

Empowering Leadership

'Empowering others is a key Biblical principle'

I was in the Word lately and it hit me how often leaders failed in raising up other people to follow on after them. Even Joshua, the mighty warrior that led the people into the Promised Land, failed in this task. The Book of Judges starts this way, with many a leader failing to invest in and empower others, leaving the people to do their own thing once they passed on. Leaders today can be just the same. They can get so busy with 'their' ministry that they fail to raise up sons and daughters in the faith to not just follow but to go further and take more ground. This has even happened with the revivalists over the years. Raising up and empowering others is vital!

We leaders need to be relational, because as the Lord reminded me today, children (natural & spiritual) are an inheritance from Him! We need to be like Paul to Timothy. True fruitful and lasting empowerment can only come from relationship. You cannot just empower anybody, you need to build relationship first and build a trust relationship with them. As trust grows, then you can begin to 'entrust' things to them. Don't be too quick to do this – you learn the heart of the person as you journey step by step together. This journey will be fruitful and lasting ministry effectiveness. When Paul sent Timothy to a church, they received him as Paul because of that relationship. How much more could we do if we spent time investing in and empowering others instead of doing it all ourselves? (This was Jethro's word to Moses!! (Exodus 18) The answer – multiplication. One can put a thousand to flight, but two can put ten thousand – how many could 12 put to flight?

Let's not let the inheritance that the Lord has given us be lost, but let us invest, entrust and empower others to go even further in God.

In Christ, be blessed,

Tim Lunnon