



# MUSTARD SEED LEADERSHIP PODCAST

## - BY BRENT BRADING



## Learning to Lead - Part 1

### *10 Lessons for those just learning to lead*

**Aim:** This series is aimed at young leaders starting out in leadership

**Example:**

- My oldest son is a youth leader in his first leadership role
- Youngest son is an intern at church where we believe all staff members must be leaders
- We have a young girl in church who is just starting as head girl at the local high school
- Also have some newly saved believers who are bosses and managers and want to learn about biblical leadership

### *10 Lessons for those just learning to lead*

#### 1. Leaders learn to see *themselves* as leaders

**Our personal identity is the way we see ourselves**

- This is so important because our behaviour aligns itself with our identity
- And we will never effectively change our behaviour until we have changed our identity
- **So the first question is - do you see yourself as a leader?**

**So many people don't**

- And because they don't, they never become effective leaders

**Look at a biblical example: Gideon**

*Judges 6:11-16 (NIV)*

*11 The angel of the LORD came and sat down under the oak in Ophrah that belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, where his son Gideon was threshing wheat in a winepress to keep it from the Midianites. 12 When the angel of the LORD appeared to Gideon, he said, "The LORD is with you, mighty warrior."*

*13 "Pardon me, my lord," Gideon replied, "but if the LORD is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all his wonders that our ancestors told us about when they said, 'Did not the LORD bring us up out of Egypt?' But now the LORD has abandoned us and given us into the hand of Midian."*

*14 The LORD turned to him and said, "Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian's hand. Am I not sending you?"*

*15 "Pardon me, my lord," Gideon replied, "but how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family."*

*16 The LORD answered, "I will be with you, and you will strike down all the Midianites, leaving none alive."*

**Key thing to notice is the big gap between how the Lord saw Gideon:**

- *"mighty warrior"*

**And how Gideon saw himself:**

- *"Why has all this happened to us?" & "the Lord has abandoned us"* - **self pity, identity of a victim**
- *"My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family."* - **inferiority complex**

God wanted to use Gideon as a leader but first the Lord needed Gideon to repent of his self pity and inferiority complex

- First IDENTITY needs to change before DESTINY can change!
- Only when the way he saw himself changed to match the way the Lord saw him would his leadership change

Notice too that the identity change wasn’t based on a pep talk

- He didn’t try and build Gideon up, he simply revealed Himself to Gideon
- God simply said “*The Lord is with you*”
- “*I am sending you*”
- Our identity is based not on what we feel or how we see ourselves but how we see the Lord and how the Lord sees us!

Personal growth story:

I am an introvert, shy, lack self confident

- My perception of a leader was that they should be confident, extroverts, fearless etc. And I’m not!
- But God challenged me that my personality should not limit my calling but is designed by God to help fulfil it
- There is no one personality type that makes a leader. God makes a leader!

YOUR TURN:

1. Do you see yourself as a leader? Why or why not?
2. What excuses can you identify that might be holding you back from seeing yourself as a leader?
3. As a step of repentance, can you claim these 4 statements as part of your belief system:
  - “*The Lord is with you mighty warrior*”
  - “*Go in the strength you have*”
  - “*Am I not sending you?*”
  - “*I will be with you*”

REMEMBER:

IDENTITY LIMITS OR LAUNCHES YOUR DESTINY. YOU HAVE TO GET YOUR IDENTITY RIGHT IF YOU WANT TO GET YOUR DESTINY RIGHT.