



MUSTARD SEED LEADERSHIP PODCAST

- BY BRENT BRADING



Learning to Lead - Part 5

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

10 Lessons for those just learning to lead

1. Leaders have learnt to see themselves as leaders
2. Leaders feel fear but have learnt to face fear
3. Leaders have learnt what leadership REALLY IS
4. Leaders have learnt what leadership is DEFINITELY NOT

5. Leaders have learnt to clarify the vision, purpose or goal

One of the main functions of a leader is to bring **VISION**.

And to **CLARIFY** that vision.

And to **REPEAT** that vision, until people have caught it

Andy Stanley *"People would rather follow a leader of clarity than even character"*

BIG IDEA: Being clear about the vision and knowing how to communicate it, is super critical for a leader.

So what does that mean for someone learning to lead?

Proverbs 29:18 (NIV) "Where there is no revelation, people cast off restraint"

Proverbs 29:18 (KJV) "Where there is no vision, the people perish"

Having vision is important because:

1. The more clear the vision the more **united** people are
2. The more the vision the more **passionate** people will be about the vision
3. The stronger the vision the more **disciplined** you and the people you lead will be

UNITED. PASSIONATE. DISCIPLINED.

So how do you go about crafting a vision?

Nehemiah 2:11-13 (NIV)

11 I went to Jerusalem, and after staying there three days 12 I set out during the night with a few others. I had not told anyone what my God had put in my heart to do for Jerusalem. There were no mounts with me except the one I was riding on.

13 By night I went out through the Valley Gate toward the Jackal Well and the Dung Gate, examining the walls of Jerusalem, which had been broken down, and its gates, which had been destroyed by fire.

Nehemiah 2:17-18 (NIV)

17 Then I said to them, “You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace.” 18 I also told them about the gracious hand of my God on me and what the king had said to me. They replied, “Let us start rebuilding.” So they began this good work.

1. **HE PRAYED.** It started with what God had put in Nehemiah’s heart - you don’t want a good idea for a vision. You want God’s idea. It starts with prayer and asking God to clarify HIS vision. *“I had not told anyone what my God had put in my heart to do for Jerusalem.”*
2. **HE INVESTIGATED.** It says that he rode around the broken walls to see how bad the damage was and what needed fixing. He wanted to know the reality of the situation. Facts are friends. *“examining the walls of Jerusalem, which had been broken down, and its gates, which had been destroyed by fire.”*
3. **HE COMMUNICATED WHY WE CAN’T STAY HERE** - Notice that before he painted a picture of the future, he showed them why we have to change. *“You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire”*
4. **HE COMMUNICATED THE VISION** - He called them to action to each play their part in fulfilling the vision - *“Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem”*. Notice that it was an *“us”*, not a you or me.
5. **HE FOCUSSED ON THE WHY** - Simon Sinek *“Great leaders always start with WHY”*. Why is this vision so critical? *“And we will no longer be in disgrace.”*
6. **HE GAVE TESTIMONY OF GOD’S INVOLVEMENT** - *“I also told them about the gracious hand of my God on me and what the king had said to me.”* People want to know that it is possible - and anything is possible if they know that God has decreed it. What is the God story behind the vision?

The amazing end to this powerful leadership story is that the walls were rebuilt in a record breaking 52 days. This is the power of God ordained vision that unites people, fires them up, and keeps them disciplined.

TESTIMONY: This story of vision was so helpful to me when we did our first church building project. We had outgrown the school hall and to become the Base Church God had called us to be, we felt we needed a strong home base. We were convinced that the Gracious Hand of God was upon us (we had see the evidence in buying the land) and the result was the completion of the building in 10 months, debt free. Vision is a powerful tool in the hands of a leader!

YOUR TURN...

1. Have you been part of a well led vision before? How did it make you feel?
2. What has God put in your heart to do? Are you able to put it on paper?
3. Now go through the 6 points above and see if you can help mould it into a well crafted vision.