

NLC Staff Chapel - February 26th, 2019
"7 Characteristics of a Trustworthy Leader... (David)"

- One of our Greatest aims & goals in Ministry is to be found Trustworthy.
 - 1 of my 3 prayers I pray all the time.
 - At the end of the day, God will not trust His kingdom long-term to Ministry Leaders who are not Trustworthy.
 - So this concept is Paramount.

- A few weeks ago... I was reading a story that I've read & taught literally dozens of times over the years & I saw something I've never seen before!
 - A Description of David that blew me away!
 - The Lord used it to encourage me & I want it to encourage each one of us today as well.

I Samuel 16:18 "One of the servants answered, 'I have seen a son of Jesse of Bethlehem who knows how to play the lyre. He is a brave man and a warrior. He speaks well and is a fine-looking man. And the Lord is with him.'"

7 Characteristics of a Trustworthy Leader:

1. A Son. (of the Promise)

A. David knew who he was. (He knew his identity.)

- On the surface, he was the 8th son, the runt of the family, but so many times when you see the name "Jesse" in Scripture, it also says, "of Bethlehem."
- Bethlehem was where Jesus entered the world!
 - That is where the world changed!

- David knew it wasn't b/c of accomplishments that God was choosing him!

- It was simply b/c he was chosen by God!

B. MWK ILL - God showed me this a couple of years ago!

I Samuel 17:56-57 "The king said, "Find out whose son this young man is." As soon as David returned from killing the Philistine, Abner took him and brought him before Saul, with David still holding the Philistine's head.

v. 58 "Whose son are you, young man?" Saul asked him. David said, "I am the son of your servant Jesse of Bethlehem."

- This revelation changed everything!

C. MIP: Trustworthy Leaders are sons & daughters who know that who they are is NOT contingent on what they do or don't do!

- IOW, No Longer Orphans!!!

2. Knows his Giftings & is Confident in them.

"Knows how to play the lyre..."

A. David wasn't intimidated or scared to play before the king!

- He knew how God had gifted him & walked confidently in that!

B. Trustworthy Leaders are those who understand how God has wired them, gifted them, anointed them & can use them.

C. MIP: ? What about us? Do we know our gift mix?

- ? How confident are we to walk in those gifts & offer those gifts?

3. Brave.

- "He is a brave man..."

A. David was willing to step into Difficult Situations in order to protect the sheep.

- LION & THE BEAR ILL.

- He says that he wasn't afraid to die with whatever needed to be dealt with in order to keep the sheep safe!

B. That's our Responsibility Ministry Leaders!!!

- To guard & care for the sheep!

- To keep evil away from them as much as we can!

C. This is not always Easy or Popular, b/c as Shepherds we know things that others don't,

- & therefore have to make decisions that others don't understand.

- MOVING LEADERS THROUGH THE YEARS ILL.

- You know people aren't going to understand & they are going to question your decision, but you have to do what's right for the sheep anyway!

4. A Warrior.

- "He is a brave man and a warrior."

A. I love the distinction here between "brave" & a "warrior."

- Brave speaks to the inward heart of a Leader.

- Warrior speaks to the "Tenacity!"

- Brave speaks of Protection.

- Warrior speaks of Advancement.

B. Warriors Work Hard!!!

- Warriors are willing to Do Business with God & For God!
- Warriors are willing to Fight for what they believe in!!!

C. God has not just called us to stay where we are... He has called us to Advance the Kingdom!!!

- PREACH!
- To push back the gates of hell over people's lives & see darkness run & healing come!

D. MIP: God is looking for some Trustworthy Warriors to Advance His Kingdom!

- We aren't just playing games & pulling off weekends!!!
- There are real lives at stake here who need Freedom & Healing & Salvation!!!

5. Speaks Well.

- "He speaks well..."

A. David could Communicate Clearly & Effectively.

- Plain & Simple, you can't stand before kings if you can't communicate.

B. It doesn't matter if speaking is your top gift, it needs to be a tool you are comfortable using for God.

C. You never see someone who is Leading at a Significant Level who is NOT an articulate communicator.

6. Fine-Looking.

- "He speaks well and is a fine-looking man."

A. Now, before we all start making our own judgments here... let me unpack this one!

- Apparently, Appropriate Appearance Mattered!!!

B. JOSEPH ILL.

Genesis 41:14 " So Pharaoh sent for Joseph, and he was quickly brought from the dungeon. When he had shaved and changed his clothes, he came before Pharaoh."

- Remember, he was In Charge of the Entire Prison, so it's not like he's not well kept.

- But apparently, he wasn't "Palace Ready..."

C. MWK IN WASHINGTON DC - 9 years ago...

- They said, "In this city, suits are the standard b/c you never know when a Senator or Congressman is going to walk in."

D. My point: As Leaders, we have to be aware that different environments require different things.

- & we can't be naïve to think that our appearance doesn't matter.

- As a rule: I would never want my appearance to be a stumbling block for someone to hear our Message!

C. Practicals:

1) Dress for your Most Important Meeting of your Day.

- Everyday think about the meetings you're in & who you'll be with.

2) Think about your Audience.

- I'm not going to wear ripped jeans to lead older people.

3) Remember, the people will do 1 to 2 steps below what the leader does.

7. The Lord is with him.

- "And the Lord is with him."

A. This is the Most Important Characteristic of All...the Lord is with him!

B. People can sense & feel that!

- This is the X-Factor of Leadership & Trustworthiness!!!

Now... real quick, notice...

4 Reasons the Door Opened:

1. He was Anointed for Leadership.

2. He was Living these Characteristics.

3. He was being Faithful in his Present Assignment.

- If David wasn't being faithful in his present assignment, he never would have been called up to more.

4. There was a Problem that needed Fixing!

- Saul was Troubled!

- Never underestimate how many doors God will open when we are Being Faithful with our Present Assignment & we are willing to step into a Problem that Needs Fixing!!!