



MUSTARD SEED LEADERSHIP PODCAST

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4. Kingdom Leadership Tests

A 6 week series tracing the leadership tests that David needed to pass before becoming king.

Series based on Dudley Daniels book '*Building an Apostolic Culture*'. Available as a free download from the Books section of the NCMI app or website - *Section 2: From Bethlehem to the Temple*

Hebron, Place of Alliance

Dudley: *"Hebron means 'alliance'. According to the New Oxford Dictionary, an alliance is a "state of being allied or combined, united." When you form an alliance with people, you are saying, "We will come alongside you, we will do it together, we will fight together and we have a common purpose"*

One of the greatest leadership tests every leader will go through is simply this: are you a team player?

That means:

1. Can you work in a team with people who are very different to you? Do you forgive quickly or hold grudges? Do you celebrate differences or try to conform everyone to your preference?
2. Can you open handedly lead a team of leaders or closed handedly lead a team of servants?

Team are vital in the Kingdom of God. In fact the biggest difference you usually see between so called big and small church is the ability for leaders to work in team.

BIG IDEA: You can't be a control freak and lead a team well!

- It simply doesn't work
- Big capacity leaders want to use their gifts and have freedom to grow
- You cannot have growth and control!

Psalms 133 (NIV)

1 "How good and pleasant it is

when God's people live together in unity!

*3 ... For there the LORD bestows his blessing,
even life forevermore."*

The leadership test is simply this: can you work with and empower other people whose gifts and personality is very different to you?

Dudley: *"At Hebron the twelve tribes came together in an alliance. The same tribes that are mentioned in Genesis 49 are the tribes we find in 1 Chronicles 12:23-37. They all came and joined themselves with David. There is a reason why the Holy Spirit put the names of the tribes in here. We need, in our churches and as individuals, to have different kinds of people around us who are in alliance with us."*

Take a quick look at the twelve tribes and how different they are:

1. **Judah** simply means 'praise'- Genesis 29:35 - and every one of us needs praisers around us. We need positive people who praise God no matter what is happening.

2. The second group is the tribe of **Simeon** and that means ‘hearing,’ or ‘to hear’ - Genesis 29:33. That relates to our perception.
3. The third group is the tribe called **Levi** and this means ‘joined’ or ‘partner’-Genesis 29:34. We also know that Levi was the priestly tribe. In other words, Levi represents those who are priests with us and are committed to join with us in the fight, whatever the circumstance may be.
4. The next group is the tribe of **Benjamin**, which means ‘son of my right hand’ - Genesis 35:18 – and this relates to power and authority.
5. **Joseph** had two sons who were named among the tribes of Israel that came to join with David – Ephraim and Manasseh. Joseph means may He add (Genesis 30 v 24) In other words someone who is prolific. Prolific means one that produces a large number.
- **Manasseh** means ‘causing forgetfulness’ - Genesis 41:51. Not holding onto of dwelling on the past.
- **Ephraim** means ‘fruitful’ – Genesis 41:52. We need people who are producers; people who see things happen by the power and authority of God.
6. **Issachar** means ‘bearing higher, available’ - Genesis 30:18. They were participators; they got involved.
7. **Zebulun** means ‘dwelling, living there’ - Genesis 30:20. In other words, they are people who possess. God’s intent is not simply that we dwell in the land He has given us
8. **Naphtali** means ‘wrestling’ - Genesis 30:8. In other words, they are a people of prayer.
9. **Dan** means ‘just or justice’ – Genesis 30:6. These are people who are prepared to fight for what is right, not just in the place of prayer but who live it out.
10. **Asher** means ‘happy’ - Genesis 30:13. In other words, ‘pleased.’ You cannot be happy if you are not pleased.
11. The tribe of **Reuben** came to join with David. Reuben simply means ‘behold a son’ - Genesis 29:32. I used to say that this was fruitfulness but actually I have seen something beyond that. I see that there is something that is birthed that comes from the prophetic.
12. Gad means ‘good fortune.’ We need those that are fortunate, those who are successful, those who are prosperous.

CHALLENGE:

God didn’t want all the tribes to be the same. He wanted diversity and unity at the same time.

- The leadership test is to see if you will be faithful not just as a team member
- But as a team leader

QUESTIONS:

1. Would you consider yourself a control freak who likes everything done just the way you like it done?
2. Would your team members consider you a control freak? Are you prepared to ask them?
3. How well do you operate in a team? Are you contributing? Do you hold grudges? Do you make space for others to shine?