

THE BEST PERSON FOR THE JOB

By Dr. Stephen G. Tan | Psalm 78:70-72

DISCUSS

Whether in the church, in any company, or in government, it is important to have the right leaders in place or else it is a recipe for disaster. The wrong leader may lead to the decline of the church or an organization, or may lead to inefficient or ineffective government. David exemplified four biblical qualities of a leader which we can also use to evaluate leaders of churches, schools, NGOs, businesses, or any other organization. Read Psalm 78:70-72.

Leadership Quality #1: LIFE EXPERIENCE (v. 70-71).

- Who was David before God chose him to be king over Israel? How did being a shepherd prepare him to be a king?
- What's the important warning that the apostle Paul had written to Timothy in choosing spiritual leaders (1 Timothy 3:6)?
- Why is experience a critically important factor to serve as a leader?
- In choosing a leader (in school, company, church, or government), what are the questions that you should ask yourself about that person you are considering to be the leader?

Leadership Quality #2: CARE FOR PEOPLE (v. 70-71).

- How did David's gentle care for the female sheep that were nursing their young translate to his care for people?
- How can you tell if your leader is a caring person?
- What does servant leadership mean? What did the apostle Peter remind the church leaders in 1 Peter 5:3?

- Try these simple test to help you assess if a leader really cares or not:
 - Why does the person want to be in that position of leadership? What is their vision and plan to help the people they lead?
 - What are they willing to sacrifice for the people they lead? Do they feel entitled or are they willing to sacrifice?
 - Observe how they treat others, especially how they treat those who are under them.

Leadership Quality #3: GOOD AND GODLY CHARACTER (v. 72a).

- What does it mean that David led the people of Israel with "integrity of heart" in spite of his flaws and the terrible mistakes in his life?
- Why is a God-fearing character an important aspect in a leader?
- How do you assess a person's character based on his words and actions, morality, stewardship and allocation of resources?
- Why is transparency and willingness to put himself or herself under accountability and checks and balance important for a leader?

Leadership Quality #4: COMPETENT AND CAPABLE (v. 72b).

- How does this verse describe the fourth quality of David as a leader?
- Why are ability and skill important for a leader or potential leader to have?
- Discuss what kind of ability and skills should a leader have.
- What do you appreciate about your church leaders?

REFLECT

As we prayerfully consider whom we vote for in local and national positions or selecting leaders for our secular and spiritual organizations, make sure to assess each candidate using these biblical leadership qualities:

- Do they have relevant life experience?
- Have they shown they genuinely care for people?
- Have they demonstrated a good and godly character (are they God-fearing)?
- Are they competent and capable for the task and responsibility they will have to shoulder?

PRAY

Heavenly Father, as the national election in our country is happening soon, we pray for Your guidance as we choose whom to vote for. May we discern and accept Your will even if the people we voted for do not win. We pray that You will bless our country with leaders who fear You and will lead with care for the people and integrity in character. Lord, You know the hearts of men and You know who will best lead our country, and so we commit our coming election to Your hand. We pray this in Jesus' precious name. Amen.