

LEADERSHIP LESSONS FROM ELISHA #18 “Ministry Development”

2 Kings 9:1-10

Gregg Popovich: Successful coaches that worked with him. We see here that leadership involves helping to develop others.

I. DELEGATION AND DEVELOPMENT

A. True success is seen in helping someone else do the will of God

1. How you view your purpose: I must deliberately help others find the will of God
 - a. It is not enough that you know things/can do things: *Can you impart that to others/help others?*
2. What will prevent us from doing that:
 - a. **Selfishness:** (I can't be bothered) b. **Pride:** I don't want anyone to make me look bad

B. Helping others must involve delegation: *Authorizing others to carry out tasks*

1. 2 Kings 9:1 And Elisha the prophet called one of the sons of the prophets, and said to him, "Get yourself ready, take this flask of oil in your hand, and go to Ramoth Gilead.

- a. Elisha did not do this himself (not because of laziness!) He did it to train this man for the future!
2. A man who has been trained needs to be given opportunities: *Like Gehazi/this disciple*
 - a. This has risks: The possibility is that a disciple might not do it right (*But Elisha/Jesus allowed anyway*)
3. This shows us a truth about training men: You can't micromanage them:
 - a. You can't do it for them/You can't look over their shoulder – to make sure they don't do it wrong
 - a. *Is it about your ego – or is it about their development?*
4. You have to give people the chance to minister (even if they might not succeed)
 - a. Trusting them with important tasks: *John 4:2 (though Jesus Himself did not baptize, but His disciples).*

II. THE INDISPENSIBLE OIL

A. The task depended on the oil

1. 2 Kings 9:1 And Elisha the prophet called one of the sons of the prophets, and said to him, "Get yourself ready, take this flask of oil in your hand, and go to Ramoth Gilead.

- a. Sending is pointless without the oil: The oil is what made the message powerful!
 1. Without the oil – it would simply be an opinion/more words

B. This is speaking about **Anointing: Divine effectiveness**

1. God doing something supernatural: Beyond human ability/wisdom/talent/organization
 - a. *1 Samuel 3:19 And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground.*
 1. Witnessing/altar calls/testimonies/ministries
2. There should be evidence of God at work: The internal work will be seen by what happens!
 - a. Jesus: The people were amazed/didn't our hearts burn within us...

III. GETTING SPECIFIC

A. Discipleship is a balance of personal responsibility and specific instructions

1. **Get ready:** *V1 get yourself ready...* You always have to prepare in advance
2. **Placement:** *V1 Go to Ramoth Gilead...*

- a. Placement may involve the will of God: Did God say go there/does it line up with Pastoral advice
- b. Placement may simply be sanctified common sense: Location of buildings/areas to start a church

3. **Personnel:** *V2 Look for Jehu...* You have to be able to identify the right people to get the job done
 - a. Not religious b. Not crazy/odd-bods c.

4. **Common sense:** *V2 Take him privately into an inner room...* More likely to listen
 - a. Does what you're doing make common sense?

1. **Why** you do a certain thing 2. **When** you do it 3. **Where** you do it 4. **How** you do it
 - a. *PM's advice on how to deal with religious: Not at church – they'll make a scene*

5. **Message:** *V3 thus says the Lord...* You have to have something to say!

- a. A man with something to say will always have an audience

1. Preaching that is revelation – not irritation 2. Preaching that is clear 3. Preaching that is practical
- b. These only come to those who have hunger and work at it

6. **Safety:** *V3 Then open the door and flee, do not delay...*

- a. Recognizing potential dangers: *What/who could cause problems?*
- b. Not waiting too long: *To deal with issues*