

MUSTARD SEED LEADERSHIP

PODCAST
- BY BRENT BRADING -



EP84

Faithful & Wise Managers

Focus on how we are being held accountable for our management and what that means for our future.

FAITHFUL & WISE MANAGERS

6 Week series about learning to manage the inheritance or responsibility that God has given you.

KEY TEXT:

Luke 12:42 (NIV)⁴² The Lord answered, “Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom the master puts in charge of his servants to give them their food allowance at the proper time?”

So ‘managing’ is about being a good steward - effectively **governing** a household for order & growth

Why is it so important?

*Exodus 23:30 (NIV)*³⁰ *Little by little I will drive them out before you, **until you have increased enough to take possession of the land.***

Management and leadership are crucially linked. Rate of growth is determined by management capacity.

Put another way: Your future leadership effectiveness will be impacted by your current management capacity

GOD WILL ONLY GIVE YOU WHAT YOU CAN EFFECTIVELY MANAGE OR STEWARD

Illust: Evangelist who had started 19 churches. But he wasn't able to train up good pastors and leaders to lead those churches. So now he doesn't do any more evangelism because he is

running from one church to another to try and keep them working

PART 2: BIBLICAL MANAGERS KNOW THEY ARE ACCOUNTABLE

*Luke 16:1-2 (NIV)¹ Jesus told his disciples: “There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. ² So he called him in and asked him, ‘What is this I hear about you? **Give an account of your management**, because you cannot be a manager any longer.’*

It seems the key to effective management or stewardship is balancing heart and hands:

1. **HANDS:** You manage someone else’s possessions - everything we have belongs to God. Even our own bodies were bought at a price. The things we have in life are not ours to do with as we please. As a manager we **SERVE** a master.

2. **HEART:** But you honor them as if they were your own possessions - there is a sense of ownership and responsibility taking. Our hearts are not detached because we don't own them but invested as an act of worship to God.

A GOOD MANAGER HAS A HEART OF OWNERSHIP OF RESPONSIBILITY BUT HANDS OF SERVING A MASTER.

Look how that parable concludes:

Luke 16:10-12 (NIV)¹⁰ "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. ¹¹So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? ¹² And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?"

Here the three tests of ACCOUNTABILITY listed in the parable:

1. The way you treat the very little will determine how you will treat much - we are held accountable for the way we treat the little things in our lives. Eg. Some people are lazy with small responsibilities thinking that they carry little consequence. Thinking that if they had a big responsibility they would give it their all. This truth reveals that there are no small responsibilities because the way you handle the little reveals how you will handle the much.

2. The way you treat wealth determines how you would treat kingdom riches or success - we are held accountable for the way we treat wordly measures of success (money, popularity, possessions). Eg. Wealth can make you proud, independent, arrogant or greedy. Or it can make you generous, humble and servant hearted. So once again the Lord is testing your

heart through worldly signs of success to see if you are ready for Kingdom success.

3. The way you treat someone else's property determines how you will treat your own - we are held accountable for the way we treat everything we use that doesn't belong to us.

Eg. Someone once said that the best 4x4 vehicle is a rental. The point is that most people would abuse something that doesn't belong to them while protecting their own possessions. This reveals a flaw in our character that holds back God's promotion in our lives.

PRACTICAL MANAGEMENT

*Luke 16:1 (NIV) "Jesus told his disciples: "There was a rich man whose manager was accused of **wasting** his possessions."*

BIBLICAL MANAGERS maximize resources & eliminate wastage.

It seems from this parable that Jesus was revealing that as MANAGERS, we are held ACCOUNTABLE for WASTAGE of resources (money, time, talents) which greatly impacts future promotion in the Kingdom.

- If we forget that we are managing God's possessions we can slip into wastage
- And wastage is unacceptable to God and results in a loss of future promotion and growth

ONE QUESTION TO PONDER:

If you evaluate all that is under your responsibility right now - what is being wasted?

- **TIME** - are you or your team wasting time on trivial matters?

- **MONEY** - are you wasting money through poor financial management?
- **TALENTS** - are you utilizing your own and your team's skills most effectively?
- **OPPORTUNITIES** - are there opportunities that you are under utilizing right now?
- **POSSESSIONS** - are maintaining and utilizing the equipment and facilities you have to the best of their ability?

For more notes visit:

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

[p](#)

