

"LEADERSHIP FAILURE"

Gen 3:6-12

Almost all failure in business, sports, politics, or the Kingdom comes back to a failure of leadership.

I. FAILURE TO LEAD

A. God places the responsibility of leadership on men

1. The overall instructions for purpose were apparently said to both Adam and Eve
 - a. But there were instructions given only to Adam
 1. It was Adam's responsibility

B. The problem is when men fail to understand the role of leadership

1. Leading is not ordering/commanding women/children: You have to – because I'm in charge!
 - a. If you have to tell people you're in charge – you're not! b. Submit!!
 1. Wives wind up resenting their husbands – wind up hating ministry
2. We have to understand the role of leadership
 - a. **We lead by instructing:** Taking the time to explain what – and why
 1. God said don't eat from the tree...she said eat from it - or touch it; Not an accurate picture
 - b. **We lead by including:** Letting your wife know she is a crucial part of your future
 1. Letting her be a part of your life/ministry
 - c. **We lead by valuing:** A mistake is to give our wives the impression that she is not important
 1. To have time for everyone but her 2. Be sensitive to seasons/needs: Different

II. FAILURE TO STAND

A. Story seems like Adam came home after work: What have you done?

1. In actual fact he was right there while she was being tempted
 - a. **Genesis 3:6** *When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.*
2. **He failed to protect her against damaging influences**
 - a. God gave a clear command to Adam – Keep/Guard the garden: Keep out intruders!
 1. Demonic powers 2. People that are harmful: Bad spirit/rebellious 3. Situations
3. **He failed to stand up to her desires:** The great question – WHY DIDN'T HE JUST SAY NO??
 - a. He didn't want to cross her: Anger/Emotions/Punishment
 - b. He let her have her way – even though that was destructive
 1. Letting your wife have her way doesn't save you any trouble!

III. FAILURE TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY

A. Adam tries to pass responsibility

1. **Genesis 3:12** *The man said, "The woman you put here with me--she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."*
 - a. Fear of consequences b. Pride: We hate to lower ourselves in any way
 1. It may actually make us feel better
2. Blame has consequences
 - a. **Relationships:** How did Eve feel? The root of much tension/conflict in marriage is passing blame
 - b. **Relationship with God:** Prov 12:22 Lying lips are abomination to the LORD: but they that deal truly are his delight.
 - c. **Destiny:** Men who fail to take responsibility lose destiny – or fail to enter

B. Your future depends on accepting responsibility

1. God ultimately holds men responsible: **Genesis 3:9** *But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"*
 - a. He came looking for Adam – not Eve: He was ultimately responsible
 1. 1 Tim 3 ministry qualifications: Husband of one wife – not wife of one husband
2. Adam accepted the skins of a slain animal: It was me – I deserved this!
 - a. Healing begins there: personally b. Healing may begin relationally c. Destiny may begin there