

MUSTARD SEED LEADERSHIP

PODCAST

- BY BRENT BRADING -



EP32

Kingdom Leadership: Kingdom Leaders Reflect Christlike Character

FOR THE GROUP LEADER

These notes have been designed to disciple leaders in round the table small group discussions.

What is in *ITALICS* is meant to be read out loud.

Welcome to this week's Mustard Seed Leadership discussion. The current series is
"KINGDOM LEADERSHIP"

STEP #1: ACCOUNTABILITY

Let's get started. The topic of discussion today is
"Kingdom Leaders Reflect Christlike Character" *But before we start on the new topic, we will usually hold each other accountable about last week's action step.*

Since this is the first in the series, let's go straight to the notes.

STEP #2: READ THE NOTES

Option 1: Let each person in the group take turns reading a section (Each section is marked with a). **READER #** Go clockwise starting with the Group Leader, and highlight or underline what catches your attention.

Option 2: The leader reads all the sections.

Option 3: Watch the video.

<https://youtu.be/pHKKHLEFAKAc>

READER 1

Lesson 3: Kingdom Leaders Reflect Christlike Character

1 Timothy 3:1-7 (NLT)

1 This is a trustworthy saying: "If someone aspires to be a church leader, he desires an honorable position." 2 So a church leader must be a man whose life is above reproach. He must be faithful to his wife. He must exercise self-control, live wisely, and have a good reputation. He must enjoy having guests in his home, and he must be able to teach. 3 He must not be a heavy drinker or be violent. He must be gentle, not quarrelsome, and not love money. 4 He must manage his own family well, having children who respect and obey him. 5 For if a man cannot manage his own household, how can he take care of God's church? 6 A church leader must not be a new believer, because he might become proud, and the devil would cause him to fall. 7 Also, people outside the church must speak well of him so that he will not be disgraced and fall into the devil's trap.

Have you ever wondered why character is so important to Biblical Leadership?

1. Because God's glory is **reflected** through **glorious character**

Take a look at how God's glory is described:

Exodus 34:6-7 (NLT)

6 The LORD passed in front of Moses, calling out, "Yahweh! The LORD!

The God of compassion and mercy! I am slow to anger and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness.

7 I lavish unfailing love to a thousand generations. I forgive iniquity, rebellion, and sin. But I do not excuse the guilty."

READER 3

Godly **character reflects God's **glory!****

- *There is glory in demonstrating compassion and mercy to others - that is strength and not weakness!*
- *There is glory in being patient with people*
- *There is glory in unconditionally loving people*
- *There is glory in being faithful in all you do*

- *There is glory in acting with righteousness and justice.*

Godly *character* reflects God's *glory*!

READER 4

2. Because your *example* as a leader is your *greatest leadership tool*

People watch more than they listen! They are watching you and will start to imitate you because people respect good character. Paul could say:

1 Corinthians 11:1 (NLT)

“And you should imitate me, just as I imitate Christ”

Can you say this about your leadership?

If you are young and maybe don't have a leadership position or title, can you still lead?

YES! How? By setting an example of good, godly character you will win respect and influence even over those who are older or above you.

1 Timothy 4:12 (NLT)

Don't let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity.

Godly character wins respect and carries influence.

READER 5

3. Because good character protects and shields us from the enemy

Much of the armor of God is Christlike character against which the enemy has no foothold!

Ephesians 6:14-15 (NLT)

14 Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. 15 For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared.

- *Walking in the truth of God's Word*

- *Protecting your heart with the righteousness of Christ*
- *Being quick to forgive as Christ has forgiven us*

Godly character *protects* leaders from the *attacks* of the enemy

READER 6

BIG IDEA: GOOD CHARACTER GLORIFIES GOD, SETS AN EXAMPLE THAT FOLLOWERS WILL RESPECT AND PROTECTS US FROM THE ENEMY GAINING A Foothold IN OUR LIVES.

Quote: “The anointing might get you there but it is character that will keep you there.”

- *Anointing is not enough! We need Christlike character to sustain us for the long haul!*
- *Character is the foundation of good, lasting leadership*
- *Eg. Billy Graham was surrounded by an accountability team for 50 years!*

- *Have friends who challenge you on character issues. It hurts at the time but “the wounds of a friend can be trusted”*

READER 7

Challenge: *Are you genuinely walking in integrity or are you hiding secret sin? I challenge you to do a personal character audit right now and if you find some character chinks in the armor - bring them before the Lord right now in confession and repentance, and commit to grow.*

STEP #3: SHARE YOUR HIGHLIGHT

*Now let's go around the group and take turns sharing what stood out to you the most from what we read. **What stood out to you and why?***

STEP #4: EVALUATION

*I am going to ask each of you in turn to evaluate yourself (From a 5 which is **EXCELLENT**, down to a 1 meaning **LOTS OF WORK NEEDED!**) on how well you are doing in the area of this topic and then share this with the group and why you chose this score.*

STEP #5: ACTION

Lastly, let's go around the group and answer this question: What action step can you take to grow in the area of this topic by next week? Ask each member to share a practical action step and date of action. Make sure the Group Leader and the individual write them down for next week's accountability step.

CLOSING

A great way to close off is to pair up briefly for a moment of prayer. Pray for each other that you will succeed in your action steps. Thank everyone for coming and committing to grow as a disciple of Jesus.

For more notes visit:

<https://outlookchurch.co.za/mustardseedleadership>

