

WORLD MISSION TOPICS

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GREAT COMMISSION

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The WORLD MISSIONS CHALLENGE

These quarterly lessons are designed to help us learn from the leaders in the Bible and their outcomes as we grow in our walk with Christ and improve our leadership abilities. We can gain insights from their successes and challenges. Although the lessons are not necessarily chronological, some are associated with critical days/times in our calendar.

Matthew 20:26–28, KJV

²⁶“Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ²⁷and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— ²⁸just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

In His Service,

Dr. Fay M. Butler

LESSON 1

INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL LEADERSHIP

Lesson Text: Romans 12:3; Habakkuk 2:2; Luke 22:26; Ezekiel 34:12; Exodus 34:32; Proverbs 22:1

Memory Verse

"For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith."

Romans 12:3

Suggested Emphasis

Biblical Leadership

Quarterly lessons feature biblical leaders and their outcomes, aiding our walk with Christ.

Emphasis 1:

Character, Integrity, Humility

These quarterly lessons are designed to help us learn from the leaders in the Bible and their outcomes as we grow in our walk with Christ and improve our leadership abilities. We can gain insights from their successes and challenges. Although the lessons are not necessarily chronological, some are associated with critical days/times in our calendar.

Emphasis 2:

Vision

Leaders have a Vision and will communicate the vision clearly. "Write the vision, and make it plain upon the tables, that he may run that reads it" (Habakkuk 2:2). Leaders must know their biases so that they can be objective and fair. As leaders submit

Key Terms

Leadership • The action of leading a group of people or an organization. The state or position of being a leader. Leadership is a set of behaviors used to help people align their collective direction, execute strategic plans, and continually renew an organization.

Integrity • The quality of being honest and having strong moral principles; moral uprightness.

Excellence • The dictionary definition for excellence is "the quality of being outstanding or extremely good." From a Biblical perspective, being outstanding or extremely good seems most applicable when it is seen as the pursuit of, or abounding in Christ-like virtue, i.e. "behavior showing high moral standards" (July 27, 2019, online).

to the Vision God shows them, their steps will be ordered. "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and He delights in his way" (Psalm 37:23). In addition to vision, leaders will be able to communicate mission and goals while also managing and negotiating objectives/plans of the organization. "Therefore now go, lead the people unto the place which I have spoken unto thee: behold, Mine Angel, shall go before thee" (Exodus 32:34).

Emphasis 3:

Excellence, Competence

Leaders will exhibit excellence and competence. "See thou a man diligent in his business? He shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men" (Proverbs 22:29). God requires a spirit of ex-

cellence from leaders. Leaders will move in excellence if they are competent. Competence is the ability to do something successfully or efficiently. Genesis 47: 6, "And the land of Egypt is before you; settle your father and your brothers in the best part of the land. Let them live in Goshen. And if you know of any among them with special ability, put them in charge of my own livestock." Exodus 31:1 – 4, NKJV says, "Then the Lord said to Moses, "See, I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills—to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver, and bronze."

Missions Application Questions

1. What are some necessary leadership traits that mission workers need?
2. How can mission workers grow their leadership skills?
3. Share examples of successful leadership stories and why.

World Missions Prayer Points

- Pray that all mission workers develop a heart to be great leaders.
- Lord Jesus, give us your wisdom to lead with love, character, and integrity. Please help us to implement your vision with clarity and efficiency.

Notes:

LESSON 2

ABRAHAM—FATHER OF FAITH

Lesson Text: Genesis 12:1-4, Genesis 18:17-33, Genesis 22:1-12; Romans 4:17-21; Hebrews 6:13-21

Memory Verse

"As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations, before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were."

Romans 4:17

Key Terms

Unknown • Not known or familiar.

Faith • Complete trust or confidence in someone or something.

Blessing • God's favor and protection.

Sacrifice • An act of slaughtering an animal or person or surrendering a possession as an offering to God or to a divine or supernatural figure.

Suggested Emphasis

Embrace the Unknown

Abraham is known as the Father of Faith. He embraced the unknown and was willing to go to a place not knowing where he was going. "God approaches Abraham in Genesis 12 and tells him to "Go forth from your country, and from your relatives and from your father's house, to the land which I will show you." In other words, Abraham is instructed to leave his comfort zone and march onward into uncertainty. Great leaders embrace that uncertainty because they know the truth: the promised land awaits them on the other side" (Glen Raiger, 2023).

Emphasis 1:

The Blessing and Faith of Abraham

GOD'S CALL

"Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the

earth be blessed. So, Abram departed, as the Lord had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran (Genesis 12:1-4). When God called Abraham, he commanded him to be a blessing to others. "Blessing, or by analogy, leadership, is never a property for one person to possess for herself" (Jason Byassee, 2009).

Leaders, by their position, authority, and title, must bless others. Blessing others includes covering, protection, guidance, and intercession. The Faith of Abraham is well documented. God made a promise to him, and although there was a Hagar moment, Abraham received the promise.

"(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were. 18 Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be. 19 And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of

Sarah's womb: 20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; 21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform" (Romans 4: 17 – 21)

Emphasis 2: Abraham's Intercession on behalf of Sodom

Leaders in today's church must be willing to "put" themselves out there. "Abraham is a leader who "sticks his neck out for his people. One of the leadership qualities of Abraham is his concern for others:" Before God descends to destroy Sodom, He decides to let Abraham in on his plan for punishment." (Jason Byassee, 2009). "And the Lord said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; 18 Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? 19 For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him" (Genesis 18:17-19). God knew Abraham well. Abraham was a friend of God, meaning he had achieved a certain level of intimacy with God. Abraham strategically used his relationship with God, but more importantly, he stuck his neck out. Abraham's conversation in verses 18:23-33 demonstrates his willingness to speak boldly to God. We also know Abraham's nephew, Lot, was in this place. What will he do with it? He will advocate with God on behalf of others. Abraham boldly stands up to God's plan and asks, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are 50 righteous within the city . . . will you not save the city for the sake of the 50 righteous who are in it? Abraham pleaded with God not to be angry with him as he interceded for Lot and the city. Again, Abraham demonstrated that he did not

fear taking a risk to save others. Leadership requires the ability to take risks and to plead causes for others.

Emphasis 3:

Abraham's Integrity and Trust in God.

"Integrity promotes trust, and not much is accomplished without trust. Integrity is a skill to the extent that we see it in action. People can't directly see your level of integrity, but they judge it based on actions and words. The story of Abraham's test, in which God asked him to sacrifice his beloved son Isaac, indicated Abraham's willingness to make a personal sacrifice for God (Genesis 22). It is interesting to note Abraham's reaction after being told by an angel of God (Genesis 22:12): "Lay not your hand upon the lad nor do anything to him for now I know that you are a God-fearing man." (<https://bibleleaders.wordpress.com/abraham/>) This event demonstrates Abraham's complete trust in God. Abraham also prophesied the outcome. "And Abraham said unto his young men, abide ye here with the ass, and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you" (Genesis 22:5). Biblically informed leadership serves not a distant god, but a God who cares passionately and intimately about humanity to the point of entering human history himself; first in the election of Israel and then in the incarnation of Jesus. Leadership in this image will reflect divine vulnerability, lowliness, even readiness to die" (Jason Byassee, 2009). Abraham was a leader who embodied these characteristics.

Missions Application Questions

1. What can Mission leaders do to embrace the unknown regarding ministry challenges?
2. How should global missions work deal with a "type" of modern-day Sodom?
3. Why is patience important as we wait for Godly outcomes?

