

MUSTARD SEED LEADERSHIP

PODCAST
- BY BRENT BRADING -



EP50

The Leadership Difference: Different Tongue

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 Tongue" 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/u9dWR_XsH3E

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!*

Example:

Matthew 12:22 (NIV) “Then they brought him a demon-possessed man who was blind and mute, and Jesus healed him, so that he could both talk and see.”

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!** - If our leadership is **NOT DIFFERENT** to the world then it is because we have not let Jesus touch that part of our leadership.

5 WAYS THAT BARNABAS WAS A DIFFERENT LEADER:

CONTEXT: He was sent to establish a brand new church - It was something new, prophetic, great leadership challenge

Barnabas means '**Son of Encouragement**'

- His name was 'Joseph' but his leadership style was so encouraging that they called him Baranabas.

BIG IDEA: 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

READER 3

1. Different EYES

2. Different TONGUE

Acts 11:22-23 (NIV)

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 and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts.

Most people speak words that are: negative, critical and unhelpful

Example: *How are you doing? Busy, hectic, overwhelmed...*

How did Barnabas speak? ENCOURAGED THEM ALL

- his name '**Son of Encouragement**'
- That means he grew up being encouraged
- As a result he became an encourager **BIG**

IDEA: *You have to **BE** encouraged to **GIVE** encouragement*

Illustration: *Previous pastor*

- *I was desperate to learn and impress as I preached my first sermons, led my first meetings and events*
- *Zero encouragement!*
- *Asked in desperation for some encouragement*
- *Response: “I didn’t receive any encouragement when I grew up so I don’t give any. If you want encouragement then get it from the Lord.”*
- *It was a tough lesson at the time (and I don’t recommend it) but it proved helpful later on when we went to plant a church!*

Because he had never received encouragement, he was unable to give it.

READER 4

Example of David

He learnt to receive encouragement from a friend:

1 Samuel 23:16 (NIV) “And Saul's son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and helped him find strength in God.”

Then he learnt to receive encouragement directly from God:

1 Samuel 30:3-6 (NIV)

3 When David and his men reached Ziklag, they found it destroyed by fire and their wives and sons and daughters taken captive. 4 So David and his men wept aloud until they had no strength left to weep. 5 David's two wives had been captured—Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail, the widow of Nabal of Carmel. 6 David was greatly distressed because the men were talking of stoning him; each one was bitter in spirit because of his sons and daughters. But David found strength in the LORD his God.

Result: *He became an amazing songwriter who still gives courage to so many of us in our times of struggle*

Psalms 56:10-11 (NIV)

10 In God, whose word I praise, in the LORD, whose word I praise— 11 in God I trust and am not afraid. What can man do to me?

BIG IDEA: Leaders need to learn to get their encouragement from God so that they can give it to others

Problem is that the tongue is the hardest part of our lives to bring under the Lordship of Jesus!

James 3:7-8 (NIV) “All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, 8 but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.”

What it means is that if we as Different Leaders can bring our tongues under the Lordship of Jesus, then it will be a powerful testimony of Jesus working through us!

READER 5

CHALLENGE:

1. Confession of sin

Philippians 2:14 (NIV) “Do everything without grumbling or arguing”

Matthew 5:37 (NIV) “All you need to say is simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.”

Matthew 5:22 (NIV) “Again, anyone who says to a brother or sister, ‘Raca,’ is answerable to the court. And anyone who says, ‘You fool!’ will be in danger of the fire of hell.”

Is this an area of your life and leadership that needs work?

2. Revelation

Hebrews 3:13 (NIV) “But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called “Today,” so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.”

As leaders we need to recognize the power and importance of encouragement.

- If people go too long without encouragement it is like going too long without water

- *You become spiritually dehydrated and hardened.*
- *Don't underestimate the importance of encouragement.*

READER 6

3. Practice speaking words of encouragement

Ephesians 4:29 (NIV) *“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.”*

Hebrews 10:25 (NIV) *“not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”*

Let Jesus touch your tongue so that you speak differently!

- *Not unwholesome or negative*
- *But encouraging*
- *Beneficial to those who listen*

THE LEADERSHIP DIFFERENCE GROWS BY SPEAKING WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Have you truly asked Jesus to touch your LIPS?

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 an honest assessment (or ask the people in your team or family) to rate the quality of your words - from negative and critical to wholesome and encouraging. Is this an area you need to work on?*
- 2. Have you ever seen the people around you as in need of daily encouragement?*
- 3. Have you fully surrendered your tongue to the Lordship of Christ? If not, why not now?*

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>

