

LEADERSHIP

"The most important ingredient to leadership is credibility"

I believe a leader's credibility has much to do with faithfulness. This is the same faith that is mentioned in Galatians 5:22 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, "Now, faith here is translated as "faithfulness" or "dependability". If there is no faithfulness within a leader, then that leader will soon lose influence among the people as credibility quickly diminishes. A leader must be trustworthy, dependable, and reliable. One of the best ways to practice this faithfulness is to be faithful to your word. Nobody likes a hypocrite or someone who can't live up to their word. Paul says in 1 Corinthians 9:27 "But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection; lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway."

Leaders must follow through with their word to preserve their credibility. God is most faithful to His word, **Isaiah 55:11 "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."** So, leaders must be faithful to their word just as God is faithful to His. Credibility is the most important ingredient for leadership, and you will know true leadership by the fruit that leadership bears. **Matthew 12:33 "Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by his fruit"**

Faithfulness will find you favor with "God" and "man". Nehemiah declares in chapter 2:18 "Then I told them of the hand of God which was good upon me; as also the king's words that he had spoken unto me." Notice here that the hand of God is upon Nehemiah to accomplish the task of rebuilding the city wall. When the hand of God is upon your life, nothing shall be impossible! Jerusalem's wall was finished in a record 52 days.

Nehemiah was faithful to the Lord with prayer and fasting, and the bible says God is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. Also, notice the favor Nehemiah has with the King Artaxerxes. He was the king's cupbearer, which in many cases meant he was second in authority and influence next to the king. The king grants Nehemiah's request to return to Jerusalem in order to begin rebuilding the city's walls. Also, when he arrives to the people and says, "Let us build up the wall of Jerusalem", the people respond with the answer, "Let us rise up and build".

The story of Nehemiah is a great example of how important the ingredient of credibility is for leadership. In conclusion, credibility is the most important ingredient in leadership. Faithfulness to God and his people are the fruits of great leadership.

God Bless,

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