World Missions Prayer Points

- Pray that the Global Missions Team increases their trust in God and continues to build their faith.
- Pray this prayer- In the name of Jesus, I bind hopelessness and lose hope against hope.

Notes:

LESSON 3

JOHN THE BAPTIST

Lesson Text: Luke 1:5-25, 80, Luke 3:9,17; Matthew 3:1-13, Matthew 11:11; Mark 6:14

Memory Verse:

"In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, and saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Matthew 3:1

Suggested Emphasis

Key Leadership Lesson

Understand Your Assignment(s)

John the Baptist understood his assignment. "Prophets announced his coming years before his arrival. Isaiah 40:3 and Malachi 3:1 foreshadowed his coming. He would be the fulfillment of prophecy, the first prophet to speak to the Hebrews in centuries. He was to pave the way for the Messiah. Nobody else in all of history was to be the forerunner of Christ. It's no wonder Jesus said that no one born of woman was greater than John (Matt. 11:11). His birth was miraculous. He baptized Christ" (Chuck Lawless, 2018). It was quite the encounter for Zacharias, the priest. "11 And there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. 12 And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him. 13 But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name" (Luke 1:11 - 13). 17 "And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people

Key Terms

Forerunner • One that goes before or announces the coming of another. Forerunner applies to anything that serves as a sign or presage. The blockade was the forerunner of war. Precursor applies to a person or thing paving the way for the success or accomplishment of another.

Assignment • A task or work assigned to someone as part of a job or course of study.

Courageous • Not deterred by danger or pain; brave.

Truth • The quality or state of being true. That which is true or by fact or reality.

prepared for the Lord" (Luke 1:17). John the Baptist understood that God had sent him to point people to Jesus. He was humble and led by God. Someone understanding their assignment has become a trendy phrase, but do we really understand the assignments God gives us? Leaders must be humble, obedient, and willing not only to understand the assignment but to complete it. John provided a great example of humble leadership for us to follow.

Emphasis 1:

Preparation for a Special Call or Peculiar Ministry

John the Baptist baptized Jesus. This was only one of the great exploits John performed. Many leaders must allow for special preparation for peculiar or special ministry moments, not to diminish ministry, but to think of Olympic-caliber athletes who often prepare and practice years for one moment. Only God knows his divine purpose for leaders, but we must avail

ourselves of him even if it means spending years in the wilderness and the desert. The wilderness and the desert represent extreme or challenging conditions. John prepared 30 years for a brief public ministry. "Many people want to rush into their calling with very little preparation. I have seen many people start with a huge following after their initial start in ministry, only to have a significant collapse several years later. (It is not how you start, but how you finish that matters.) John the Baptist stayed in the wilderness preparing for his public ministry for 30 years until his appearance". "And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his shewing unto Israel" (Luke 1:80) (Joseph Mattera, 2017).

Emphasis 2: Requirements for Completing the Assignment

Although leaders can spend many years preparing, they must remain focused to complete an assignment or assignments. To complete assignments in today's church, leaders must have the Love of Christ evident in their lives. In fact, if leaders model John the Baptist's leadership style, a strong sense of purpose and discipline will flow in their ministry. Further, disciplining other believers and a willingness to apply discipline will also be evident. John the Baptist demonstrated strength yet remained humble. "When we are serving in the church and in ministry, like John the Baptist, we are also making a way for people to be able to know Jesus. Part of that often involves leading and disciplining people to become leaders themselves. Many people followed John and came to hear him preach, but he didn't let that make him become proud and self-focused. He preached repentance of sins, pointing others to the Savior that he knew he needed. Deep humility and obedience characterized his life and ministry" (Dallas McGlenn, 2015). Leaders then must be humble, obedient, and disciplined.

Emphasis 3: Truth and Courage Required

Even in the wilderness or desert times, God gives us strength and power to keep our hearts and minds set on him. This was a characteristic of John the Baptist. As leaders we must be willing to speak truth to power, confront hypocrisy, and stand for righteousness "He didn't live for the opinions of others but lived with compassion to see others brought to repentance towards Christ. The central theme of his ministry was, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near" (Matt 3:2). He was called "The Baptist" because his practice was to baptize those who responded to the message he proclaimed and sincerely repented of their sins. John was an end-times prophet. He taught that judgment is at hand. The authenticity of repentance was evidenced in very practical terms: share with those in need, eliminate graft, and prohibit extortion (Luke 3:11-14). John was no "crowd pleaser." He willingly confronted the hypocrisy of the religious establishment (Matt 3:7; Luke 3:7). He did not hesitate to expose the immorality of Herod and chose to die a martyr's death rather than compromise his convictions (Matt 14:3-12; Mark 6:17-29). All of these characteristics portray John as a fiery prophet proclaiming the apocalyptic message of God. Indeed, Luke says that John came "in the spirit and power of Elijah"(Luke 1:17). (Walter A. Elwell, 1996)

Missions Application Questions

1. What are some ways that we should approach thinking about our assignments from God?
2. How have you handled desert or wilderness moments regarding ministry preparation?
3. Think of some ministry moments and how you have applied either courage or "truth to power."

World Missions Prayer Points

- My prayer is that all believers will desire to be used to prepare for the next moves of God. We should ask God to prepare us for his service.
- Intercede for the Global Mission force that we will go forth in power, truth, and courage.

Notes:

LESSON 4

HOLY WEEK- PALM SUNDAY

Lesson Text: Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-10 (ESV);
Luke 22:7-13, 24-27; John 13:1-17

Memory Verse

"And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest."

Matthew 21: 9

Suggested Emphasis

Key Leadership Lesson— Servant Leadership

The Key leadership lesson for Palm Sunday is servant Leadership. The events of the entire "Holy Week" enable leaders to grasp the true meaning of servant leadership. Our Lord Jesus demonstrated servant leadership when he washed his disciples' feet. "Leaders must be willing to put themselves at the service of their followers and make sacrifices for the greater good. Be who they need you to be NOT who they want you to be" (Faith Community Church, March 2018). Servant leadership is not about using the people you lead to fill a personal agenda. Instead, as illustrated by Christ, a true servant leader does what "is necessary to get those that you lead to the place that they desperately need to be" (Jeremy Stalnecker, 2021).

Emphasis 1:

Palm Sunday—The Humble King

Mark 11: "Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the

Key Terms

Serve • Perform duties or services for another person or an organization

Humility • A modest or low view of one's importance; humbleness.

Forgiveness • The action or process of forgiving or being forgiven.

village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. 3 If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'the Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.'" 4 And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. 8 And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. 9 And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! 10 Blessed is the coming kingdom of our Father David! Hosanna in the highest!" (Mark 11:1 – 10) This passage depicts the triumphal entry of Jesus on a Donkey. The symbolism of Jesus riding on a donkey represents a humble servant. Jesus was and is royalty, he is our Savior and king but he humbled himself. "As Jesus rode a donkey into the city of Jerusalem on that day, it's likely the people were thinking in terms of a political messiah-king who would free them from Roman bondage. They were looking for a king who would break their chains and restore the kingdom to Israel." (Chuck Lawless, 2023) Jesus came not to reign as a local king but to save us from our sins and to follow the Father's plan of the cross, tomb, and

resurrection. Jesus taught a lesson on humility on Palm Sunday that should echo within the fiber of our being. Jesus “the King who rode into town on a donkey rather than the warrior-horse that carried victorious leaders, the sinless Sovereign who came to seek and save the lost, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, the Giver of Life, who came to die. Christian leadership demands humility. The best Christian leaders I know stand for the truth, but they stand on their knees” (Lawless, 2023).

