

Generation Next Sunday Service Teaching-27th Jan. 2013 by David A. Adeyeye, Esq

Topic: **Chosen as Leaders -Bible Passages:** Jeremiah 1:5, 10, Zechariah 2:8, Galatians 1:15, Genesis 6:7-22, Joshua 1, 24, 1st Samuel 17, Daniel 6

1. God created us all in his own image regardless of our shape and form, and He created us for a particular purpose. The bible revealed to us that we are the apple of God's eye: Zechariah 2:8. The question then to ask is what purpose did God created us for?

2. Obviously, going by Jeremiah 1:15, one can answer that God created us for leadership! Yes Leadership in all facets of our lives. Leadership in good character; in our communities; in our faith; in our studies/school etc. As God said "I knew you before I formed you in your mother's womb. Before you were born I set you apart and appointed you as my prophet to the nations". Also, Prophet Jeremiah further told us that we God appointed us over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant- Jeremiah 1:10

3. If then God has created as Leaders for our Generation, how do we now conduct ourselves to meet the standard of God's expectations? To guide us we would look at 4 examples of Leaders in the Bible: Noah: Genesis 6:7-22, Joshua: Joshua 24, David: 1 Samuel 17, Daniel: Daniel 6

i. Noah: Leaders do what's right even if they are alone

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. 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!

ii. Joshua: Leaders rule by example rather than command

Joshua, 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.

iii. David: Leaders are not afraid of giants

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 Goliath’s forehead, and knocks the giant to the ground—dead.

iv. **Daniel: Leaders maintain their resolve without regard for consequences**

Daniel, is a highly esteemed young government official whose colleagues become jealous. Seeking to get rid of him and knowing that he is a religious man, his colleagues convince the king to enact a decree saying that prayer can be made to no god except for the king. Daniel continues on praying to his God just like he always did and he thrown into the den of lions. Daniel’s faith in his God is what made him great in first place. Knowing this, he would not recant regardless of what happened to him. Great leaders follow this example and maintain steadfast in their convictions regardless of what happens.

Key Lessons:

Noah

- ✓ Noah was saved by Faith: As God Chosen Leaders, we must have faith in Him
- ✓ Noah was saved by Obedience: As God Chosen Leaders, we must obey His words
- ✓ Noah was saved from Destruction
- ✓ Noah was saved by Grace: As God Chosen Leaders, we need to know that His grace is sufficient for us.

Joshua

- ✓ Joshua sought God in his youth.
- ✓ Joshua was zealous,
- ✓ Joshua expressed great faith in God
- ✓ God used Joshua to accomplish great works, God is will use us for great things too

David

- ✓ David chose not to wear the King's armor. David was comfortable with his simple slingshot, a weapon he was skilled at using. God will use the unique skills he's already placed in your hands. He will work miracles through you.
- ✓ David's faith in God caused him to look at the giant from a different perspective. If we look at giant problems and impossible situations from God's perspective, we realize that God will fight for us and with us.
- ✓ David did the right thing in spite of discouraging insults and fearful threats. Only God's opinion mattered to David.

Daniel

- ✓ Obedience: Daniel would not defile himself with the king’s meat & wine.
- ✓ Wisdom: We see how Daniel used wisdom to save himself and his friends from death- he asked for time to interpret the King’s dream. When we need wisdom, we should ask. James 1:5 “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God
- ✓ Prayers- Daniel turned to God in difficulty through prayers