

MUSTARD SEED LEADERSHIP

PODCAST

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EP40

7 Signs of Good Government: Good Governance Makes Things Happen

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 "7 Signs of Good Government"

STEP #1: ACCOUNTABILITY

Let's get started. The topic of discussion today is "Good Governance Makes Things Happen" 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/pN80ygsqAXs>

READER 1

7 SIGNS OF GOOD GOVERNMENT

Why is this so important?

John 1:14 (NIV)

“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

I truly believe that there is great glory to be displayed through godly leadership

- *It says here of Jesus that we have ‘seen his glory’*
- *The glory of coming from the Father full of grace and truth*
- *That’s good governance right there*
- *The ability to be 100% full of grace and truth at the same time*
- *No compromise of truth but done in an amazingly gracious way*
- *That’s glorious leadership and what we are aiming for!*

You may recognize some of these signs of a lack of government in your life, marriage, family, ministry or business:

1. A lack of peace

2. A lack of order
3. A lack of respect
4. A lack of discipline
5. A lack of productivity

**Quick focus on this last one: A lack of
PRODUCTIVITY**

READER 2

Looks like: no cohesive teamwork, poor work ethic, constant distractions, not keeping the main thing the main thing, no management oversight, no production goals

John 15:1-2 (NIV)

1 “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.”

Notice here how the Father is involved in our lives like a gardener is in his garden

- *He exercises governance by cutting and trimming us to become more fruitful*
- *This is our model of how good governance should increase productivity and how low governance is often at the root of poor productivity.*

Good news is that we can grow in our ability to exercise good government

The three main enemies we face:

1. Fear of conflict / people pleaser - *it is the fear of facing conflict and possibly offending people that holds us back from dealing with issues.*

2. Lack of confidence - *personal insecurities hold us back when we should be stepping forward.*

3. Indifference - *not rising up and taking responsibility but rather giving away or abdicating that responsibility to others.*

Let's recognize the enemy so that we can face these giants and grow in governance!

7 SIGNS OF GOOD GOVERNANCE

#1: GOOD GOVERNANCE CONFRONTS SIN

#2: GOOD GOVERNANCE ENFORCES BOUNDARIES

#3: GOOD GOVERNANCE HOLDS PEOPLE ACCOUNTABLE

#4: GOOD GOVERNANCE MAKES SURE DECISIONS GET MADE

#5: GOOD GOVERNANCE MAKES THINGS HAPPEN

Similar to Point 4 where it takes leadership to step into a gap when a decision needs to be made

- So now, another sign of good governance is the willingness to 'pull the trigger' and make

something happen when everyone else is stuck in the paralysis of analysis.

*- John Maxwell often says that **‘Leaders have a bias for action’***

- There is a time for talking and listening and planning and coming to consensus

*- But then there is also a time when you have to **JUST DO IT***

- There is seldom a perfect time and it takes a leader to make something happen.

Eg. Nehemiah was a great leader. He led the rebuilding project of the walls of Jerusalem. He knew how to make something happen - there was a time to pray and fast and then there was a time to stand before the king and commit to action.

READER 4

Nehemiah 2:2-3 (NLT)

2 So the king asked me, “Why are you looking so sad? You don’t look sick to me. You must be deeply troubled.” Then I was terrified, 3 but I

replied, *“Long live the king! How can I not be sad? For the city where my ancestors are buried is in ruins, and the gates have been destroyed by fire.”*

Notice how the Bible reveals the root of most of our inaction:

- *“I was terrified” - this is why there are so many talkers and not many doers*
- *To take the first step means crossing over the barrier of fear, insecurity and stepping out of the comfort zone.*

I love the next word: *“I was terrified, BUT...”*

- *That’s good governance right there*
- *To refuse to bow the knee to fear and take the step of faith and courage.*

A leadership quote I use often is:

“Leadership is the art of disguising terror”

- *I love the fact that Nehemiah was terrified but he did it anyway*
- *I am sure that all of you as leaders know what it feels like to be confronted by fear.*

- Fear is normal. Stepping through that fear is what makes a great leader.

READER 5

BOTTOM LINE: *A dream stays a dream until it gets into your diary*

- Be honest enough to ask if the delay is really because you need more facts or figures*
- Or because you are bowing to fear.*

CHALLENGE: *Good governance makes things happen. So...*

- 1. Do an honest assessment of yourself, family, ministry, business - are you making things happen or is there a pattern of talk but no action? Is it fear that holds you back?***
- 2. If so then it's time to repent - repentance is an invitation for God's intervention!***
- 3. Trust the Lord, pray for courage and step out of the boat. We always regret more the things we didn't do than the things we did do and fail.***

So leaders. JUST DO IT!

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>

