

Reading Report for Spiritual Gifts: A Tale of Three Kings

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A Tale of Three Kings: The three kings in the story King Saul, King David, King Absalom. Started with the stories of young David and his persecutor King Saul, then transitioned into the late King David when King Absalom challenged David's kingship. The book highlights the heart postures of David, wise and humble enough to obey, and follow God's timeline.

Ultimately, I agree that leadership is appointed by God. There was a time in my past corporate career life, I worked so hard and hustle to get tasks and projects done in the most efficient and effective way. Going an extra-mile was an understatement, I was going way beyond that. I wanted to prove to others and myself that I was worthy of a leadership role. I was a refugee and fled my country, and arrived in the States 3 months away from my 18th birthday. In the beginning, I was the shy and humble one. But being shy and humble didn't get me far, or where I wanted. Especially when I graduated from college, to get a foot in the door was very difficult for me. People at work looked at me "oh she was a refugee child that IRC sponsored to resettled". I was determined to put my head down and work harder than everyone else, to earn myself a leadership position. I know the Lord, I was saved since I was 12, but unlike King David, I didn't wait for God's time nor pray about this. I made my way up against opposition, and couldn't care less if my heart posture was right with God or not. I got to where I wanted but my first leadership position was hell. I had so many people management issues in my team, and I suffered a lot. I remembered praying to God to bless me in this leadership position, but I latter registered that God didn't put me there, I put myself there and it was not a good environment. So, I surrendered, told God I will give up this leadership position even though I work hard for it; and I ended up switching to a technical role.

I thought I will never be in leadership position again, but God showed me otherwise. Two years into the technical role, I was offered a leadership role with bigger scope than the one I had, this time around I have to manage a staff in UK, 2 indirect reports from Germany and Sweden,

along with the existing US team. It was God, I didn't ask for it, work for it, or apply for it. I was so happy to have a second chance at leadership position. My heart posture was different this time around, I felt like I was in David's position, when Prophet Samuel anointed him as King. I was very humble and felt undeserving – night and day compared to my heart posture when I had the very first leadership position. This time around, the oppositions was even bigger. However, I know I needed wanted to be in tuned with God in every steps. I refused to follow my intellect and first reaction. This time, my heart was filled with humility, and I wanted to enjoy this God given leadership. King David was fearless warrior, yet there is this gentle side of him. He won people hearts, he had solid followers/soldiers, they love him and stood by him ready to move left or right per his command. This time around I learned to be more about the people and less about the project.

I thank God for transforming me from a legalist to a loving leader. In a sense, I've returned to my first love, my purest heart posture when I was 12 years old refugee kid. I thought being meek and humble won't get me where I wanted to be. But at the age of 36 years old, God has taught me being meek, humble, and loving is all I needed to be; especially in position of leadership. When I resigned from my work, the cards, emails, gifts my staffs gave me was so heartwarming – David know I like beta fish, so he gave me a gift coupon for Petco. I am not sure what position in ministry the Lord will give me next, but I know 100% my current role as youth pastor, is God's appointment. I am so grateful that I was the mean boss, a workaholic, a high achiever, a go-getter, because I saw and lived the ugly side of me when I refused to abide and to be led by love. I am thankful that God allowed me to fail and suffer as a leader early on outside ministry settings. In Matt. 11:29, Jesus said of Himself as "I am gentle and humble at heart", He is my leader my king, so it is only right that I follow his leadership style.

With integrity, I have read this book (circle one):

Thoroughly and Entirely _____%

Quickly but Completely _____%

Thoroughly but NOT Entirely _____%

Quickly and NOT Completely _____%

Not at all

Signed: Monom Teekham

Bibliography

Edwards, Gene. A Tale of Three Kings: A Study in Brokenness. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1992.