Emphasis 2:

The Last Supper/Passover meal—Effective Leadership

Jesus demonstrated effective Leadership at the Last Supper. “Jesus intentionally created a space that was physically, spiritually, emotionally, attitudinally and communicatively hospitable. Jesus paid special attention to the physical space in which his leadership activities happened. Prior to the supper, he sent Peter and John to get the space ready for a Passover feast. Jesus told them where to go which house to go to and what room to use. He wanted them to make sure it was furnished properly. The Last Supper was spiritually hospitable. Jesus created a warm spiritual environment that flowed from who He was in relationship to the Father. The Last Supper was emotionally hospitable. John says that Jesus showed “the full extent of his love” at The Last Supper. The Last Supper was attitudinally hospitable. One of the most memorable events of The Last Supper happened because Jesus had the attitude of a servant. The Last Supper was communicatively hospitable. This wasn’t just a dinner – it was a dinner that set the stage for a leadership talk for the age” (Terry Smith, 2023). In addition to his effective leadership, our Lord once again demonstrated his servants’ hearts by washing the disciples’ feet. Foot washing today still holds great significance for many as it represents servant leadership. Foot washing is usually done by the lead

ministers in most churches. “Foot washing was a demonstration by the Lord that no one is so great he cannot serve another. This He did after the disciples argued about who would be greatest, Luke 22:24-2, (Lisa Loraine Baker, 2023).

Emphasis 3:

Crucifixion—Forgiveness

Holy Week teaches us the impact of forgiveness. Even as Jesus hung on the cross, he forgave. All leaders must be willing to forgive those who have done things wrong to them. As one writer stated, leaders must be able to create a culture of forgiveness within their organization. Christ provided the example we need as leaders, showing us how we can impact the way that we live. “This is especially true for those who seek to lead others by taking them to places they would not be able to go without the right leadership. This is difficult because we understand that leaders are responsible for outcomes but need to achieve these outcomes by serving those for whom we are responsible” (Jeremy Stalneck, 2021). The sacrifice Jesus made for us by dying on the cross, paying the price for sin, is a “leadership example that we can follow if we truly want to be “Servant Leaders”.

Missions Application Questions

1. Why is servant leadership important for the Global Missions force? Discuss
2. As we travel home and abroad, in what ways can we model how Jesus planned the Last Supper?
3. Forgiveness, how do we forgive our enemies? What are some things we can do?

World Missions Prayer Points

- Pray for the Global Missions force to accept and walk in the servant leader role
- Lord Jesus help us to forgive those who persecute us and have treated us wrong.

LESSON 5

JESUS—RESURRECTION SUNDAY

Lesson Text: Luke 2:48-52; Matthew 26:39, 42; Mark 14:36; John 6:38; Philippians 2:5-9; Matthew 27:57-61, Matthew 28:1-7

Memory Verse

"And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt."

Matthew 26: 39

Suggested Emphasis

Key Leadership Lesson— Submission

As leaders, we can learn a lot from the greatest leader in the history of mankind. The story of the crucifixion and resurrection teaches us many things. The key leadership lesson is submission. We observe that when our Savior was a young boy he submitted to his parents, Jesus demonstrated this leadership lesson at a young age. Luke 2: 48 "And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing" (Luke 2:48). Later in his life, as he prepares to sacrifice himself, we observe again his submission. "And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt" (Matthew 26:39). Leaders, are you submitted to God? Do you submit to those who rule over you?

Emphasis 1: Last Words

When we think of "Last Words," we consider the seven last sayings: Father, forgive

Key Terms

Submission • The action or fact of accepting or yielding to a superior force or to the will or authority of another person.

Suffering • The state of undergoing pain, distress, or hardship.

Sacrifice • An act of slaughtering an animal or person or surrendering a possession as an offering to God or to a divine or supernatural figure.

Resilience • The capacity to withstand or to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness.

Hope • A feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen.

them; for they know not what they do. Today shalt thou be with me in paradise. Woman, behold, thy son! Behold, thy mother! My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? I thirst. It is finished. Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit. These Last words represent sacrifice. Jesus was in agony, he had submitted to the Father, he had faced opposition, but even in this hour of extreme Sacrifice, he yet gave instruction, offered hope and submitted. "Jesus Christ willingly gave up his life on the cross for the sake of others. He sacrificed his comfort, safety, and well-being to save humanity from sin and death. Leadership requires sacrifice. We must be willing to put the needs of our team or organization ahead of our desires or ambitions. We must be willing to make difficult decisions that may be unpopular or even painful. The Crucifixion reminds us that sacrifice is not a sign of weakness but rather a mark of authentic leadership" (Koach Katlyn- Katlyn Moncrief Bryan 2016).

Emphasis 2: Entombed-Resilience

A critical leadership lesson about the death of Jesus on the cross is resilience. Jesus was entombed. "And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed" Matthew 27: 60. The symbolism of Jesus in a tomb represents resilience. He was buried and should have never come out alive. In the natural we can be buried alive and not survive, we can be buried in avalanches of all sorts. Jesus was buried. The tomb was sealed with a heavy stone and there was a watch. "So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch" Matthew 27: 66. As leaders we should work on our resiliency so that we can be like Jesus. "Jesus Christ faced intense opposition and suffering during his life on earth, culminating in his crucifixion and death. However, He did not give up or lose hope. Instead, He demonstrated remarkable resilience by enduring the pain and humiliation of the cross, knowing that His ultimate victory was assured. As leaders we will face many challenges and setbacks. As a result, there will be times when we are tempted to give up or lose faith in our abilities" (Koach Katlyn- Katlyn Moncrief Bryan,2016). The Crucifixion of Jesus and the Resurrection reminds us that resilience is an essential trait for success. (2 Corinthians 4:8-9)

Emphasis 3: Resurrection

He got up! Every year when we celebrate the resurrection of our Savior, this statement alone gives us hope eternal. "2And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. 5 And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. 6 He

is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay" (Matthew 28:2). The message of hope is one that Leaders must remind all believers of. "After his death on the cross, Jesus Christ rose from the dead, demonstrating his power over sin and death. This event is the ultimate symbol of hope, showing that even in the darkest moments, there is a possibility of redemption and renewal. Leadership can often be a challenging and even discouraging experience. We may face setbacks, failures, and disappointments that can make us feel hopeless" (Koach Katlyn- Katlyn Moncrief Bryan,2016). The resurrection of our Lord always gives up hope that we have a better future.

Missions Application Questions

1. Is submission a difficult thing to do? If yes, why is submission a challenging concept for leaders and many others? If No, please share what makes submission simple?
2. How can we build our spiritual resilience?
3. What are some ways leaders can offer hope continuously to those who experience dark and seemingly hopeless circumstances?

World Missions Prayer Points

- Pray for Leadership in Global Missions that we will continue to submit to Godly authority and make appropriate sacrifices for the team.
- Lord Jesus help us as we are troubled on every side not to give up but to remain steadfast in faith because we know that you have empowered us.
- In the name of JESUS, we bind spiritual fatigue and loose spiritual resilience.

