

Character of a Leader

Lorne Sanny

I. Introduction.

- A. 2 Chronicles 26:5: as long as King Uzziah sought the Lord, God made him to prosper.
- B. Uzziah was king for 52 years and became very powerful until he lost everything.

II. What made Uzziah a success.

A. He had a mentor that taught him to seek God.

- 1. The speaker did not have a leadership model nor an example, but men like Dawson Trotman and Billy Graham taught him to seek God.
- 2. He learned the importance of having a clear sense of vision and clear sense of authority.

III. Three dimensions of biblical leadership: servant, steward and shepherd.

A. The servant of Christ. (1 Corinthians 4)

- 1. This is not a servant of man.
- 2. Christ frees us to serve in the most difficult situations. (1 Corinthians 9:19)
- 3. When we are first servants of Christ, we can then be servants of men on His behalf.

B. We are stewards of God. (1 Corinthians 4)

- 1. God gives us simple mission statements.
- 2. Sometimes the mission is not always clear.
- 3. You have to have it clear in your soul whose servant you are. (1 Samuel 15:17, 24)

C. We are shepherds of the people.

- 1. People are a gift from God. (1 Samuel 7:20, John 17)
- 2. Your team is bigger than your staff.
- 3. You are to pay attention carefully to your people. (Proverbs 23:27)

IV. Why Uzziah was ultimately unsuccessful.

A. Pride.

B. Anger.

1. This can end up in bitterness.
2. This develops into a hardness with leaders.
3. They often hold leadership principles without flexibility.
4. Some things need to remain solid and others flexible.

V. Leadership principles.

A. The work of the ministry is on the Lord's shoulders. (Psalm 127)

B. God is the glue that holds a ministry together.

C. If it ought to be done it can be done.

Application questions.

1. What are the dimensions of biblical leadership? Explain them in your own words.

2. What stood out you the most in this message? Why?

3. How are you a leader in your own circles? What unique challenges do you face that have a solution in the model explained by the speaker?
