly from the Lord, but from our friends - as long as it is clean water*"

The Kingdom practice of fellowship - investing in godly friendships by encouragement and refreshing
— Directly leads to you being filled with the Holy Spirit

Personal: I find that I come away from times with good friends full and enriched
— Realised that I was quite intentional about my work week
— But didn't really have a plan for my day off
— But now by incorporating fellowship time into my day off it both refreshed me and is fruitful in ministry

PRACTICAL:
— Become convinced of the need for great Kingdom friendships
— See friendship as a ministry - to yourself and others
— Start investing - turn your recreation into Kingdom life
— See the value of being part of a smaller group in the life of the church

QUESTIONS:
1. Consider the statement '*Friendship leads to fruitfulness*'. Do you agree with it? Why or why not?
2. How intentional are you about investing in godly friendships?
3. What recreational interests do you have that could become fruitful fellowship times that fill you with the Holy Spirit?