Notes:

LESSON 6

JOSEPH

Lesson Text: Genesis chapters 37:6-7, 9, 18-28, Genesis 41:38-44, Genesis 50:15-21; Psalm 105:17-22; 2 Timothy 3:12

Memory Verse

"He sent a man before them, even Joseph, who was sold for a servant:"

Psalm 105: 17

Suggested Emphasis

Key Leadership Lesson— Managing Detours, Disruptions and Disappointments

The life of Joseph demonstrates that what we think are the worst conditions possible are not our final destination. All leaders will have to manage detours, disruptions and interruptions of our dreams and visions. As leaders, it's how we manage these things that impact our future. "The story of Joseph is told in Genesis (37–50). Joseph, the most beloved of Jacob's sons, is hated by his envious brothers. Angry and jealous of Jacob's gift to Joseph, a resplendent "coat of many colors," the brothers seize him and sell him to a party of Ishmaelites, or Midianites, who carry him to Egypt" (Ray Burgos, 2023). Leaders must remember that "God's Divine Plan" is meant to fulfill his purpose and our destiny as he sees it. "God's divine plan can turn seemingly evil and harmful things into beneficial and blessed things. God's divine plan gives a believer the confidence that all things will work out for GOOD for those who love and serve God. Having a divine perspective of life will prevent a believer from seeking revenge and produce a kind and gracious spirit of forgiveness in his life. A divine perspective of life will give

Key Terms

Perseverance • Persistence in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success.

Forgiveness • The action or process of forgiving or being forgiven.

Destiny • The events that will necessarily happen to a particular person or thing in the future.

a believer peace, joy and fearlessness" (Gary Barker, 2021).

Emphasis 1:

The Pit and Potiphar's House— Persecuted for Purpose

(2 Timothy 3:12) "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution" (2 Timothy 3:12). Joseph's experiences in the Pit and in Potiphar's house teach leaders about persecution. Persecution, false accusations and general criticism are things all leaders will face. Genesis 37: 18, "And when they saw him afar off, even before he came near unto them, they conspired against him to slay him". "Come, and let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him; for he is our brother and our flesh" verse 27. And his brethren were content. The Pit was only for a short time, God provided a way of escape. "And the Midianites sold him into Egypt unto Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh's, and captain of the guard" (Genesis 37: 36). Genesis 39: 2 And the Lord was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man, and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian.³ And his master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord made all that he did to prosper in his hand..Joseph prospered

although he was a "slave. Genesis 39: 7 And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph; and she said, Lie with me. 8 but he refused, 11 And it came to pass about this time, that Joseph went into the house to do his business, and there were none of the men of the house there within. 12 And she caught him by his garment, saying, lie with me: and he left his garment in her hand, and fled, and got him out. 16 And she laid up his garment by her until his lord came home. Joseph was falsely accused. He had integrity, and refused to do wrong, but was still held accountable for a false charge.

Emphasis 2: The Prison—Afflicted for Advancement

"Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all" (Psalm 34: 19). As leaders, we will be afflicted but have comfort in God's Word that He delivers us. And it came to pass, when his master heard the words of his wife, which she spake unto him, saying, "19After this manner did thy servant to me; that his wrath was kindled. 20a And Joseph's master took him, and put him into the prison, 21 But the Lord was with Joseph, and showed him mercy, and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison" (Genesis 39:19). Joseph maintained an excellent spirit. We also know that while Joseph was in prison, he nurtured his gift of "Dream Interpretation". This allowed him to correctly interpret the dreams of the Chief Butler and Chief Baker when they were in prison. Joseph asked that they remember him when they went before Pharaoh, but it wasn't his time yet. Leaders must understand God's timing and season for their lives. However, two years after this, Pharaoh had a dream and no one could interpret the dream. (Genesis 41:1,8-14) The Chief Butler remembered Joseph. Leaders should be reminded that during what we

think are down times, to continue to prepare and stay ready.

Emphasis 3 Promotion-The Palace

We can learn many things from Joseph's promotion. (Genesis 41:38-43) First, GOD'S Divine plan was to send Joseph ahead to "save" Israel. Psalm 105: 17 "He sent a man before them, even Joseph, who was sold for a servant" (Psalm 105: 17). "And Joseph was thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from the presence of Pharaoh, and went throughout all the land of Egypt (Genesis 41: 46). The second lesson we can learn is forgiveness and maturity, "7And Joseph saw his brethren, and he knew them, but made himself strange unto them, and spake roughly unto them; and he said unto them, Whence come ye? And they said, From the land of Canaan to buy food. 8And Joseph knew his brethren, but they knew not him. 9 And Joseph remembered the dreams which he dreamed of them, and said unto them, Ye are spies; to see the nakedness of the land ye are come" (Genesis 42: 7-9). Genesis 45: 4, 7 "4And Joseph said unto his brethren, Come near to me, I pray you. And they came near. And he said, I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt. 7And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance." Forgiveness enabled Joseph not to seek revenge or become bitter and angry (Genesis 50:19-21). Forgiveness caused Joseph to become a loving and caring person." (Barker, 2021)

Missions Application Questions

1. How do Missions leaders or workers maintain an excellent spirit during what we believe are detours?
2. What does this lesson teach us about God's divine plan for our lives?
3. What can we learn from Joseph's forgiveness?

LESSON 7

ZELOPHEHADS DAUGHTERS

Lesson Text: Numbers 27:1-7, 36:1-10

Memory Verse

"And Moses brought their cause before the Lord."

Numbers 27: 5

Suggested Emphasis

Key Leadership Lesson— Forward thinking

Forward-thinking is defined as thinking about and planning for the future. All leaders, no matter the environment or set of circumstances, must have the ability to think and plan for the future. Numbers 27 The daughters of Zelophehad, son of Hephher, the son of Gilead, the son of Makir, the son of Manasseh, belonged to the clans of Manasseh, son of Joseph. The names of the daughters were Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milkah, and Tirzah. They came forward two and stood before Moses, Eleazar the priest, the leaders and the whole assembly at the entrance to the tent of meeting and said (27:1-2, NIV). Zelophehad's daughters were forward-thinking in that they knew that their father had no sons and if they didn't speak up, their future inheritance may have been lost. The continuity of their family name depended on the inheritance of the land, and they realized that the current law was not adequate because it didn't consider a scenario of a man without male heirs. Moses took their cause to the Lord; God told Moses they were right. As leaders we must be like these five women, and understand how planning for the future impacts success, outcomes, organizational strength and leadership legacies.

Key Terms

Teamwork • The combined action of a group of people, especially when effective and efficient.

Boldness • Willingness to take risks and act innovatively; confidence or courage.

Glass Ceiling • The glass ceiling is a metaphor describing the invisible barrier women and other marginalized groups face when trying to reach higher levels of professional success (Bailey Reiners, 2023)

Inheritance • A thing that is inherited.

Emphasis 1:

The Right Way—Teamwork/Boldness

As leaders, there are ways that we can accomplish goals. A leader will only have success with a good team. COGIC International Department of Women has a slogan "We progress with Team Effort". The Daughters of Zelophehad demonstrated this kind of teamwork with great boldness. Leaders must have plans to lead teams with clarity and boldness. While we don't know the details of how the sisters decided to act, we know that they came forward. They had to have met to discuss what they needed to do. They were bold! Consider the circumstances. "Let's imagine the scene: the Israelite camp is formed of tribes, each of whom has a determined place, with the Tabernacle in the middle; and in the center stand the main authority figures, all of them men: Moses, the priest Eleazar, and the chieftains. Imposing as this structure may have been, the five sisters decide to claim their rights. Together, they go out of their tents, without being called by anyone to the place where only the high-ranking men congregate, to a place

where women do not have authority. These men must have been overwhelmed when they saw such a startling, unprecedented situation!" (Tamara Cohn Eskenazi and Andrea L. Weiss, 2008). "The daughters of Zelophehad were humble. Just because they were courageous and bold in making their claim known does not mean they lacked humility. They went about lodging their concerns/complaints in the correct way, going before those who were responsible for upholding the right government. They did not spread discontent among the people of God by complaining to their neighbor about their situation; instead, they showed respect and humility in coming before the leadership of God's people, submitting to them" (Ayrian Yasar, 2022).

