

MUSTARD SEED LEADERSHIP

PODCAST

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EP42

7 Signs of Good Government: Good Governance Protects People

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 Protects People" 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/qcF5BTApIjQ>

READER 1

7 SIGNS OF GOOD GOVERNMENT

Why is this so important?

Hebrews 13:17 (NIV)

Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.

The gift of authority and leadership is a great privilege but one we will have to give an account to God for

- *We will need to answer to God one day for the way we watched over those entrusted to us*
- *Were we loving, caring, self sacrificing, diligent and faithful in our calling? This is why the way we exercise governance is so important!*

Have been mentioning the giants we have to face if we are going to grow in the way we exercise authority:

Standing between where you are in your leadership now and the ability to exercise governance well, are three main enemies that most of us 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.

READER 2

Let me take a minute and address the last one: *Indifference*

The Bible gives us a clear command:

Romans 12:11 (NIV)

11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

Paul probably got this revelation from the life of Jesus where the disciples saw the passion of Jesus as he overturned the money lenders tables and rebuked the Pharisees and they made this remark:

John 2:17 (NIV)

*17 His disciples remembered that it is written:
“Zeal for your house will consume me.”*

Jesus was a man of zeal. But notice that it was directed. “Zeal for your house”

- *The zeal of Jesus was a form of worship*
- *His love for His Father produced a zeal that consumed Him and stirred Him into action.*

READER 3

How full is your ‘zeal tank’ as a leader?

- *Indifference in a leader is a dangerous sign that you have lost the zeal and vision for what you are called to*

- *This indicates a loss of love for God and is a serious concern that deserves full attention.*

Jesus said to the church in Ephesus:

Revelation 2:4-5 (NIV)

4 Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. 5 Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place.

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

READER 4

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

#6: GOOD GOVERNANCE DOESN'T AVOID CRUCIAL CONVERSATIONS

#7: GOOD GOVERNANCE PROTECTS PEOPLE

Have you heard the saying “Throw someone under the bus”?

That's a sign of weak government - wanting to blame shift and not take responsibility

Here are some examples:

Adam: *Genesis 3:11-12 (NIV)*

11 And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?” 12 The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

Saul: *1 Samuel 15:14-15 (NIV)*

14 But Samuel said, “What then is this bleating of sheep in my ears? What is this lowing of cattle that I hear?” 15 Saul answered, “The soldiers brought them from the Amalekites; they spared the best of the sheep and cattle to sacrifice to the LORD your God, but we totally destroyed the rest.”

Now consider Jesus - even though he was 100% innocent yet took 100% blame and punishment for our sin!

That's powerful!

Good governance doesn't run away from problems but turns towards them.

READER 6

CHALLENGE:

Good governance doesn't throw others under the bus. It takes full responsibility. So...

- ***Do an honest assessment of yourself, family, ministry, business - are you in the habit of blame shifting, making excuses or throwing others under the bus?***
- ***If so then it's time to repent - repentance is an invitation for God's intervention!***
- ***How? - Accept responsibility - you cannot respond if you don't take responsibility - Change your language - stop blaming the culture, the people around you, the economy, etc.***

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>

