1-Devotional

No unread replies.No replies.

Evaluation of this-Devotional is graded on a participation only basis. To receive points for the-Devotional, you must write one original post in response to your instructor’s prompt. Content of the posting is not graded.

*Noah:  Leaders do what is right even if they are alone*

Read Genesis 6

In Genesis 6, God is despairing over the wickedness that has overtaken humanity. Reluctantly, he decides to wipe out the human race and start from scratch. Noah, however, is the only one who has not been corrupted. You know the story. God tells him to build an ark that will save him, his family, and a whole host of animal life. As he is boarding the ark, God says to him, “for you alone I have seen to be righteous before Me in this time.” Literally the whole world was doing what was wrong. But did that deter Noah from doing what was right? Not a chance!

What are some examples of when a leader must stand alone? When have you had to stand alone by standing firm on biblical principle?

Reference: Rice, D. (2011) Blog: Business, Character & Ethics, Inspiration, Vision & Ethics

2-Devotional

No unread replies.No replies.

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*Abraham:   Leaders embrace the unknown*

Read Genesis 12

God approaches Abraham in Genesis 12 and tells him to “Go forth from your country, and from your relatives and from your father’s house, to the land which I will show you.” In other words, Abraham is instructed to leave his comfort zone and march onward into uncertainty. For school leaders, that’s a reality:  managing risk and uncertainty. Great leaders embrace that uncertainty, because they know the truth: the Promised Land awaits them on the other side.

In what ways have you dealt with uncertainty as a leader? How has your faith helped you to endure these challenges?

Reference: Rice, D. (2011) Blog: Business, Character & Ethics, Inspiration, Vision & Ethics

3-Devotional

No unread replies.No replies.

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*Joseph:  Leaders endure in spite of circumstances*

Read Genesis 37

The story of Joseph beginning in Genesis 37 is powerful. The guy had a pretty tough life. He was sold into slavery by his jealous brothers. His father was told that he was killed by a wild animal. He was framed by his boss’s wife because he refused to sleep with her and was thrown into prison. He interpreted the dream of a prisoner who was released and restored to his position, but the guy forgot about him. In the end, though, Joseph became the leader of all Egypt–second only to the Pharaoh himself. When there is a famine, he is then able to save his family from starvation. He tells his brothers when he sees them again that, though they meant harm, God orchestrated the events to put Joseph in a position to save them. Leaders have a vision that sustains them through difficult times.

Reflect on difficult times you have faced in education. How have you endured and what suggestions would you give a new educator about endurance and education as a profession?

4-Devotional

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*Moses:  Leaders stick up for their people*

Read Exodus 3

Yes, it’s true. God has to be very convincing in order to get Moses to take action in Exodus 3. He at first gives excuse after excuse as to why he isn’t the right guy for the job. When he finally does answer his calling, Moses approaches Pharaoh and boldly passes on the iconic message: “Let my people go.” The Israelites, Moses’ native people, had been enslaved by Egypt and Moses was the one enlisted to lead them to freedom. When the time came, Moses was willing to step up and lead.

Are you willing to step up and lead? What changes must you make or obstacles to overcome in order to accept God’s calling to servant leadership?

5-Devotional

No unread replies.No replies.

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*Joshua:  Leaders lead by example rather than command*

Read Joshua 24

In Joshua 24, after leading his people into a new land, Joshua offers the Israelites the option to either A) serve the God who they had always served, the one who had brought them into the land or B) serve the gods of the surrounding lands. “But as for me and my house,” he says, “we will service the Lord.” The people answer in unison that they will pledge their allegiance to God. Because they believe in Joshua’s leadership, they follow Joshua’s example. He doesn’t have to threaten them; he merely inspires them by his example.

How can you transform your school or organization by leading by example?

6-Devotional

No unread replies.No replies.

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*David:  Leaders are not afraid of giants!*

Read 1 Samuel 17

Everybody knows this story. In 1 Samuel 17, the Israelites are being defeated by the Philistines and their 9-foot tall giant–Goliath. Goliath taunts the Israelites and challenges them to send him one man and, if that man should defeat him, the Philistines would become their servants. David, a small shepherd boy who will not even fit into the armor he is provided, volunteers. When Goliath mocks him, David says, “You come to me with a sword, a spear, and a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, whom you have taunted.” With that, he takes a stone, slings it at Goliaths forehead, and knocks the giant to the ground–dead. In other words, you can face any challenge as long as you have conviction and strength of resolve on your side.

Reflect on this story. How can you apply it as a leader?

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Isaiah:  Leaders rise to the occasion

Read Isaiah 6

In a vision Isaiah has in Isaiah 6, God asks who he should send as a prophet to His people. Isaiah responds, “Here am I. Send me!” Leaders don’t wait to see if anyone else is going to step up when something needs done. They take initiative. They are first to raise their hands. First to stand. First to speak up. First to make decisions. Leaders shun inaction and are always ready to take the plunge at a moment’s notice.

As a leader, are you always ready for action? Pray that God will prepare you to accept the call to change lives through Christ-centered devotion.