

TAKE THE LEAD

Judges 5:2

INTRODUCTION

- A. For the past week we have studied “*trailblazers*” of the faith and helped our children see the need to lead others in their walk with the Lord.
 - 1. The Bible is filled with the exploits of great leaders like Jacob, Daniel, Nehemiah and John the Baptist.
 - 2. But, these are not just “stories” for our children.
 - 3. They are great examples of the faith we should have in our lives each day.
- B. After Deborah and Barak’s victory over Sisera, they sang this song, Judges 5:2.
 - 1. Another way to read, “*For the bold leading of the leaders of Israel, for the willing following of the people, praise the Lord.*”
- C. How can we be better leaders for the Lord?

I. THE PEOPLE OF GOD WERE TO TAKE THE LEAD.

- A. Israel, The Chosen People of God.
 - 1. Arriving at Mt. Sinai, Exodus 19:4-6.
 - 2. Leviticus 20:22-24, 26
 - 3. A people for God’s praise, Isaiah 43:20-21.
- B. God’s Chosen People Today.
 - 1. Romans 9:25-26, “...children of the living god.”
 - 2. 1 Peter 2:9-10. We are a chosen people for His praise.
 - 3. How do we declare that praise today?
 - a. Titus 2:6-8
 - b. Philippians 2:15-16a. Blameless and harmless: absence of foreign mixture (innocent).

II. PRACTICAL APPLICATION IN LEADERSHIP.

- A. Place God in His Rightful Place. Joshua 1:8
 - 1. Our spiritual Guide.
 - 2. Psalm 25:4-5, “*Show me Your Ways, O Lord, teach me Your paths.*” (KJV)
 - a. “*Make me know...*” (NAS)
- B. Leadership Is Learning to Live.
 - 1. Ecclesiastes 2:24-25 – without Him...
 - 2. 2 Peter 1:6, order of knowledge, then self-control.
 - a. Putting into practice what we have learned.
 - 3. Learning to deal with life.
 - a. How to handle the ups and downs.
 - b. Not allowing life to “get to you.”
- C. Develop the Abilities We Have.
 - 1. Not only develop, but use them.
 - 2. In time, if we do not use our talents, then we will lose them.
 - 3. Matthew 25:28-29
- D. Be Willing to Take the Responsibility. Judges 6-7
 - 1. Need to stand up and take charge. Gideon: clan is weakest, and I’m the youngest.

- a. Scenes from Sinai as Moses makes excuses.
- 2. We like to put the blame elsewhere.
- 3. 2 Samuel 12:7, 13 – Accusation of David's sin. David's confession.
- E. Being Positive in Our Lives.
 - 1. Philippians 4:13 – I can do everything...
 - 2. Romans 8:28 – In all things God...
 - 3. Those who are successful, are those who have been positive.

CLOSING

- A. Joshua and the judges were great leaders.
- B. God was at the center of everything they did.
- C. Are we being great leaders today?
- D. Is God at the center of all that we do?