



# MUSTARD SEED LEADERSHIP PODCAST

## - BY BRENT BRADING



## Learning to Lead - Part 7

**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
6. Leaders have learnt that people need to be loved, appreciated and encouraged

### 7. Leaders have learnt to develop trust by their character, calling and competence

Quote: *"People first need to buy into the visionary before they buy into the vision"*

#### Before people followed:

- **Moses** - they had to learn to trust him. That God had called him and that God was with him and that they could depend on him. When they saw the 10 plagues and the Red Sea open up, they started trusting him.
- **Joshua** - they had to trust him. That God would be with him like He was with Moses. And when they saw the Jordan river stop flowing and walk into the promised land, they started trusting him!
- **David** - they had to trust him. When they saw him kill Goliath and free the nation from the Phillistine rule, they started trusting him.

**BIG IDEA:** Trust is so important if you want people to follow you - it takes a long time to earn and can be very quickly lost

#### 3 Ways we build trust:

1. Character

If people are going to follow you, they need to trust you as a person. That means building a trustworthy character.

Paul gives a long character list to potential elders and deacons in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1

When he encourages Timothy in his own leadership as a young man in a church of influential older people he instructs him to build trust through the example of his character:

*1 Timothy 4:12 (NIV)*

*12 Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.*

#### TRUST BUILDERS & BREAKERS

- Integrity builds trust, lack of integrity destroys it
- Honesty builds trust, deception and exaggeration breaks
- Reliability builds trust, break your word breaks trust

- Humility builds trust, arrogance and self glory destroys
- Courage builds trust, weakness and cowardice breaks
- Consistency builds trust, constant upheaval breaks

## 2. Calling

If people are going to follow you, they want to know that you have a God plan and not just a good plan (or crazy one!)

The Bible shows that when God has called someone, there is evidence of anointing in their lives. The sign that God is working through them because HE has called them.

Eg.

- Moses and the plagues
- Joshua and the Jordan River
- Peter and the healing of the lame man
- Jesus and all his miracles

Not all of us get to walk in signs and wonders (yet) but there should still be evidence of the grace of God at work in your life if God has called you.

Example:

*Nehemiah 2:18 (NIV) 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.*

Evidence of God's calling:

1. **Authority** - when you speak or preach or teach, is there evidence of authority?
2. **Favour** - can people see the evidence of the favour God at work in your life, even if there is opposition?
3. **Fruitfulness** - is there a track record of God using you and answering your prayers?
4. **Prophecy** - do you have a record of what God has spoken and called you to do?
5. **Passion** - is there a fire that God has put inside you that refuses to go out?

## 3. Competence

For people to trust you, they need to believe that you are up to the task. Will you as a leader be able to deliver on the vision?

Usually people will arrive at this decision not just based on your character and calling but also on your track record - do you have a history of success?

Obviously this is tough for a young leader who hasn't had much time to prove themselves. As you get older and have led longer there is an advantage and people will tend to trust you more easily.

But take young David as an example. He volunteered to fight Goliath - but remember what was at stake. If he won, all is well and they get to rule over the Philistines. But if they lose, the whole nation goes into slavery to the Philistines. David had to convince King Saul to trust him.

*1 Samuel 17:33-37 (NIV)*

*33 Saul replied, "You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a young man, and he has been a warrior from his youth."*

*34 But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, 35 I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. 36 Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. 37 The LORD who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this*

*Philistine.”*  
*Saul said to David, “Go, and the LORD be with you.”*

Past successes make it easier for people to trust you. Past failures - especially quitting instead of growing from a setback - make it harder for people to trust you.

**BIG IDEA: Before people buy into the vision, they buy into the visionary - they do this through TRUST - trust comes from CHARACTER, CALLING and COMPETENCE**

**YOUR TURN:**

1. Think of a leader you respect - consider their character, calling and competence and see how this has impacted your willingness to follow them.
2. What areas of your character could you tighten up to make it easier for others to follow you?
3. What evidence of God’s calling do you see in your life?
4. What lions and bears have you dealt with in the past? Did you overcome or did you quit?