

Rising to your Next Level of Leadership

Introduction

We are in a season where we need to take responsibility for the next wave of God. Some moves of God catch you but this one needs to be caught. One of the aspects of what God wants to do in this hour is raise leaders. There are many people in leadership positions but few leaders. Some of you during this series will be catalysed to your next level of leadership. I am talking about taking territory in the spirit. You cannot separate Christian leadership from warfare because it's essentially about taking territory and being in charge in the spirit. Leaders take people from A to B. B is not just a place in the natural, it's also a place in the spirit. It involves a choice at this moment. The starting point is being honest about our current reality. There are few that are walking in this and many that are still besieged mentally. The sad thing is they don't know it. There is going to be a greater distinguishing taking place between these groups.

Stephen was in charge in the spirit. Great leaders are social architects. They shape the climate.

Acts 6:9-11

But some men from what was called the Synagogue of the Freedmen, including both Cyrenians and Alexandrians, and some from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and argued with Stephen. 10But they were unable to cope with the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking. 11Then they secretly induced men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and against God."...

The NET Bible

vs 10 Yet they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke.

By what spirit do you speak?

There are levels of leadership:

Matthew 25:23

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

New Living Translation

"The master said, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!'

English Standard Version

His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'

It's something you can enjoy!

You will need greater levels of revelation at higher levels of leadership. When Jesus was asked why some were only spoken to in parables He gave this response which is very telling:

Matthew 13:11-19

¹¹He replied, "Because the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. ¹²Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance.

Superabound in quantity or quality, abundant, be the better, enough and to spare, exceed, excel, increase.

Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. ¹³This is why I speak to them in parables:

"Though seeing, they do not see;
though hearing, they do not hear or understand.

¹⁴In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah:

"You will be ever hearing but never understanding;
you will be ever seeing but never perceiving.

¹⁵For this people's heart has become calloused;
they hardly hear with their ears,

Calloused = thick, fattened, dull, made stupid

and they have closed their eyes.
Otherwise they might see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their hearts
and turn, and I would heal them.'^[a]

¹⁶But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. ¹⁷For truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.

¹⁸"Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: ¹⁹When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the

evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path.

This is happening today. The kingdom message is to do with apostolic transformation of culture and nations. If we don't understand this it means that its being snatched away and we are missing out on the mysteries of the kingdom. In this series we will explore how to get to pour next level. Our first examination of this will take us to the book of Daniel.

Context: Judah was the travel route between super powers. Assyria, Egypt and Babylon.

Daniel 1:1-21 2:1-28

1 In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it.² And the Lord delivered Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, along with some of the articles from the temple of God. These he carried off to the temple of his god in Babylonia^[a] and put in the treasure house of his god.

1. Identify the Crisis to which you have been called.

Leaders rise in times of calamity. What is everyone in your industry afraid of? Be courageous in that context. Where's the darkness? Our families and schools have been besieged and captured. Let leaders rise. What does your nation need deliverance from? Give yourself for the deliverance of your people. Daniel had to go and disciple the very people who had captured him. Think of your enemies. Could it be that God has called you to them.

³ Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, chief of his court officials, to bring into the king's service some of the Israelites from the royal family and the nobility— ⁴young men without any physical defect, handsome, showing aptitude for every kind of learning, well informed, quick to understand, and qualified to serve in the king's palace. He was to teach them the language and literature of the Babylonians.^[b] ⁵ The king assigned them a daily amount of food and wine from the king's table. They were to be trained for three years, and after that they were to enter the king's service.