

Biblical Leadership

Lesson designed by: Bob Turner

Course description: Part 3

This course introduces leaders from the Old Testament. A study of these men provides information about the style of leadership, character of the leader, and the rewards and consequences of their actions. Their relationship with God is described, and comparisons will be discussed in relationship to leaders today.

Course Objectives: By the end of the class students will have:

- A. Studied the leadership style and character of Joshua and David.
- B. Discussed how these leadership styles and character play a part of areas needed for God's leaders today.

Outline of the class:

- A. As the class opens, divide the class into two groups assigning the first group Joshua and the second group David with accompanying passages below.
 - 1. The leadership of Joshua (Exodus 17:8-16; Numbers 27:15-23; Joshua 1:1-9)
 - 2. The leadership of David (1 Samuel 17:20-54; 2 Samuel 7:8-29; 11-12:15)
- B. Ask each group to spend 10-15 minutes studying the passages associated with their leader, while making a list of what they learn about the leadership style of each and how it relates to leadership with God's people today.
- C. Once the groups complete their specific leadership assignment, ask each group to share with everyone else what they learned from their study. Keep a list of their suggestions on a whiteboard.
- D. The following list may assist the teacher in adding to the findings of each group:
 - 1. Joshua
 - a. Commander of the army, obedient, and fought valiantly
 - b. Appointed by God, successor to Moses, Spirit filled
 - c. Received instruction, strong and courageous, followed the word of God and did not turn to the right or left, not afraid
 - 2. David
 - a. Courageous and youthful, submissive to Saul's leadership, trusted God completely, no fear of the enemies of God, a giant slayer

- b. Promised an everlasting throne by God, man of prayer who knew the greatness of God
- c. Imperfect, adulterer, murderer, suffered great consequences for his sin

Conclusion:

- A. The style and character of leaders throughout the Old Testament teach us numerous lessons about the relationship of these men in connection to their God given role.
- B. Understanding both the style and character of the leader enables us to learn what we must avoid and work on as leaders of God's people today.
- C. As we continue to study through these lessons, we will learn ways we can specifically develop these qualities and apply the appropriate styles of leadership in the church today.
- D. Seek help from God this week in prayer to be obedient and courageous in every circumstance, as you develop in leadership.