

MUSTARD SEED LEADERSHIP

PODCAST

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EP82

From a Hierarchical leadership mindset to a Servant - Based leadership mindset:

From being 'above the law' to setting an example .

Hierarchical thinking is a mindset that exalts a leader ABOVE the people

- Positioned at the TOP of a leadership pyramid
- Mindset of people serving the leader
- Draws its authority from a title or position
- Uses authority to control people
- Raises up servants instead of leaders
- Has a team that works for the leader

A **Servant based leadership mindset** is the belief that we are all EQUAL before God

- Positioned at the FRONT of a leadership arrow
- Mindset of the leader serves the people
- Draws its authority from respect coming from example, character and vision

- Uses authority to empower others
- Empowers the people in their teams to think and act like leaders and not just servants
- Is part of a team that works with the leader

WHY IS THIS SO IMPORTANT:

Remind you again what is at stake:

1 Peter 5:5-6 (NIV) ⁵ *In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”*

⁶ *Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.*

The only clothes appropriate for a leader are the clothes of HUMILITY

WHY?

- Because God opposes the proud but gives grace and favor to the humble
- Because as we humble ourselves, God lifts us up
- Because as we come under God's Hand, under God's timetable, we experience God's promotion.

LIST OF GROWTH STATEMENTS:

To move from Hierarchical Based leadership to Servant Hearted leadership, means moving:

1. *“From lording it over to going before”*
2. *“From people serving the leader to the leader serving the people”*
3. *“From positional power to respect based influence”*
4. *“From using authority to control to using authority to empower”*
5. *“From raising servants to raising leaders”*

6. *“From having a team to being a team”*

PART 7: From ‘rules don’t apply’ to setting an example

DESCRIPTION

“RULES DON’T APPLY” means that a leader is above the rules that “other” people need to follow

- The leader is too important to submit to basic rules that govern other people's lives
- The leader’s job is to enforce the rules not obey them
- The leader is too busy and too important to submit to basic limitations and boundaries set for other people's safety and order
- The leader sees himself as above the rule of law and order

This of course might look different in different cultures and contexts but here are a few examples:

- Here in South Africa we have a speed limit which only applies to the people. The politicians are allowed to travel at any speed they want.
- Church service starts at 9am. But the pastor only needs to be there just before 10 to preach.
- The church is taught to tithe. But the pastor doesn't give tithes, he receives them.

SETTING AN EXAMPLE is different

- People learn more from watching than hearing. The servant leader knows this and so wants to give an example for others to watch.
- He is not above them but **BEFORE THEM** because he knows that people are watching and learning.

John 10:4 (NIV) *“When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice.”*

The servant leader goes before - he sets an example for others to follow

Jesus taught this:

John 13:14-15 (NIV)¹⁴*Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. ¹⁵I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.*

Peter caught it:

1 Peter 5:3 (NIV) *“...not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.”*

Paul the apostle knew this:

1 Corinthians 11:1 (NIV) *“Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.”*

The writer of the Book of Hebrews understood it:

Hebrews 13:7 (NIV) *“Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.”*

THIS IS A GREAT EXAMPLE OF
NON-HIERARCHICAL LEADERSHIP. NOT
ABOVE BUT IN FRONT OF.

TESTIMONY:

When the Ark of the Covenant was brought into Jerusalem, David as King set the example of celebration. Listen to how this influenced the people:

2 Samuel 6:5 (NIV) *“David **and all Israel** were celebrating with all their might before the LORD, with castanets, harps, lyres, timbrels, sistrums and cymbals.”*

David was a great servant hearted leader. He served the people by setting an example and the others joyfully followed. This is Kingdom leadership.

HONEST REFLECTION:

1. How do you feel when you see people who are in leadership positions acting as though they were exempt from the very rules they enforce?
2. If you were really honest, are there areas in your life as a leader that you act 'above the law'?
3. Since the example of a leader's life is one of their most powerful leadership tools, are there a few areas of your life that you could set a stronger example to help boost your leadership influence?

CHALLENGE

PART 7: From rules don't apply to setting an example

Hierarchical leaders act as though they were above the law.

Servant based leaders use their lives as an example of how they want others to live.

Are you willing to grow your leadership and become a true servant hearted leader?

For more notes visit:

<https://outlookchurch.co.za/mustardseedleadership>

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