

LEADERSHIP LESSONS FROM DAVID

First person Drama by David
Rev. Dr. Jerry Schmoyer © 2017

INTRODUCTION

Hello – my name is David, king of Israel
Have you heard of me?
I'm please to meet you and speak to you today!

My story starts with my great grandmother **Ruth**.
She married a man named Boaz in Bethlehem, the family hometown.
I grew up there in Bethlehem
I was the youngest of 8 sons
You may remember that Joseph and Mary had to go to Bethlehem for a census.
That's because they were part of my family, descendants of mine many years later.

Bethlehem was a small village 5 miles away from Jerusalem
The people farmed and raised sheep

It was part of Israel which was ruled by **judges** like Gideon and Esther
But the people decided they wanted a **king** instead
God was their king but they wanted a human king like all the other countries around them.
About 8 years before I was born a man named **SAUL** was anointed king.
He was big and powerful so everyone followed him
But he didn't follow God and led the nation astray

I was born about 1035 BC in Bethlehem – ARYANS TO INDIA, VEDAS WRITTEN
I was the youngest son so I got the worst jobs on the farm – watching the sheep
Most of the time it was very boring, but sometimes it was very dangerous.
God used those years to train me to be man who loved and served Him.

I'd like to tell you about my life today, and teach you some lessons to help you become godly leaders.

1. COURAGE TO FACE CHALLENGES

By the time I was **10** years old I had to fight a **bear** and later a **lion** to protect my sheep
That took a lot of courage for a young boy

A godly leader needs COURAGE to faithfully serve God and lead others
God continually put me in positions where I couldn't win, just to teach me to trust on Him
I learned He will always come through for me, so I could trust Him
Courage is just that, trusting God is in control no matter what happens
If you are following God there is nothing to fear
Life won't be easy but you know whatever happens is part of God's perfect plan

Psalm 27:1 The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life, of whom shall I be afraid?

TODAY: Leadership takes courage – stand against persecution, criticism, mockery
Even stand against pressure of other Christians trying to have you do what they want
In own family to godly lead wife and children even when it is hard

2. PATIENCE, PERSEVERANCE

When I was **12** years old Samuel came to Bethlehem and anointed me as the future king
It took awhile because my father Jesse forgot about me and thought it was one of my brothers
Eventually he remembered me and God showed them I was to be the next king I Sam 16:3

Chosen by God when 12, but didn't become king of Judah until 42, then all Israel at 49!
Patiently trust God was in control

Psalm 27:14 "wait for the Lord"

LIFE NOT SMOOTH, EASY FOR DAVID, or you
Seasons, phases – shepherd, Goliath, hiding, king, sin, restoration

12 made king by God 1 Sam 16:12

42 ruled over Judah Benjamin

47 ruled over whole nation

Walk of faith

God raises up a leader progressively, gradually, over time

TODAY: faithful in little things at start – bear, lion, Goliath

Must be content to wait on God and His timing to act, promote
Not easy, not always fair – just be faithful, be like Jesus!

TODAY: want God to work quicker to grow your church?

Solve your problems?

Deliver you from oppression, etc

Provide for your needs?

US make plans, want God to bless them, then wonder why not answer our prayers when plans fail –
must be HIS plans for him to bless

3. HUMILITY

The next year, when I was **13**, I started playing music in Saul 1 Sam 16:21-22
Quite a privilege for a shepherd boy whose father even forgot about him!

2 Sam 7:18 "Who am I and who is my family that you have brought me this far?"

Always amazed and humbled that God would notice me, much less use me in such a special way!
If you read the Psalms I wrote you'll see I talk about that a lot

TODAY: leader must be confident, but still humble

Great to be a leader, see God work and people admire you
But can't do it without God!

Humbled by awesome privilege of being a Christian and pastor!

How would you be if God removed presence 100% from life and ministry? What like then?

4. DEEP FAITH IN GOD

I was a musician for Saul for about **2 years** when war with the Philistines started
Sent their champion Goliath to challenge armies of the living God

Everyone afraid of him because of his size and reputation
It bothered me a lot that he was making fun of God and God's people so I wanted to fight him
At first no one thought I could, but when no one else wanted to they let me, even though I was 15

READ 1 SAMUEL 17:42-47

I knew I was no match for Goliath and couldn't defeat him
But if God wanted me to do it then it was His battle and He would fight it for me
I had courage, not in myself, but my faith in God enabled me to trust Him.
He guided the one little stone I threw with my slingshot and it killed Goliath
God used me because I had faith in Him to do so!
Like JOSHUA – God brings victory!

TODAY: all face giants, impossible situations – faith in God to face them in His strength
Health, money, church problems, family, own temptations
What are you facing in life that is greater than you, that can overcome & defeat you?
Do you have enough faith in God to trust Him with it and not worry or get afraid?

5. OBEDIENT TO GOD

Because of my success against Goliath Saul made me a leader in the army and gave me his
daughter in marriage 1 Samuel 18:21
I was now part of King Saul's family
Everyone loved me
I was very popular with the people of Israel and with Saul's son and daughter
But that made Saul really jealous of me

Saul's jealousy for me continued to grow
The more God blessed me the angrier Saul got, for he lost God's blessing because of his sin
He even *tried* killing me so I had to run away and hide from him
From my ***late teens to about 35*** I was running in hiding from Saul – almost 20 years of my life!
Many others who were unhappy with Saul's leadership came to live with me & protect me
I had hundreds of people I was responsible for – protection & daily food
I had 6 wives and children by them and they traveled with me

Sometimes I didn't trust God but took things in my own hands and lied or deceived others
I even killed innocent people such as the Amalekites
Pretended to be crazy
But most of the time I depended on Him for protection and direction
Twice I could have killed Saul but didn't, trusting God would take care of him in His time
I often poured out my heart to God in prayer and praise
Many of the Psalms I wrote were written during this time of running and hiding
I often asked God for directions and guidance 1 Sam 23:1-4

TODAY: many depend on God when things hard, but when OK act on own – not good!
When we act on our own, like David, disaster comes
When we depend on God for guidance blessing comes
Leaders must learn to listen to and obey God
Pastors want to do what others do, impress others – only do what God wants
Different for each pastor, church

NOT ACT and expect God to come along and make it work

Obeys and wait

Hard to: forgive her hurt, be patient, victory over sin, stand up to dominating person, etc

SAUL never went to God for direction, he continued in sin and eventually died in battle

When I was **42** I was ANOINTED KING OF JUDAH & BENJAMIN

The other tribes followed Saul's son Ishbosheth

7 years later, when I was 49, Ishbosheth was killed and I became ruler of all the tribes of Israel

6. VULNERABLE TO TEMPTATION

SENSUAL TEMPTATION

After uniting all Israel under my kingship, we defeated the **Philistines, Moab and the Syrians**

About that time, when I was **53** years old, something happened that changed my life & Israel forever
Instead of going to war with my soldiers, as I should have, I stayed home

Neglecting your God-given responsibility will always get you into trouble, and it did for me

I accidentally saw the wife of one of my commanders taking a bath

Instead of turning away and resisting the temptation I sinned with her

Actually this sin started long ago when I had more than one wife

When I saw a woman I wanted I added her to my harem

That made it easier to sin with **Bathsheba**

TODAY:

Satan will start setting you up now with **little sins**

Greed, lust, pride, jealousy, lying to seem better to others, fear, anger

That way when he springs the big one on you you'll be more liable to give in a sin

Be very sure to have victory over those little sins in your life, for they don't stay little, they grow!

Pride in being **pastor**, admired and honored by all, serious temptation

Women treat you with respect, maybe your own wife doesn't – tempting

When you sin, confess it and don't try to cover it up

I tried to cover it up by having Uriah killed

I had pattern of deceiving people and covering up my sins since young, so easy to do it again

David confessed, repented – leaned on God's grace (Psalm 32, 51)

Made mistakes, but humbled self and was honest about them

TODAY:

Danger of hiding, covering up sin so no one knows – But God does!

Forgiven but consequences continue for him, family and nation

AS A FATHER OR MOTHER

David **57**, not good example of family growing up, not good father

Amnon abuses half-sister Tamar, forces self on her

David does nothing so her bro Absalom kills Amnon

David does nothing so Absalom rebels against David

David flees Jerusalem, civil war comes, eventually Absalom killed

TODAY:

Pastors neglect families, children – busy with church, ignore “#1 & #2 sheep)
If not good husband/father, then shouldn't be pastor!

DAVID NOT A GOOD FATHER

Husband spiritual leader, initiate

Prayer, teach bible, etc

Initiate unconditional love for children

Initiate DISCIPLINE

Consistent

Always done in love, never anger

Same by father and mother

Same for boys and girls

Same at home or outside

Train by example to learn, grow like Jesus

7. FORESIGHT TO TRAIN OTHERS

David **63** – battle with Philistines, David almost killed by giant but not

David **72** – gives son Solomon responsibility for rebuilding temple

Trains Solomon to take over as king

TODAY:

Leaders must train others, build into other people to do same thing

Plan for future, for growth, not just do everything yourself now

Build into own children – good future leaders

David **74** – turns over kingdom to Solomon, dies

CONCLUSION

A GODLY LEADER LIKE DAVID

1. Has courage to face challenges
2. Has patience
3. Has humility
4. Has deep faith in God
5. Is loyal to his friends
6. Depends on God for direction
7. Knows life is a journey
8. Is aware of vulnerability to temptation
9. Leans on God's Grace
10. Leads family to godliness
11. Trains others to replace him

Which do you need to work on????

One live, over now can't change

YOU not done, can still change

Don't know how long have so don't put it off