Emphasis 2: Inheritance

"The Daughters of Zelophehad use the fact that their father was not involved in Korach's rebellion (Numbers 16) as evidence to support his—and their—claim to the land. They possess the acumen to recognize this omission—in God's law. They desired that their family should have possession in the promised land, and they stated the reasons why their request was a just one. In this case, these women wanted their families to be included in the people of God, and they expressed this in an articulate fashion, marshaling the pertinent arguments. How does Moses react? The following verse states: "Moses brought their case before God" (27:5). Moses discloses his inability to assess the claims of these sisters. He takes the case to God, who unequivocally supports the sisters' demand and even promulgates a new and permanent law to secure inheritance for any daughters in such circumstances (27:6-8). Thus, the sisters' claim leads to the law of inheritance's being changed forever" (Tamara Cohn Eskenazi and Andrea L. Weiss 2008). Leaders, do you know what your inheritance is? We

must use the Daughters of Zelophehad model to make sure that we claim and walk in our spiritual inheritance. We know that we will inherit eternal life if we live according to His will. Ephesians 1:11 says, "In [Christ] we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will" (ESV). We also inherit blessings in the natural possibly from family or spiritual leaders. I am not speaking of any kind of entitlement, instead I am speaking of inheritance God has granted unto to us to walk in including giftings and talents to build the kingdom of God for His glory.

Emphasis 3: No Glass Ceilings In God

Leaders let us learn from the daughters. There are no glass ceilings in God. "The daughters of Zelophehad reminds women and men of God of our calling to be glass shatterers, seeking equity and justice for all. Their story is an affirmation that God is a God of equity and justice and that our courageous and collaborative ministry can have a far-reaching and future impact in the Kingdom of God" (Rev. Donna Owusu-Ansah, 2023). Just as the daughters of Zelohehad did, leaders should believe that God will move you into spaces where you can change circumstances for many generations. We must be willing to shatter glass ceilings for the advancement of the Kingdom. Are you ready to be a glass ceiling shatterer?

Missions Application Questions

1. How can leaders become forward thinkers regarding global mission's ministry?
2. What are some teamwork strategies that mission leaders can use on the foreign field to build collaboration, collegiality and cooperation?
3. How can missions leaders help shatter "glass ceilings" in the global mission efforts?

LESSON 8

DEBORAH

Lesson Text: Judges 4:4-9,14-22, Judges 5:2-7(ESV) 12-31; James 1:4

Memory Verses:

"And Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lapidoth, she judged Israel at that time. And she dwelt under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in mount Ephraim: and the children of Israel came up to her for judgment."

Judges 4: 4

Key Terms

Prophetess • A female prophet
Judge • A public official appointed to decide cases in a court of law
Influence • The capacity to have an effect on the character, development, or behavior of someone or something, or the effect itself.

Suggested Emphasis

Key Leadership Lesson— When Leaders Lead

When the people of Israel cried out to God for help because of oppression, he raised up Deborah, judge and prophetess. God instructed Deborah to command Israel's armies to send thousands of troops against King Jabin. God led Deborah, Barak and others to great victory. "When the battle was over, Deborah and Barak sang a song of praise to the Lord. The song began with these words: When leaders lead in Israel, when the people willingly offer themselves, bless the LORD!" (Judges 5:2, NKJV). It's amazing what can happen when leaders lead! It's important that we realize that when God moves to fulfill His plans, He often calls on leaders to carry out the work. Most of us would wholeheartedly agree that we want God's plans to be fulfilled on earth, but we also have to understand that each of us has a responsibility in that regard. When He calls on us to move, we must move! God gives people the gift of leadership for a reason. We may not always fully understand those reasons until we step out in faith and start leading. We need to be

people who cooperate with the Lord, not stand in His way" (Evan M Jackson, 2021).

Emphasis 1: Wisdom to Rule

Leaders should ask God for wisdom to lead, to rule, and to handle all matters. James 1: 5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. Deborah wore a few hats. While she judges Israel, she prophesied, she led a military campaign and she presided as a mother. She did this well because of the wisdom she had. "Deborah is called, or calls herself, a "mother in Israel." (Judges 5:7). Perhaps the character is meant to be a biological mother, but no children are mentioned in the text. More likely, the phrase indicates that her arbitration powers as judge were parental, even maternal—though hardly in a tender, nurturing sense. "Mother," like "father," can be an honorific title for an authority figure or protector in the community (compare 1 Sam 24:1 and Isa 22:21)." (Glen, Raiger, 2022)

Emphasis 2: Awake, Awake Oh Leader

Judges 5:12 "Awake, awake, Deborah! Awake, awake, break out in a song! Arise,

Barak, lead away your captives, O son of Abinoam. Leaders must remain sober, remain alert regarding their environments and staying ready for any circumstance. Deborah demonstrated this skill. She sat under a tree judging Israel, but was ready for a military campaign when needed. She was prepared. Leaders Awake and stay ready for all circumstances.

"With all of the turmoil in the world these days, we can relate to Deborah as a role model who lived in troubled times. After twenty years of oppression, while most of her people cowered in fear, God awakened within her a zeal to do something. As Deborah awoke, she arose as a leader to awaken others to stand up and fight. Think of it, on an ordinary day The Lord awakened Deborah to take action that would require courage and faith. Could today be the ordinary day that God is waking you from your own slumber to do through you more than you ever dreamed or imagined for His Kingdom and His glory? Be inspired to realize that God uses ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary things. He wants to awaken you to all that He has planned for you" (Rhonda Stoppe, 2022).

Emphasis 3:
Influence to Impact Modern Day
"Type" of "Jaels"

Jael did the deed. She killed the enemy of Israel. Leaders must have the type of influence that will propel us to great victory from unexpected sources and resources. We need sympathizers who will support what God has assigned to our hands. Don't underestimate why influence is important. "Heber, husband of Jael was a descendant of Moses' father-in-law, who settled near the City of Refuge. Heber lived in peace with the Canaanite leader, Jabin, an ally of Sisera and enemy of Israel. When Sisera heard that Barak was leading the Israelites against him, he called together 900 iron chariots and all of the people with him to crush the 10,000

Israelites. Sisera ran to Heber's camp because he clearly believed that a friend of his ally, Jabin, would protect him. Instead, he encountered Heber's wife, Jael, who sympathized with the Israelites" (Crystal Lutton, 2016) "And Jael came out to meet Sisera and said to him, "Turn aside my lord; turn aside to me; do not be afraid." So, He turned aside to her into the tent, and she covered him with a rug. 19 And he said to her, "Please give me a little water to drink, for I am thirsty." So, She opened a skin of milk and gave him a drink and covered him. 20 And he said to her, "Stand at the opening of the tent, and if any man comes and asks you, 'Is anyone here?' say, 'No.'" 21 But Jael the wife of Heber took a tent peg, and took a hammer in her hand. Then she went softly to him and drove the peg into his temple until it went down to the ground while he was lying fast asleep from weariness and he died. 22 And behold, as Barak was pursuing Sisera, Jael went out to meet him and said to him, "Come, and I will show you the man whom you are seeking." So he went into her tent, and there lay Sisera dead, with the tent peg in his temple" (Judges 4:18-22).

