



MUSTARD SEED LEADERSHIP PODCAST

- BY BRENT BRADING



3. Apostolic Leaders

7 KEY CHARACTERISTICS OF THE LEADERSHIP STYLE OF APOSTOLIC CHURCHES

Definition: Apostolic leaders are followers of Jesus with a passion to go and not stay, pioneer and not settle, and to send and not just gather.

The 7 characteristics so far...

1. Passionate love for Jesus
2. Courageous - bold faith

3. Servant hearted - sacrificial

We have spoken of this characteristic many times before and so it should not surprise you that it is in this list as well.

But why? Why is servant hearted / sacrificial leadership so crucial to apostolic leaders?

EXAMPLE: Take a look at what happened when "Saul" became "Paul":

- Saul means 'devoted to God'
- Paul means 'little'
- So look what happens when the man known for his zeal for God became small

Acts 13:9-11 (NIV)

9 Then Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked straight at Elymas and said, 10 "You are a child of the devil and an enemy of everything that is right! You are full of all kinds of deceit and trickery. Will you never stop perverting the right ways of the Lord? 11 Now the hand of the Lord is against you. You are going to be blind for a time, not even able to see the light of the sun."

Immediately mist and darkness came over him, and he groped about, seeking someone to lead him by the hand.

He began to operate in a new level of authority

- No longer is own authority
- But now in the authority of Jesus

Just like John the Baptist:

John 3:30 (NIV) He must become greater; I must become less."

To accomplish what God has called us to, we will require greater and greater levels of authority

- And this necessitates that we become more and more servant hearted

Matthew 20:25-28 (NIV)

25 Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. 26 Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, 27 and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— 28 just as the Son of Man did

not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

The Kingdom pattern is that as we humble ourselves - God exalts

- We never outgrow serving
- We constantly grow in our ability to effectively serve others

QUESTIONS:

1. Why do you think Saul changed his name to Paul - or do you think others gave him Paul as a nickname?
2. Do you truly believe that a deep level, that God will ensure that servant hearted people will be promoted in the Kingdom?
3. Is this an area that you need to grow in?

MY ANSWERS:

1. Personally I think Saul asked people to call him Paul because he was walking into this new apostolic calling and truly saw himself as a someone brand new - and I think he had a genuine revelation of humility as the key to authority in the Kingdom. “When I am weak, I am strong”
2. I have definitely grown to believe that servant hearted leaders will be promoted higher but probably slower than self reliant or arranging leaders. Pride and self exultation can happen quicker but then they eventually come crashing down just as quick. Servant hearted leaders will rise to the surface by the hand of God.
3. I definitely need to keep growing in this area. I have found that as my area of influence has grown, so has the opportunity to serve. In fact the greater the promotion, the greater and more effective the serving can be.