

MUSTARD SEED LEADERSHIP

PODCAST
- BY BRENT BRADING -



EP58

The Leaders Dress

Code:

Gentleness

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 Leaders Dress Code"

STEP #1: ACCOUNTABILITY

Let's get started. The topic of discussion today is "Gentleness" But before we start on the new topic, we will usually hold each other accountable for 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/ho7myphvcHc>

READER 1

THE LEADERS DRESS CODE

4. Gentleness

Romans 13:14 (NIV) “... clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ...”

Colossians 3:12-15 (NIV) “Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, **gentleness** and patience.”

Def: G4558 πραύς praus, gentle, meek, the positive moral quality of dealing with people in a kind manner, with humility and consideration

Some see gentleness as weakness which we will see is a big mistake!

Proverbs 25:15 (NIV) “Through patience a ruler can be persuaded, and a gentle tongue can break a bone.”

READER 2

There is some kind of power wrapped up in gentleness waiting to be discovered.

Why is it so important?

Matthew 5:5 (NIV) “Blessed are the meek [gentle], for they will inherit the earth.”

BIG IDEA: So gentleness and inheritance are somehow linked in the Kingdom of God. That makes this characteristic hugely important!

Where did Jesus get this idea from?

Psalms 37:10-11 (NIV) “A little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look for them, they will not be found. But the meek [gentle] will inherit the land and enjoy peace and prosperity.”

To discover this link between gentleness and inheritance, let’s take a look at two examples of people who did inherit the land:

READER 3

1. Caleb

Num 14:24 (NIV) *“But because my servant Caleb has a different spirit and follows me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he went to, and his descendants will inherit it.”*

That different spirit was a spirit of faith that saw the hand of God and not the size of giants.

- *His faith caused him not to overreact.*
- *His faith caused him not to give in to fear.*
- *His faith silenced or stilled the people*

Numbers 13:30 (NIV) *Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, “We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it.”*

His faith on the inside stilled the people - sadly it was not enough as ten of the spies who were afraid on the inside overreacted and caused panic in the people.

READER 4

2. Abraham

Romans 4:13 (NIV) *“It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith.”*

Both Abraham and Caleb inherited the land. They were both men of faith who trusted God on the inside.

- And Jesus said that it is the meek or gentle who inherit the land.

BIG IDEA: Gentleness on the outside is an expression of faith or trust on the inside.

- When you have a heart that rests in God's promises, you will not overreact or need to be aggressive, defensive or controlling.

- A heart at rest in faith and trust on the inside will deal gently with people on the outside.

That's exactly what Jesus meant when he said:

Matthew 11:29 (NIV) *29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle [meek] and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.*

Gentleness is a true sign of faith. Gentleness is a sign of a heart that rests in God. It is key to walking into the inheritance of God

READER 5

CHALLENGE:

Your gentleness in the way you deal with people and problems is actually a reflection of the rest you feel on the inside.

- That rest on the inside is based on genuine faith and trust in God and His promises.

So here is the big challenge: If you are not at rest with your current inheritance then you are not yet ready for a greater inheritance!

And gentleness is the outward sign of this inward reality!

May we be leaders who reflect the gentleness of Christ in our leadership

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. *Have you traditionally seen gentleness as a strength or weakness in a leader? Why?*

- 2. Do you agree that gentleness on the outside is a reflection of a heart at rest on the inside? Do you agree that gentleness is a sign of readiness for a greater inheritance?*
- 3. Would others describe you as a gentle leader? Why?*

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>

