

# Mustard seed leadership

## 7 Minute MUSTARD SEED leadership growth challenge

### WHY MUSTARD SEEDS?

*Matthew 13:31-32 (NLT)*

*31 Here is another illustration Jesus used: "The Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed planted in a field. 32 It is the smallest of all seeds, but it becomes the largest of garden plants; it grows into a tree, and birds come and make nests in its branches."*

### **BIG IDEA: Small kingdom adjustments can produce amazing fruit**

- the kingdom is so powerful that even small truths can make significant differences
- So what are some small kingdom leadership truths we can work on?

## ENCOURAGEMENT

- "IN - COURAGE" - literally means helping people find courage
- Means putting courage into people before or during a task to keep them going
- We are created to need encouragement

*Hebrews 10:25 (NLT)*

*25 And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.*

- One of the main reasons we meet together is for encouragement
- people need encouragement daily

**Illust:** John Maxwell story of asking his father, how do you know if someone needs encouragement?

- **Answer:** If they are breathing, they need encouragement

### **What happens if someone goes too long without encouragement?**

*Hebrews 3:13 (NIV 1984)*

*13 But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.*

### **The lack of encouragement can harden a heart**

- A hard heart becomes defensive, resistant and lacks warmth
- Hard hearts destroy relationships

- Hearts they are discouraged are vulnerable to sin
- that makes encouragement a crucial ingredient for leadership

### **Three examples:**

#### **1. Johnathan, David's friend helped David find strength in God**

*1 Samuel 23:15-17 (NIV 1984)*

*15 While David was at Horesh in the Desert of Ziph, he learned that Saul had come out to take his life. 16 And Saul's son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and helped him find strength in God. 17 "Don't be afraid," he said. "My father Saul will not lay a hand on you. You will be king over Israel, and I will be second to you. Even my father Saul knows this."*

- David was in a bad place
- Johnathan went to him
- Helped him overcome his fears
- Spoke words of support

**BIG IDEA: Encouragement needs to be intentional - GO and help your team find strength in God.**

#### **2. The Father speaks words of encouragement over Jesus**

*Matthew 3:17 (NLT)*

*17 And a voice from heaven said, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy."*

**BIG IDEA: Encouragement needs to be spoken - words of affirmation, belief, value, celebration.**

#### **3. Jesus encourages Peter out of the boat**

*Matthew 14:27-29 (NLT)*

*27 But Jesus spoke to them at once. "Don't be afraid," he said. "Take courage. I am here!"*

*28 Then Peter called to him, "Lord, if it's really you, tell me to come to you, walking on the water."*

*29 "Yes, come," Jesus said.*

*So Peter went over the side of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus.*

- Jesus modeled courageous behavior
- Then called peter out of the comfort of the boat into courage

**BIG IDEA: Encouragement calls people to do great things**

**CONCLUSION:** Remember:

1. **Appreciation** - that's what a leader does after an event. Appreciation time.
2. **Encouragement**- happens before and during an event. All the time!

**This week's leadership mustard seed: How much ENCOURAGEMENT are you sowing?**  
- stretch yourself. Practice!

**Why?** Because in the Kingdom, mustard seed adjustments can make a massive difference.

*Hope it helps*

*Love*

*Brent*