

The Requirements and Results Of Leadership

(1 Samuel 14:1-23 – Jonathan's Victory Over the Philistine Garrison)

6 Requirements For Effective Leadership:

1. A **Take-Action Attitude** (1, 6a-b) – leadership is initiative – Jonathan's attitude was, "Let's try it and see what God will do", rather than "It probably won't work so let's not try."

Initiative involves:

- **Doing** what others are not doing, or are refusing to do.
 - **Leaving** your comfortable surroundings to go to where the problem is.
 - **Choosing** to act, beyond just thinking or talking about acting
 - **Trying** to succeed, rather than assuming failure and stifling efforts
 - **Identifying** a problem, and making it your problem, not just a topic of conversation (how many could see the garrison?)
2. An **Identified Target** (6a) – seeing a need, seeking a solution, choosing to do something about it, concentrating one's focus and efforts on a specific area.
 3. A **Deep Trust in the Lord** (6c-d) – "For nothing restrains the LORD from saving by many or by few."
 4. An Understanding of the **Value of Teamwork** (7)
 - involve **whoever** you can, to do more than **you** can do by **yourself** – a team of two defeated 20!
 - you don't need an **army** – use those that are **able, willing, and faithful**
 - some **lead**, some **follow** – **both** are necessary to fight
 - teamwork is **bi-directional** – the armor-bearer said "I am with you", and he was! It involves fulfilling your responsibilities completely and thoroughly.
 5. A Defined Set of **Tactics** (8-11)
 - **Plan** the **process** ("stand and show")
 - **Identify** evaluation/decision **points** (if, then; stay or go up)

"If they call us up, then we will go up, because that will give us an element of surprise (they wouldn't expect us to attack). If they tell us to wait, then we will get out of here, for that would allow them to have the advantage to strategize and the ability to surround us (we'll go knock on another garrison's door)."
 6. A Sense of Responsibility for Your **Tiny Corner** (12-14)
 - Take **responsibility** for your **area**. Do **what** you **can**, **where** you **can**, **when** you **can**.
 - How do you **eat** an **elephant**? One **bite** at a **time**. How do you **win** a **war**? One **fight** at a **time**.
 - Taking on 20 – a big challenge, but **nothing** compared to the overall need.
 - Taking on 20 – not the entire enemy army, but a **start** and a **stimulus**

7 Results of Effective Leadership:

1. **Success!** – *There is no guarantee of succeeding on a human level when you are leading (Josh 1:8-9), but it is certain that if you do not lead, you will not succeed.*
 2. **Shaking Up of the Enemy** (15c)
 3. **Supernatural Working** (15d) – gave God a chance to show Himself
 - An earthquake;
 - The unusual victory of Jonathan;
 - The defeat of the Philistines;
 - The rallying of Israel to battle
 4. **Self-Destruction of the Enemy** (20)
 5. **Stimulation of Others to Action** (20-22)
 - An **example** for **Saul** & his **soldiers** (20)
 - **Hope** for **discouraged defectors** (21)
 - **Courage** for **fearful hidiers** (22)
 6. **Salvation of Israel** (23)
 7. **Setting Apart as a Worker of God** (39-45) – 14:45 – "for he has worked with God this day"
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"Am I Leading?" Self Evaluation:

Initiative:

| T | F | I take action without others having to ask, prod, or prompt me.

| T | F | I take action even though others around me are unwilling to do so.

Goals:

| T | F | I have identified and am working toward accomplishing specific goals.

Faith:

| T | F | I have a deep confidence in what God can do.

| T | F | I encourage others to trust God to do great things by what I say and do.

Teamwork:

| T | F | I actively involve others in ministry,

| T | F | I am faithfully fulfilling my currently assigned role(s) and task(s).

Planning:

| T | F | I take time to make specific and detailed plans for accomplishing my specific goals.

| T | F | I know not only what I am trying to do, but how I plan on doing it.

Placement:

| T | F | I see the value in faithfully "fighting" where God has placed me.

| T | F | I am doing all that I think that I should be doing where God has placed me.