

LEADERSHIP AT THE **CROSSROADS** 2 SAM. 19:1-10

Failure isn't the end of leadership, it's leadership at the crossroads!

1. Leaders lead **after** failure!

2 Samuel 19:8 Then the king arose, and sat in the gate. And they told unto all the people, saying, Behold, the king doth sit in the gate. And all the people came before the king: **for Israel had fled every man to his tent.** 2 Samuel 19:9 And all the people were at strife throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, The king saved us out of the hand of our enemies, and he delivered us out of the hand of the Philistines; and now he is fled out of the land for Absalom. 2 Samuel 19:10 And Absalom, whom we anointed over us, is dead in battle. **Now therefore why speak ye not a word of bringing the king back?**

Obviously the specifics are unique to David:

- Sin with Bathsheba
- Murder of Uriah
- Rape of daughter
- David did...nothing!
- Murder of Amnon by Absalom
- The failure of David to deal with Absalom or reconcile with him!
- Rebellion of Absalom
- Loss of Jerusalem
- Near loss of Kingdom
- Death of Absalom
- Failure once again with his children
- Almost a complete breakdown of David

What do we do now?

Proverbs 24:16 For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again: But the wicked shall fall into mischief.

2 Corinthians 4:8 We are troubled on every side, **yet not** distressed; we are perplexed, **but not** in despair; 2 Corinthians 4:9 Persecuted, **but not** forsaken; cast down, **but not** destroyed;

Psalms 37:23 The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: And he delighteth in his way. Psalms 37:24 **Though he fall, he shall not** be utterly cast down: For the LORD upholdeth him with his hand.

Psalms 37:31 The law of his God is in his heart; **None** of his steps shall slide.

2. Leaders lead **out of necessity & responsibility!**

2 Samuel 19:8 Then the king arose, and sat in the gate. And they told unto all the people, saying, Behold, the king doth sit in the gate. And all the people came before the king: for Israel had fled every man to his tent. 2 Samuel 19:9 And all the people were at strife throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, The king saved us out of the hand of our enemies, and he delivered us out of the hand of the Philistines; and now he is fled out of the land for Absalom. 2 Samuel 19:10 And Absalom, whom we anointed over us, is dead in battle. **Now therefore why speak ye not a word of bringing the king back?**

2 Samuel 19:11 And king David sent to Zadok and to Abiathar the priests, saying, Speak unto the elders of Judah, saying, **Why are ye the last to bring the king back to his house? seeing the speech of all Israel is come to the king, even to his house.** 2 Samuel 19:12 Ye are my brethren, ye are my bones and my flesh: **wherefore then are ye the last to bring back the king?** 2 Samuel 19:13 And say ye to Amasa, Art thou not of my bone, and of my flesh? God do so to me, and more also, if thou be not captain of the host before me continually in the room of Joab.

2 Samuel 19:15 **So the king returned,** and came to Jordan. And Judah came to Gilgal, to go to meet the king, **to conduct the king over Jordan.**

2 Samuel 19:41 And, behold, all the men of Israel came to the king, and said unto the king, **Why have our brethren the men of Judah stolen thee away, and have brought the king, and his household, and all David's men with him, over Jordan?** 2 Samuel 19:42 And all the men of Judah answered the men of Israel, Because the king is near of kin to us: wherefore then be ye angry for this matter? have we eaten at all of the king's cost? or hath he given us any gift? 2 Samuel 19:43 And the men of Israel answered the men of Judah, and said, **We have ten parts in the king, and we have also more right in David than ye:** why then did ye despise us, that our advice should not be first had in bringing back our king? And the words of the men of Judah were fiercer than the words of the men of Israel.

The people need a king
 The people were lost without a leader
 David was God's appointed leader
 Leading was both necessity & his responsibility

MALE:	MAN:
An accident of birth	President Truman: "The buck stops here" One word: responsibility

3. Leaders lead **with what they have!**

2 Samuel 19:16 And **Shimei** the son of Gera, a Benjamite, which was of Bahurim, hasted and came down with the men of Judah to meet king David.

2 Samuel 19:17 And there were **a thousand men of Benjamin with him**, and **Ziba** the servant of the house of Saul, **and** his fifteen sons **and** his twenty servants with him; and they went over Jordan before the king.

2 Samuel 19:18 And there went over a ferry boat to carry over the king's household, and to do what he thought good. And Shimei the son of Gera fell down before the king, as he was come over Jordan; **2 Samuel 19:19** And said unto the king, Let not my lord impute iniquity unto me, neither do thou remember that which thy servant did perversely the day that my lord the king went out of Jerusalem, that the king should take it to his heart. **2 Samuel 19:20** For thy servant doth know that I have sinned: therefore, behold, I am come the first this day of all the house of Joseph to go down to meet my lord the king. **2 Samuel 19:21** **But Abishai the son of Zeruiah** answered and said, Shall not Shimei be put to death for this, because he cursed the LORD's anointed? **2 Samuel 19:22** And David said, What have I to do with you, ye sons of Zeruiah, that ye should this day be adversaries unto me? shall there any man be put to death this day in Israel? for do not I know that I am this day king over Israel? **2 Samuel 19:23** Therefore the king said unto Shimei, Thou shalt not die. And the king sware unto him.

People are: weird, strange, dysfunctional, not interested, disgruntled, hold grudges, never resolve anything...
 Actually people are just people → the only people you have

4. Leaders lead **in their place & time!**

Acts 13:36 For David, after he had served **his own generation** by the will of God, fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption:

2 Samuel 3:1 Now there was **long war between the house of Saul and the house of David: but David waxed stronger and stronger, and the house of Saul waxed weaker and weaker.**

2 Samuel 5:1 Then came all the tribes of Israel to David unto Hebron, and spake, saying, Behold, we are thy bone and thy flesh. **2 Samuel 5:2** Also in time past, when Saul was king over us, thou wast he that leddest out and broughtest in Israel: and the LORD said to thee, Thou shalt feed my people Israel, and thou shalt be a captain over Israel. **2 Samuel 5:3** So all the elders of Israel came to the king to Hebron; and king David made a league with them in Hebron before the LORD: and they anointed David king over Israel. **2 Samuel 5:4** David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. **2 Samuel 5:5** In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months: and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty and three years over all Israel and Judah.

2 Samuel 20:1 And there happened to be there **a man of Belial**, whose name was **Sheba**, the son of Bichri, a Benjamite: and he blew a trumpet, and said, We have no part in David, neither have we inheritance in the son of Jesse: every man to his tents, O Israel.

2 Samuel 20:2 **So every man of Israel went up from after David, and followed Sheba the son of Bichri:** but the men of Judah clave unto their king, from Jordan even to Jerusalem.