Missions Application Questions

1. Why do you think God chose Deborah to be the only woman Judge?
2. What can we learn from the example of Deborah and Barak in terms of men and women working in ministry together?
3. Jael is a "type" of _____ please finish and discuss.

World Missions Prayer Points

- Pray that we will be leaders that lead.
- Pray that missions will raise Global leaders to lead and impact their generation.
- Pray for all believers to have anointed influences in our environments so that the "Jaels" will recognize when assistance is needed and act accordingly.

LESSON 9

QUEEN ESTHER

Lesson Text: Esther- Chapters 1-8, 1 Peter 1:7, Psalm 66:10-12

Memory Verse

"Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish."

Esther 4: 16

Suggested Emphasis

Key Leadership Lesson— If I Perish

In the life of every leader, there will come an "If I Perish" moment or maybe a few of these moments may happen in a lifetime. When Queen Esther made this statement, she had a choice, remain silent and possibly die or speak up and possibly die. Some would consider this a lose/lose situation. The lesson for leaders is that there will come a time or times when you have to stand even when all options appear not to look like a favorable outcome. In these moments leaders must absolutely depend on and trust in God. Esther demonstrated great faith, commitment and she was willing to sacrifice to save her people. Leaders, are you ready for your "If I Perish" moments?

Emphasis 1: Lesson from Vashti

Leaders there will be a time when God works on our behalf through what may seem like peculiar circumstances. Yes, we may be "Esthers" who benefit from Vashti refusals. We must learn to follow God's prompts when these things happen.

Key Terms

Crisis Management • The process by which a business or other organization deals with a sudden emergency situation.

Perish • To suffer death, typically in a violent, sudden, or untimely way.

Intercession • The action of intervening on behalf of another

God's Providence • Providence is defined in our English dictionaries as the act of seeing and providing or preparing for the future, and biblically refers to God's foresight and power to watch over and protect and provide for His creatures. "God's attention concentrated everywhere" (Cathy MacIntosh, 2022).

God's Divine Favor • God's favor is the power that changes things for us. Psalm 90:17

"When the king called for Queen Vashti to parade her beauty to the people and the officials, she refused him. (Esther 1:11), While we can't be sure of her reason, the king and his advisors acted swiftly. The King banished Queen Vashti and vowed to give her royal position to someone "more worthy" (Esther 2:4). From a Heavenly Kingdom perspective we discern that the queen refused the king's summons to fulfill God's purpose. Just a few scriptures later, we see God unfold His plan to protect millions of Jews from utter annihilation at the hand of King Xerxes and his evil prime minister, Haman. To accomplish His plan, the Lord appointed a different queen in the palace—the most unlikely queen of all—a young orphan of Jewish heritage named Esther. The most valuable lesson we learn from Vashti's story is that God is never absent. He works through every situation we encounter" (Cathy MacIntosh, 2022).

Emphasis 2: For Such A Time

Some leaders are called during times of Crises. God prepares and sets in place leaders "For Such Times As This". As a leader the takeaway from the text is that you have been prepared to lead, to rule, to govern. You will be tested and tried but will be victorious. (1 Peter 1:7, Psalm 66:10-12) Leaders must be ready to make life-changing decisions in moments of crisis impacting generations to come. Esther 4:13 Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews. 14 For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this? 15 Then Esther bade them to return Mordecai this answer, 16 Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish." Knowing that the fate of the Jews was upon her, Esther must have felt like the world was revolving around her. Whatever she chose to do would result in something that would forever change history and could never be regained. The crisis that Esther faced demanded quick, earnest action; She surrendered it all to God in fasting and prayer with Mordecai and the rest of the Jews." At a time when it seemed that no power could save them, Esther and the women associated with her; by fasting and prayer and prompt action, met the issue, and brought salvation to their people". (<https://www.heroesbibletrivia.org/en/esther-beautiful-inside-and-out/>).

Emphasis 3: Divine Favor—Wear it Well

Divine favor is being singled out by God for special treatment. It is at His exclusive and unquestionable bidding and pleasure. It means you have somehow found favor with Him against all odds. The natural laws and normal course of events are altered, canceled or suspended just for you. (web, 12/11/2016) Esther 5:1-5 tells the story of God's divine favor on Queen Esther's life. Saints of God, when God bestows his divine favor on your life, wear it well. Ask God for situational wisdom as you make decisions and walk through various events.

Missions Application Questions

1. What are your takeaways from how Esther ascended to the throne?
2. How would you apply Esther's leadership qualities with teams in the foreign field?
3. How have you experienced God's divine favor?

World Missions Prayer Points

- Pray for all mission workers that when God creates special circumstances for us, we will recognize his prompts and move with the spirit
- Pray for missions leaders in the Global Missions force to stay ready to lead with excellence in any crisis situations
- Pray this prayer- Father in the name of Jesus, I thank you in advance for divine favor being bestowed on me to fulfill your purpose and your glory

Notes:

LESSON 10

DAVID

Lesson Text: 1 Samuel 17:4-50 , 1 Samuel 13:14,
1 Samuel 16:7-12, 2 Samuel Chapter 11-12; Proverbs 3:6

Memory Verse

"And all this assembly shall know that the Lord saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hands."

1 Samuel 17: 47

Suggested Emphasis

Key Leadership Lesson— Inquire and Acknowledge

David was known for inquiring of God regarding the next steps. The Word of God gives us clear instructions in Proverbs 3:6 In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy path. Leaders in any ministry must inquire of God regarding plans, visions, and steps. God wants to guide us but we must inquire. David sought the Lord on many occasions for direction. Do we seek God for instructions or do we rely on our intellect, skills and abilities? Learn to lean on God always.

Emphasis 1: David and Goliath Facing Your Goliath

All believers will face "Goliaths" in their lives. Leaders, when we face our "Goliaths" how should we respond? Remember that no matter the circumstance God will deliver you. (1st Samuel 27:37) Your faith and trust in God will build and expand your courage and fortitude. Luke 1:37 reminds us that with God nothing shall be impossible. Facing personal, professional, spiritual, and leadership "Goliaths" "require the same strength and

Key Terms

Inquire • To ask for information from someone.

Giants • A being of human form but superhuman size.

Chosen by God: Empowerment • God chose and empowered David to be the new king

Gradual promotion • David's promotion to prominence was gradual. First, he fought in the army under Saul, then he was made king over Judah, then Israel and eventually he had international influence. David was patient along the way and allowed God to promote him. (CityLife Church Melbourne Australia, 2023)

courage as challenging a giant on the field of battle. Eventually, everyone has to face a giant at some point in their life, and the lessons that can be learned from this Bible story can be applied to other seemingly insurmountable problems. Grief, family conflicts, economic failure, shattered dreams, ethical dilemmas, and loneliness are just a few of the issues that are common giants that require an uncommon response" (Steve Proctor, 2017).

Emphasis 2: David not Saul—David was chosen and empowered by God

David is chosen to be king because he has what Saul does not: a heart for God. 1 Samuel 13:14 says the Lord "sought out a man after his own heart" to be king, and Saul simply was not this man. When Samuel goes to anoint the new king of Israel, he assumes David's strong and noble oldest brother must be the chosen one. How-

ever, God tells Samuel not to focus on physical prowess: 1st Samuel 16:7. David's heart for God prepares him to be used by God" (Cornerstone Fellowship Church, May 2014). The David and Saul stories in the Word should be a consistent reminder that we need God's spirit. "If we want to do God's will, we must be filled with the Spirit. Although Saul is filled with the Spirit and actually prophesies early in his public life, his disobedience causes the Spirit to depart from him and instead "rush upon David" (1 Sam. 16:13-14). Without the Spirit, we are powerless to fulfill the role to which God has called us as Christians. The Spirit enables us to obey God. The Bible assures us that if we "walk by the Spirit", we won't "gratify the desires of the flesh" (Gal. 5:16).

