

MUSTARD SEED LEADERSHIP

PODCAST

- BY BRENT BRADING -



EP48

Growing Your Leadership Capacity: Maximise Events as Much as Possible

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
"Growing Your Leadership Capacity"

STEP #1: ACCOUNTABILITY

Let's get started. The topic of discussion today is
"Maximise Events as Much as Possible" *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/XTAT19J3Ro0>

READER 1

Growing your leadership capacity

DEFINITION:

Leadership capacity is simply how much you can handle

- How much **responsibility** you can shoulder
- How many **people** you can lead
- How many **projects** you can manage
- How much **influence** you can wield

The good news is that we can grow that capacity

BIG IDEA: Leaders of great influence have learnt to stretch their capacity as much as possible

6 WAYS TO STRETCH YOUR CAPACITY AS A LEADER

- 1. Focus on as few things as possible***
- 2. Do as little as possible***
- 3. Meet with as few people as possible***
- 4. Make as few decisions as possible***
- 5. Start planning as early as possible***
- 6. Maximise events as much as possible***

Maximise events as much as possible

One of the smallest but most effective ways a leader can enlarge their capacity is simply to stop and ask themselves this question: **“How can I maximise what I am already doing?”**

You are already doing a lot - and so this is not about adding more

- This is about being more intentional about what you are already doing and maximising events and opportunities.
- This is about taking a small amount of time on the front end of an event which will result in a much greater return on the back end of the event.

Let me give you a few simple examples:

- If you drive to work every day in an empty car listening to the radio then I think you are wasting a golden opportunity. You could be listening to a podcast, a sermon download, an audio book or at least worshipping and praying. This is an opportunity to maximise.

- Every second month I drive 3 hours to a regional leadership meeting and then drive 3 hours home again. Yes I would use this time to catch up on podcasts but am I maximising the event? Nope. I have six hours in the car and a leadership networking event I'm going to. Better to strategically use this as a leadership development opportunity and intentionally target two or three other leaders to come with me. We spend the time talking, evaluating and growing together. Nothing about the actual event or routine has changed. It has just been maximised.

BIG IDEA: Big capacity leaders take time to think about what they are already doing and then learn to maximise the moments.

READER 3

Revelation:

In the previous episode we saw how Jesus was a master planner. He sent his disciples ahead of him to maximise their training and his

effectiveness. Now see how he maximises the opportunity for them:

Luke 10:5-8 (NIV)

5 “When you enter a house, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’ 6 If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. 7 Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house. 8 “When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you.”

Maximising the event:

Before the disciples leave, Jesus gives them some very practical and well thought out instructions

- 1.** Find someone who is a peace loving person.
- 2.** Stay at their house the whole time - do not move around to another house.
- 3.** Eat whatever they give you to eat.

This may sound unspiritual but is actually brilliant. He has maximised their visit to every

town by teaching them that one deep friendship is more powerful than a lot of acquaintances.

- *Remember that he is planning to visit the town soon as well.*
- *When Jesus gets there, they will already have a strong friendship base to work from.*

READER 4

The extra thought and planning maximised the mission that he sent the disciples on.

Illust: First visit to Pakistan.

- *Many leaders who were keen to have us visit.*
- *Only one who was willing to do the hard work and take the risk of writing invitation letters for us.*
- *Then he asked us - do you want to stay in a hotel or in my home? Please understand we are very poor.*
- *My flesh wanted the hotel. But to maximise the opportunity of building a future friendship and partnership, staying in someone's home, meeting their family, seeing their life and character and*

enjoying meals together is so much more powerful.

- Result is that a great friendship has been established.

BIG IDEA: Big capacity leaders take time to think about how to maximise what they are already doing.

READER 5

CHALLENGE:

Evaluate yourself - are you maximising your moments?

1. Think about a few regular events in your week and month and write them down

Example

- A monthly regional meeting like my trip***
- A weekly planning session with your team***
- A monthly leadership / management team meeting***

- ***A weekly visit to other branches to check on things***
- ***An international trip to a conference***

2. Next to each one, take a moment to think of one way that you could increase the effectiveness of what you are already doing

Example

- ***My monthly meeting 3 hours a way - strategically take a few potential leaders with me***
- ***A weekly planning session - Send questions to the team ahead of time so that they come prepared.***
- ***A monthly leadership team meeting - Ask the team to come prepared with the feedback you need.***
- ***A weekly visit to other branches to check on things - take a different team member every time and use it to get to know them better.***
- ***An international trip to a conference - take your top leader with you so that they can also benefit and you can really spend a lot of time connecting with them.***

3. Make this a habit.

*Set time aside regularly to evaluate what you are already doing and keep asking yourself this question: “**What one thing could I do to maximise this event or moment?**”*

CONCLUSION: *Big Capacity leaders take time to think about how they can maximise what they are already doing*

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>

