

MUSTARD SEED LEADERSHIP

PODCAST
- BY BRENT BRADING -



EP49

The Leadership Difference: Different Eyes

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 "The Leadership Difference"

STEP #1: ACCOUNTABILITY

Let's get started. The topic of discussion today is "Different Eyes" 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/Um5RNTWolkc>

READER 1

THE LEADERSHIP DIFFERENCE

When Jesus spoke to his disciples about leadership he said:

*“But among you it will be different” **Matthew**
20:26 (NLT)*

*When Jesus touches our lives it **MUST** make a difference otherwise it wasn't really Jesus who touched us!*

Examples:

Blind man - Jesus touched his eyes and he could see again

Mute man - Jesus touched his tongue and he could speak

Shriveled hand man - Jesus spoke to him and he stretched out his hand healed

Lame man - Jesus told him to pick up his mat and walk and he did

Dead man Lazarus - Jesus commanded him to come back to life and he did

When Jesus touched a life - physically or with a word, that person was different - **so surely if Jesus has touched our leadership IT MUST BE DIFFERENT!**

5 WAYS THAT BARNABAS WAS A DIFFERENT LEADER:

Barnabas means **'Son of Encouragement'**

- The Leadership Difference is the ability to inspire courage in the face of difficulty

WE ARE GOING TO LOOK AT FIVE WAYS OF DOING THAT

Acts 11:19-26 (NIV)

19 Now those who had been scattered by the persecution that broke out when Stephen was killed traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, spreading the word only among Jews. 20 Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. 21 The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord. 22 News of this reached the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to

Antioch. 23 When he arrived and **saw what the grace of God had done**, he was glad ...

Acts 11:23 (NIV 1984) “When he arrived and **saw the evidence of the grace of God**, he was glad ...”

Acts 11:23 (NLT) “When he arrived and **saw this evidence of God’s blessing**, he was filled with joy...”

READER 3

1. Different EYES

Most people only see: problems, obstacles, reasons why you can't - you don't need anointing to see problems in the church or organization!

Result is you FEEL frustrated, disappointed, upset.

What did Barnabas see? EVIDENCE OF GOD'S GRACE

- *what God was doing*
- *where there was life*
- *opportunities*

The result was HE WAS GLAD or filled with joy.

BIG IDEA: Your FOCUS will determine your FEELINGS

*If you focus on **problems**, issues and what's not working you will always be frustrated. If you focus on the **evidence of what God IS doing** - you will be glad or filled with joy.*

John Maxwell "Leaders see more and see before"

- *The Leadership Difference is the ability to see beyond or behind what is obvious and on the surface*
- *To see what God is really doing*
- *The RESULT is great encouragement to yourself and others!*

Example of Elisha

2 Kings 6:15-18 (NIV)

15 *When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. “Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?” the servant asked. 16 “Don't be afraid,” the prophet answered. “Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.” 17 And Elisha prayed, “Open his eyes, LORD, so that he may see.” Then the LORD opened the servant's eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. 18 As the enemy came down toward him, Elisha prayed to the LORD, “Strike this army with blindness.” So he struck them with blindness, as Elisha had asked.*

Elisha was an amazing leader who could see prophetically what God was doing

- The servant couldn't see and so was DISCOURAGED and afraid

- *By seeing differently and opening the servants eyes, he went from afraid to encouraged!*
- *The power of seeing the Hand of God gave him strength and courage*
- *Blindness was what led to the enemy's defeat.*

BIG IDEA: *Seeing what God is doing is always encouraging!*

READER 5

Example of James

James 1:2-4 (NIV)

2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. 4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

James is talking about the ability to SEE what God is doing through trials

- *Focus on the trails and you will be discouraged*

- *Focus on what God is doing through the trials and you will be encouraged*
- *Result is joy*

BIG IDEA: *Your FOCUS will determine your FEELINGS*

CHALLENGE:

Like Elisha's servant we need prayer! 'Lord open our eyes to see'!

2 Corinthians 10:7 (NIV 1984) *"You are looking only on the surface of things."*

READER 6

SO HOW DO WE REPENT?

1. Revelation - Jesus said:

John 5:17 (NIV) *"In his defense Jesus said to them, "My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I too am working."*

- Do you believe that God is always at work in every situation?

2. Ask God to open your eyes to see the evidence of His Grace at work in every situation

John 5:20 (NIV) “For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does. Yes, and he will show him even greater works than these, so that you will be amazed.”

3. Help the people you lead to see things from God’s perspective and not just a worldly perspective.

THE LEADERSHIP DIFFERENCE STARTS WITH SEEING THE WORLD DIFFERENTLY

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: Application

Lastly, let's go around the group and answer the following questions:

- 1. Do you believe that God is always at work in every situation? What are the implications of that?*
- 2. Choose a situation or struggle in your life right now and ask God for the wisdom (James 1:5) to recognize what He is doing.*
- 3. How could you help guide someone you are speaking to or leading, to recognize what God is doing in their lives?*

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>