Emphasis 3:

David and Bathsheba—Willingness to acknowledge his mistakes.

There is always a chance that Leaders in any environment will be tempted to abuse their power. King David abused his power regarding Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah the Hittite. What did King David do? The story is told in chapters 11 and 12 of 2nd Samuel. King David committed adultery, tried to cover it up and then had Uriah the Hittite murdered. This is a lot. Some of us may say we would never abuse power like that, however believers, especially leaders must be very careful. Leader's watch, pray, be sober, so that we don't give in to temptation of abusing our power to get our way or abusing our power just because. If you read through the story, David suffered consequences for these actions. The leadership lesson here is this, if you make mistakes are you willing to admit your mistakes? Will you have a broken heart and a contrite spirit? (Psalm 51:17)

Missions Application Questions

1. Why do all missions' workers need to learn how to overcome "Goliaths" in their lives?

2. What does God see when he looks at your heart? Do you have a heart for missions?
3. Global missions force and supporters, what are some things you will do to make sure that you don't abuse your power?

World Missions Prayer Points

- Pray that the global missions force would understand the necessity of overcoming "Goliaths" in our lives
- Pray that we all do Gods will and be filled with his spirit.
- Pray this prayer, Lord Jesus help me to have contrite/penitent spirit

Notes:

LESSON 11

DANIEL

Lesson Text: Daniel 1:6-20, Daniel 2:12-45, Daniel 6:2-24, Daniel 9; Proverbs 18:16; 1 Peter 5:6

Memory Verse

"But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore, he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself"

Daniel 1: 8

Suggested Emphasis

Key Leadership Lesson— Resolve to Live Holy

Daniel 1:8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore, he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself. Leaders, have you decided to live a holy and separate life in our present world? The Key leadership lesson comes from the memory verse. Daniel refused to defile himself with the King's portions, which did not align with the laws of Israel. We can learn from Daniel that we, too, must make a decision that we will not compromise or allow ourselves to be defiled no matter the circumstance. Leaders must maintain moral resolution. Decide before any temptation arises that you will do what is right.

Emphasis 1:

Let your Gift(s) Elevate you

"A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men (Proverbs 18:16). "Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time" (1 Peter 5: 6). Leaders

Key Terms

Wisdom • The quality of having experience, knowledge, and good judgment; the quality of being wise. The soundness of an action or decision with regard to the application of experience, knowledge, and good judgment.

Favor • Approval, support, or liking for someone or something; feel or show approval or preference for

Morals • A person's standards of behavior or beliefs concerning what is and is not acceptable for them to do.

Spiritual Accountability • Taking responsibility for one's own actions and making a conscious choice of allowing God and others to help in accomplishing what is right. Accountable to God

must understand the greatness of humility. When leaders stay consecrated and humble, our gifts will make room for us. God will allow the gifts he has graced us with to make room for where we need to go. Leaders will be elevated and honored as Daniel was. Daniel chapter 2 reveals the circumstances where Daniel's gift of dream interpretation allowed him to come before the King. (Daniel 2:12-13) Daniel interpreted the king's dream. He was honored. "Then the king Nebuchadnezzar fell upon his face, and worshipped Daniel, and commanded that they should offer an oblation and sweet odors unto him 48 Then the king made Daniel a great man, and gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief of the governors over all the wise men of Babylon (Daniel 2:46,48). "Humility is an essential characteristic of a godly leader." (Crosswalk, Com, 2022).

Emphasis 2:
**Depending on God-Persecution for
Righteousness sake**

"In the same way that a leader must not lift oneself up with pride, one must also not depend on oneself but rather remain completely dependent on the Lord. As Proverbs 3:5-6 admonishes, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him and he will make your paths straight." Daniel, as much as any other hero in the Bible, demonstrates complete dependence on the Lord and sets an example that all Christian leaders must follow. When Darius the Mede took over the Babylonian kingdom, his leaders recommended that none shall worship anyone other than Darius. Knowing that Daniel was faithful to his God, they knew that they could convict him, and have valid reason to cast him into the lions' den. (Daniel 6:2-24) Knowing that remaining faithful to the Lord would result in being cast into the lions' den, Daniel responded by spending even more time in prayer to God". (Crosswalk, Com, 2022) "Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime (Daniel 6: 10). Daniel depended on God not worrying about the outcome. He was ready to suffer the consequences for the sake of righteousness. Leaders must be willing to do the same.

Emphasis 3:
Pressing into Prayer and Fasting

Prayer and Fasting are necessities for all believers. Leaders especially will have special times of fasting and prayer. Pressing into prayer, intercession, and remaining fervent is essential during times of intense warfare. "And I set my face unto

the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes: 4 And I prayed unto the Lord my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments (Daniel 9:3-4). "In the ninth chapter of Daniel, we see the power of prayer and God's faithfulness in answering prayer. Daniel's continual devotion to prayer empowered him to live the life of faith and leadership" (Crosswalk, Com, 2022) "And whiles I was speaking, and praying, and confessing my sin and the sins of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the Lord my God for the holy mountain of my God; 21 Yea, while I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation. 22 And he informed me and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding. 23 At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to shew thee; for thou art greatly beloved: therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision (Daniel 9: 20-23). "As Daniel began to pray, God's armies began to work. As it was with Daniel, so it is with you. Because we are greatly loved, God continues to answer the prayers of His people" (Crosswalk, Com, 2022).

Missions Application Questions

1. As Missions workers how can we teach others to have a resolve to live holy?
2. What will you do when you suffer persecution for righteousness sake?
3. What are some strategies that the global mission team can use to promote prayer, fasting and intercession?

World Missions Prayer Points

- Pray that missions leaders maintain integrity and walk in humility
- Pray this prayer, Lord Jesus help me to stand for righteousness always
- Pray this prayer, Lord Jesus help me to pray fervently and effectively as I wait on you to guide me

Notes:

LESSON 12

PETER—PENTECOST SUNDAY

Lesson Text: Matthew 15:15; Matthew 18:21; Luke 12:41; John 21:20—22, John 18:15; Acts Chapters 2-4; 1 Peter 5:1-14

Memory Verse

"But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:"

Acts 2: 14

Key Terms

Inquisitive • Curious or inquiring

Involved • Difficult to comprehend; complicated.

Transformational • In its ideal form, it creates valuable and positive change in the followers to develop followers into leaders.

Suggested Emphasis

Key Leadership Lesson— Don't be afraid to ask

Leaders must remain curious and ask questions about what they understand and what they don't understand. "Curiosity is crucial to leadership. There are people who are content with what they don't know, happy to remain ignorant about what they don't understand, complacent about what they haven't analyzed, and comfortable living with problems they haven't solved—such people cannot lead. Leaders need to have an insatiable curiosity. They need to be hungry to find answers. "Knowledge is power" (John MacArthur, 2002). In the gospels, it is noted that Peter asked many questions. He asked the Lord to explain things (Matthew 15:15; Luke 12:41). It was Peter who asked how often he needed to forgive (Matthew 18:21). It was Peter who asked what reward the disciples would get for having left everything to follow Jesus (Matthew 19:27). It was Peter who asked about the withered fig tree (Mark 11:21). It was Peter who asked questions of the risen Christ (John 21:20—22). He always wanted to know more, to understand better. And

that sort of inquisitiveness is a foundational element of a true leader" (John MacArthur, 2002).

