

# The Root & Fruit of Leadership

Jeffrey T. Gilmore

#### I. THE ROOT OF GOOD LEADERSHIP

There are two basic elements to the root of good Godly leadership.

FAITH and TRUST.



Faith is believing that God is who He says He is, and that God can do what only God can do.

Trust takes things a step further. It is making the willful choice to throw your weight upon God and trust that He will do what He promises.



1 "Now, O Lord, please remember how I have walked before you in faithfulness and with a whole heart, and have done what is good in your sight...."

2 Kings 20:3a (ESV)



Israel, so that there was none like him among all the kings of Judah after him, nor among those who were before him.

2 Kings 18:5 (ESV)



"Manasseh...did what was evil in the sight of the LORD...and Manasseh led them astray to do evil... (and) made Judah to sin... (and they) did not walk in the way of the LORD." 2 Kings 21: 2, 9, 22 (ESV)



"And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him."

Heb. 11:6



### 1. Faith Is Believing When I Don't See It

Now faith is the <u>assurance</u> of things hoped for, the conviction of things <u>not seen</u>. Hebrews 11:1 (ESV)

- -Man says: "Seeing is believing."
- -God says: "Believing is seeing."

### 2. Faith Is Obeying When I Don't Understand

8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was Heb 11:8 (ESV)

## 3. Faith Is Giving When I Don't Have It

<sup>4</sup> By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. Heb 11:4 (ESV)

## 3. Faith Is Giving When I Don't Have It

"Out of ... extreme poverty welled up rich generosity... They gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability." 2 Cor. 8:2-3

## 4. Faith Is Persisting When I Don't Feel Like It

<sup>27</sup> By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured (held to his purpose) as seeing him who is invisible.

Hebrews 11:27 (ESV)

# 5. Faith Is Thanking God Before I Receive It

"By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days." Heb. 11:30 (ESV)

"Shout, for the LORD has given you the city." Joshua 6:16b (ESV)

## 5. Faith Is Thanking God Before I Receive It

"..give thanks always and for everything..." (Eph 5:20) and for the leaders at Thessalonica to "...give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thess 5:18)

## 5. Faith Is Thanking God Before I Receive It

"Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."

Mark 11:24

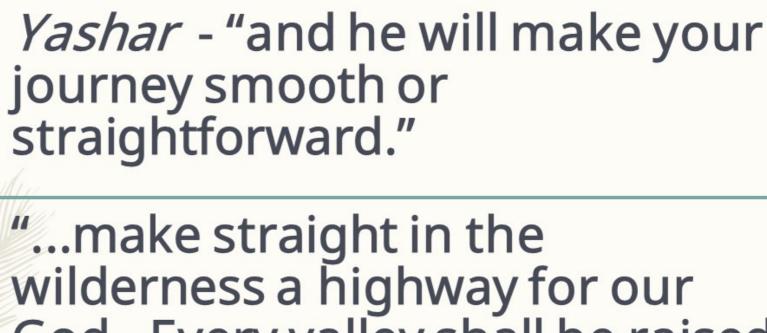


# 6. Faith Is <u>Trusting</u> If I Don't Get It Two Facts About Prayer:

- 1) God always hears every prayer and answers every prayer.
- 2) He does not always answer the way I want Him to answer. Sometimes it is: "Not yet" or "Wait a while" or "NO." God will give you what's for your ultimate benefit and what will glorify Himself.

#### B. TRUST

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." Prov 3:5-6 (ESV)



"...make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain." Isa 40:3-4

### 2. The Condition...

What is it that you have to do to be able to absorb the bumps of life smoothly?

"Trust in the Lord..."









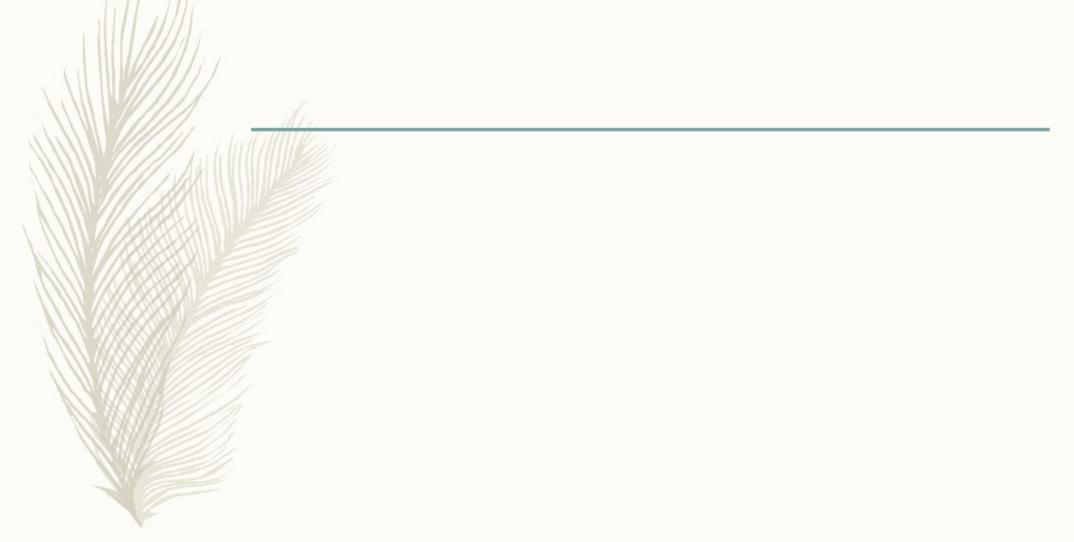
"...and lean not on your own understanding..."

### c) Extensive trust



"...in all your ways acknowledge him..."

#### II. THE FRUIT OF GOOD LEADERSHIP



# Good Leaders Care For And Love The People They Serve

<sup>4</sup> As soon as I heard these words I sat down and wept and mourned for days, and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven.

Nehemiah 1:4 (ESV)



<sup>5</sup> And I said, "O Lord God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments" Nehemiah 1:5 (ESV)



<sup>1</sup> In the month of Nisan, in the 20th year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was before him, I took up the wine and gave it to the king. Now I had not been sad in his presence. Neh 2:1 (ESV)

# A Good Leader's Trust And Faith Will Fill Him With Optimism And Hope

10 Then he said to them...this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength." Nehemiah 8:10 (ESV)

### Good Leaders are Undistracted from the Mission

<sup>3</sup> And I sent messengers to them, saying, "I am doing a great work and I cannot come down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and come down to you? 4 And they sent to me four times in this way, and I answered them in the same manner. Nehemiah 6:3-4 (ESV)

# Good Leaders Are Open To God's Extraordinary Direction.

<sup>20</sup> Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think (imagine), according to the power at work within us. Eph 3:20 (ESV)

# The Root and Fruit of Leadership

## Good Leaders Exude Courage!



Jeffrey T. Gilmore

Good Leaders Are

Men And Women Of Integrity