

FOUNDATIONS

Part 1 of Forward: Advancing God's Mission. Numbers 27:12-23.
Peter Foxwell. Cornerstone Church. May 19, 2024.

INTRODUCING FORWARD

The Lord Jesus has given every generation the same mission.

- Disciple the nations, teaching them to follow his teachings

Advancing the mission requires leadership.

- The Lord raises up men and women to blaze the trail and influence people to join them.
- This teaching series is focused on leadership.

CALLED, GIFTED, ANOINTED

Everyone can learn leadership skills.

- But that's not the kind of leadership we're focused on in this series.

There are also called, anointed, and gifted leaders.

- Every generational move of God begins this way. He raises up called, anointed, and gifted leaders for the specific task of advancing his mission.

JOSHUA: A PATTERN TO FOLLOW

We'll examine Joshua's leadership journey.

- We will learn how God calls, anoints, and gifts leaders for his mission in the world.

NUMBERS 27:12-23

Context - verses 12-14.

- Israel was on the border of the Promised Land, but Moses had reached the end of his life.

Leadership vacuum - verses 15-17.

- Moses asked the Lord to raise up his replacement.

Joshua commissioned to lead - verses 18-23.

- Moses laid hands on Joshua.

MENTORING: THE FOUNDATION OF LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Joshua was prepared by Moses for many years.

- Moses mentored Joshua from his assistant to his successor.

Numbers 11:28a (CSB) Joshua son of Nun, assistant to Moses since his youth.

- If you sense the Lord calling you to lead, find a mentor.

A significant part of mentoring is guiding potential leaders through formational experiences.

- Joshua learned the power of prayer - Exodus 17:8-13.
- Joshua learned the reverent fear of God - Exodus 24:13-18.
- Joshua learned to hear God's voice - Exodus 33:7-11.

SETTING EXPECTATIONS

Find a mentor, but keep these expectations in mind:

- A potential mentor may say no or not yet.
- Be humble and teachable.
- This isn't about age or gender.
- This is NOT a pathway to position, title, prestige, or a job.
- Leading and preaching are not the same calling.
- Say yes to seemingly small, scary, or uncomfortable experiences.

THE ANOINTING: A PRE-REQUISITE

Experiences and leadership lessons are essential but insufficient.

- Leaders who advance God's mission need spiritual authority and gifting.
- They need the anointing, the empowering work of the Spirit for a specific task.
- Joshua received God's anointing to lead Israel:

Numbers 27:18, 20 (CSB) The LORD replied to Moses, "Take Joshua son of Nun, a man who has the Spirit in him, and lay your hands on him... 20 Confer some of your authority on him so that the entire Israelite community will obey him.

- Jesus imparted the apostolic anointing to his disciples - John 20:21-22.
- Paul imparted ministry anointing to Timothy - 2 Timothy 1:6; 1 Timothy 4:14.

SMALL GROUPS GUIDE

DIVE IN

- Review Peter's study guide. What were the highlights and key insights?
- What questions do you have about these insights? What answers can members of the group provide?
- God frequently uses time and adversity to prepare and prove leaders. Talk about the role of time, testing, and relative obscurity in preparing Moses and David.
- Study 1 Timothy 4:11-16 and 2 Timothy 1:6-7. Some might consider Timothy an unlikely leader. He may have suffered from severe anxiety. People didn't automatically follow him in the Ephesian church. What impact might these verses on Holy Spirit empowerment have had in his life? How would these passages help a Christian leader today?
- If you feel the Lord's call to advance his mission, consider sharing it with the group. What does it feel or look like in your life? What biblical principles of leadership and anointing have helped you?

PRAY TOGETHER

- Pray for the Lord to raise up called, anointed, and gifted leaders to advance his mission in our generation.
- Pray for national spiritual awakening and spiritual revival at the Cornerstone.
- Pray for the Cornerstone - people, leaders, health, and faithfulness.
- Pray for our families, communities, and nation.