

THE FANTASTIC SIXTEEN

UNLIKELY HEROES

THE TRUE STORIES OF BIBLICAL LEADERS YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF

**THE MARTYR- SPIRIT
FILLED STEPHEN**

Acts 7

THE LINCHPIN

- The Linchpin is the most important part of the wheel. Without it people could not travel safely in a car, and a plane could not land on the runway. So what is it? A linchpin is a piece of metal that joins the wheel to the axle.
- What do you think of the importance of the linchpin?

CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP

- Just as the wheel needs a linchpin to hold everything together, so does Christian leadership. The linchpin of spiritual leadership is being filled with the Holy Spirit. Without the Holy Spirit, godly leadership is impossible and our influence falls apart.

1. PEOPLE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT ARE THE MOST EFFECTIVE LEADERS (ACTS 6:1-4)

- When the early church needed leaders, they knew the importance of finding Spirit-filled people.
- A. What did Jesus say about being filled with the Holy Spirit? (John 14:16-17)
- What does it look like to be filled with the Spirit? (Galatians 5:22)

2. PEOPLE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT STAND OUT FROM THE CROWD (ACTS 6:5-15)

2. LEADERS UNDERSTAND THE POWER OF DIRECT INFLUENCE

A. Discover the importance of your position

- Esther realized the importance of her role through her cousin's challenge (4:14). Because she feared God, Esther knew she must use her leadership to protect His people, the Jews.

B. Be willing to use your position to benefit others

C. Remember that obedience breeds obedience.

INFLUENCE OF ESTHER

Esther planned a huge banquet to honor the king and asked for him to come (5:4) He was delighted to see her and told her that he would give her anything she wanted.

Esther was then able to tell him what Haman plotted to do to her people.

Mordecai did what was right and it started a chain reaction. His obedience to God led to Esther's obedience and it concerned all of the Jews.

WHAT DOES 1 TIMOTHY 4:12 SAY?

Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but *rather* in speech, conduct, love, faith *and* purity, show yourself an example ^[a]of those who believe.

WHETHER OR NOT YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF A LEADER, YOU ARE INFLUENCING OTHERS

1. Your younger siblings
2. Younger youth in your church
3. Teachers at school who are not believers
4. Other students who are not believers
5. Adult leaders in your church
6. Your parents and family.