
A Time to Build: *a blueprint for visionary leadership*

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Sermon Study Guide - Part 4 of 7 - "Leaders Inspire Action" - 10/6/19

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Welcome to The Story!

A Time to Build is a 7-week series about vision and leadership. Leadership is *influence with people*, and the big idea behind this series is that every follower of Jesus is called to be a leader. As we follow him, **Jesus leads us to influence others to follow him as well** (Matthew 28:19).

So if you're following Jesus, surprise - you're a leader!

Let's be honest: Everybody knows the world isn't the way it *should* be, and most of us have some idea of how we'd like the world to change. But very few of us ever get around to *doing* something to change the world. Most people have the **vision (a mental picture of a preferred future)**, but very few have the will to **lead (influence people)** for change.

Can you think of a time when you were inspired to change the world? What was the vision, and what did you do about it?

Nehemiah 2:17-20

17 ...Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace." 18 I also told them about the gracious hand of my God on me and what the king had said to me. They replied, "Let us start rebuilding." So they began this good work.

19 But when Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official, and Geshem the Arab heard about it, they mocked and ridiculed us. "What is this you are doing?" they asked. "Are you rebelling against the king?" 20 I answered them by saying, "The God of heaven will give us success. We his servants will start rebuilding, but as for you, you have no share in Jerusalem or any claim or historic right to it."

The Inspiration Factor

What is INSPIRATION, and how do good leaders *inspire*?

How, specifically, did Nehemiah *inspire* the people of Jerusalem to rebuild?

Matthew 4:18-22, 25, 9:9-13

4:18 As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. 19 “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” 20 At once they left their nets and followed him. 21 Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, 22 and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

25 Large crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and the region across the Jordan followed him.

9:9 As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector’s booth. “Follow me,” he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him. 10 While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew’s house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. 11 When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” 12 On hearing this, Jesus said, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. 13 But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

What things did Jesus do and say to inspire so many people to pursue his vision?

4 Essentials of Inspirational Leadership

Effective leaders like Jesus and Nehemiah inspire people to ACT on their VISION by prioritizing four core values:

1. _____

Your notes:

2. _____

Your notes:

3. _____

Your notes:

4. _____

Your notes:

How can you become a more inspirational leader for those in your sphere of influence?