Emphasis 1: Stay Involved

True leaders stay involved, not micro-managing. They will have a good grasp of what is happening in their environments and will stay involved. Leaders lead from the front, not the back. "People cannot follow someone who remains distant. The true leader must show the way. He goes before his followers into the battle" (MacArthur, 2022). The accounts of Peter denying Christ are well known, however at least Peter did follow Jesus that night and stayed involved until the end, although it was from a distance. This is an important lesson, while Peter showed weakness and failure, he also demonstrated a willingness to stay involved in the process when others fled. (John 18:15). "And in the courtyard of the high priest's house, Peter was the only one close enough for Jesus to turn and look him in the eyes when the rooster crowed (Luke 22:61). Long after the other disciples had forsaken Christ and fled in fear of their lives Peter; in spite of his fear and weakness, couldn't abandon Christ completely. That's the sign of a true leader. When almost everyone else bailed

out, he tried to stay as close to his Lord as he could get. He is found close to the heart of the action" (MacArthur,2002).

**Emphasis 2:
Transformed**

Leaders must experience transformation that comes with salvation, deliverance, healing and growing in ministry. Once leaders are transformed, they become transformational leaders. Peter is transformed from the ambitious, impulsive, disciple, to being one of the leaders in the church. The changes are evident in the book of Acts. "In the Book of Acts he begins to "take up the works" of Christ with charismatic flair, committed to teaching, healing, and converting new followers" (MacArthur, 2002). "Through empowerment that comes from the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1-4), Peter's characteristics of fearfulness and inconsistency are replaced by confidence, conviction and compassion (Acts 2:14-4:31 He inspires crowds of thousands, bringing new believers into the faith, healing the blind, and standing up to the leaders that he once feared" (Kevin Leahy,2010).

**Emphasis 3:
Leading Leaders**

One of the responsibilities of leaders is to lead other leaders. Peter leads other leaders as demonstrated in Acts but also in his message to elders in 1 Peter 5:1-4. "Peter's message to the elders in 1 Peter 5:1-4 is simple; they are to be shepherds, serving those they oversee as stewards of God's flock, modeling the "Chief Shepherd" for their followers who will receive God's help and hope in their faithfulness to Him in their suffering. This establishes the foundation of servant leadership upon which the elder should build, grow, and shepherd their flock." (Leahy,2010). This text from 1 Peter is a small example of Apostle Peter's Servant Leadership, but it is important that we understand that Peter emphasized that leaders must model their

behavior after Jesus: remain humble and have the heart of a servant.

Missions Application Questions

1. How can we train ourselves to be inquisitive as the Apostle Peter was?
2. What are some ways as missions' workers or leaders that you have stayed involved in ministries and activities?
3. What are significant moments that have transformed your view of missions' ministry? What are some activities that have transformed how you do missions work?

World Missions Prayer Points

- Pray that all missions workers remain hungry to find answers about ministry
- Pray for transformational leaders to rise up and go forth in the global missions' force
- Pray this prayer, Lord Jesus help me to have a heart of a servant as I lead others, amen

Notes:

LESSON 13

PAUL

Lesson Text: Acts 8:1-4, Acts 9:5-8,15-16; 2 Corinthians 12:10, Acts Chapters 21, 23, 24, 27; Proverbs 29:18,

Memory Verse

"But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: 16 For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake."

Acts 9: 15

Suggested Emphasis

Key Leadership Lesson— Visionary

Visionary is a word we hear a lot as an adjective—especially of a person thinking about or planning the future with imagination or wisdom. There are many leadership qualities that we can speak of when discussing Paul the Apostle. Visionary would be one of them. Once he was converted, Paul used his skills, gifts and wisdom to be exclusively committed to God. Paul was a chosen vessel. (Acts 9:15.) Paul was a visionary as evidenced by his writing, missionary journeys, church plants and leaders he influenced. All leaders must be Visionaries to some degree. Without vision, people perish (from Proverbs 29:18). Leaders should be led by God regarding God's Vision and mission for ministry. Leaders must be able to plan for and execute the vision. Visionaries full of the spirit of God are required for successful ministry outcomes. Leaders must inspire others toward reaching goals.

Emphasis 1:

Leaders Know their limitations

Every leader should know their limitations.

Key Terms

Inspirational Leadership • The ability to be a positive influence on those around you and motivate others toward success.

Limitations • A limiting rule or circumstance; a restriction.

Extraordinary Courage • Extremely good or special quality shown by someone who decides to do something difficult or dangerous, even though they may be afraid.

Suffering • The state of undergoing pain, distress, or hardship.

Apostle Paul understood what limitations meant to him." As a leader, you need to know your limitations and accept them so you can focus on bringing in people that can fill the gap. Leadership is about people. You are more successful as a team than you are individually. Paul knew well of his weaknesses and had developed a strong team to carry out the mission he was given. A well-known verse from 2 Corinthians 12:10 says it all: "For when I am weak, then I am strong." Paul knew his weaknesses and knowing this made him more dependent on the power of God and the gifts of those working with him" (Goins, 2020)

Emphasis 2:

Leader have Extraordinary Courage

As Apostle Paul's ministry grew, he was threatened, he was imprisoned, yet he demonstrated extraordinary courage. Apostle Paul went from Saul who was persecuting the church (Acts 8:1-4) to being a champion of Christ. "And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that

he is the Son of God. 21 But all that heard him were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests? 22 But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ. 23 And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel to kill him (Acts 9:20-23). "Yet through it all, Paul maintains an extraordinary courage. He continues his work (preaching) despite the threats, and even dares to preach to his captors, both Jewish (Acts 23:1-10) and Roman (Acts 24:21-26; 26:32; 28:30-31). In the end, his courage proves decisive, not only for his work of preaching but for saving the lives of hundreds of people in the midst of a shipwreck (Acts 27:22-23). His own words sum up his attitude of courage as those around him shrink back in fear. "What are you doing, weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be bound but even to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus" (Acts 21:13). Leaders must be courageous and must also be willing to allow the spirit of God to grow and to strengthen your courage. There will be many seemingly ordinary or perhaps extreme ministry moments that will require extraordinary courage and leadership.

**Emphasis 3:
Leaders will Suffer**

Leaders should be prepared to suffer and experience pain. What distinguishes leaders is their ability to manage their pain or suffering threshold. Spirit-led Leaders will suffer for the cause of Christ. Suffering can cover many areas, including persecution, physical challenges, family concerns, and many issues. "Anyone who will not accept suffering as an essential element of leadership cannot be a leader, at least not a leader in the way God intends. Paul embraced bodily suffering, along with many other forms, as the necessity of a leader

in Jesus' way. Leadership cannot benefit others if we will not accept hurt to ourselves to a greater or lesser degree. And if our leadership does not benefit others, it is not God's kind of leadership" (Attributes of Paul's Leadership as Witness (Acts 20-28) Bible Commentary / Produced by TOW Project). Leaders, be ready to suffer to help others grow.

Missions Application Questions

1. What are ways that missions workers can support leaders in fulfilling vision for global ministry?
2. How should mission workers and leaders deal with their limitations?
3. Can leaders' public suffering for the cause of Christ lead to growth in others? If Yes why? If No why?

World Missions Prayer Points

- Pray that more spirit-filled visionary leaders will commit to mission's ministry
- Pray that the global mission team members understand their limitations /weaknesses so that others may excel in areas where they cant
- Pray this prayer- Lord Jesus, let my life including those times of suffering be a testimony for the glory of God, amen.

Notes:
