LEADERSHIP CHALLENGES, TESTS, FRUSTRATIONS AND FAILURES

Judges 8

Gideon's Frustrating Challenges of Leadership:

Those who wouldn't _____ in battle but are the first to _____ (v.1)

A gentle answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger. Proverbs 15:1

Leadership is _____for _____ of _____(v.4)

...weary yet pursuing... (v.4)

Leadership is going forward because _____

even when being attacked _____(vv.5-6)

"Behold Zebah and Zalmunna, concerning whom you taunted me, saying, 'Are the hands of Zebah and Zalmunna already in your hand, Judges 8:15

Gideon's mission and goal was to _____ what was _____ God's people

Zebah- man-killer (Easton's)

Zalmunna- Shelter is denied (Nelson's)

Gideon forgot that leadership is remembering and operating in your _____(v.7)

The Lord looked at him and said, "Go in this your strength and deliver Israel from the hand of Midian. Have I not sent you?" Judges 6:14

Sadly Gideon fails the _____ test as he teaches God's people to fear his _____but not to _____ God (vv.16-17)

See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled; Hebrews 12:15 (...a person like that can ruin many of you, NCV)

Bitterness in leadership is best dealt with by _____ _____ with God

not _____ on God's people

Leadership is sticking with _____ mission not _____ mission (v.19)

(vv.21,24,26)

You shall name him Ishmael, ...He will be a wild donkey of a man; his hand will be against everyone and everyone's hand against him, and he will live in hostility toward all his brothers Genesis 16:11-12

...besides the crescent ornaments and the pendants and the purple robes which were on the kings of Midian... Judges 8:26

crescent saharon—the moon, the crescent (as ornament) (Thayer's)

Gideon's ultimate downfall will be:

The _____ (vv.24-27)

The _____ (vv.22,27 &31)

Abimelech-father is king (ab-father melek-king)

The _____ (v.30)

The Result of Gideon's Leadership (vv.27,33)