



Be a Leader

Last week we talked about growing and producing fruit
-that seed in us grows and produces and changes who we are and what we do

-A plant doesn't grow just for itself but so that it can reproduce

-This is a big step to go from doing it yourself to helping someone else do it

*We are all leading someone

-Jr High Baseball

Two Leaders - One Failed, One Succeed

Saul

-Israel asked God for a king so they could be like all the other nations

-God gave them a king that was like the kings of all the other nations

-Saul had great potential and everything that we look for in a king by earthly standards

-Saul eventually had God's spirit and his kingdom stripped from him

1 Samuel 9:1-2

-He was from a good family that had money

-He was tall and handsome. An impressive guy

1 Samuel 10:1; 9-10

-Saul was given a special calling and purpose by God to be king

-He was given the Spirit of God to empower him to be king

-For all Saul is blessed with he fails to use it well

1) He doesn't recognize what God has blessed him with (From)

-1 Samuel 9:21

-Saul says his family isn't that great

-That's partially true

-1 Samuel 10:14-16

-Saul doesn't tell his Uncle that he was anointed King or that the Holy Spirit came upon him

-Some people chalk these things to humility (and that may partially be the case) but what Saul does next reveals more of his heart

*There is a fine line between humble gratitude and arrogant pride

*Are you recognizing that God has given you everything you need to be the leader to those that are looking up to you

2) He didn't trust God to help him lead (Through)

-1 Samuel 15:1-3

-God clearly tells Saul to defeat these people and destroy everything

-1 Samuel 15:7-9

-Saul defeats the Amalikites but doesn't destroy them as God said

-Leaders must at times trust God enough to do the right thing over the easy thing

-1 Samuel 15:12-14

-Saul actually makes a display of his spoil to honor himself

-Saul has gone from self-deprecation to arrogance

-He has gone from thinking God hasn't given him enough to lead to thinking that he has enough in himself to lead without God

*Self-deprecation and arrogance are opposite sides of the same coin. Neither recognizes that God has made them and sustains them in leadership

*If we are leading only in our strength we will let people down

David

-David was not the prototypical king

-He was shepherd

-David is repeatedly overlooked

-David understood what God had given him (Everything was from God)

-He allowed God to work out how he would become king (Everything was through God)

-God gave David great success

1 Samuel 17:37

-David recognized that God had given him the victory and the ability

1 Samuel 24:10-12

-David had been anointed the next king but wouldn't seize that himself but waited and relied on God to give it to him at the right time

*Leadership isn't something to be forcibly taken. It is an opportunity granted to you by God

3) He sought to give back of his success to God and others (To)

2 Samuel 7:1-3

-David had had great success and now lived in comfort

-However, rather than rest in that comfort he sought to give back to God

-He wanted to build a house for God

*A leader recognizes his success is not an opportunity to retire but to give back

-Pastor Don

Three things to be a good leader

-Know that from God comes what you need to lead the people looking up to you

-lead through trust and obedience to God

-Seek to give back your success to God

Sermon