

Leading Second Podcast

Episode Guide



Leading Second Podcast - Season 7 Episode 182

Summer Series - For The Kingdom - Leaders the Church Needs Right Now with Brandon Stewart

The Church needs uncommon leaders. This week, we hear from our founder, Brandon Stewart, as he shares what it takes to lead in today's culture and breaks down the 4 keys to uncommon leadership. To learn more on this topic, stream our course *UNCOMMON* by Brandon Stewart on Leading Second+ today.

Colliding Kingdoms

- We are to raise up leaders who are built and established and rooted in Kingdom perspectives.
- We're seeing a collision of kingdoms.
 - The Kingdom of God and the kingdom of the world.
 - It is not business as usual.
- We're living in a world where people are saying being a Christian nation is bad.

Psalm 33:12 NIV "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord..."

 - To be a Christian means that we believe that the ways of the Kingdom, the ways of Scripture, are the ultimate framework for human flourishing.
 - We believe that a nation built on God's Word, His ways, and on the Kingdom of God leads to human flourishing.
 - John McWhorter said in his book, *Woke Racism*: "The woke religion is moving on the hearts of well-intentioned people (believers) who just don't have the right spiritual and Biblical foundation."
 - Luring people into a way of religion that is ultimately opposed to scripture and the ways of God.

Leading From a Kingdom Perspective

- We're leading in a day where people say that they follow the teachings of Jesus but not the whole counsel of Scripture.
 - They want to come close to identifying as Christians but don't believe in the authority and inerrancy of Scripture.
 - This is nothing new. We're just seeing it in a new form today.
- Leading in a world of choice architecture.
 - Christians are being asked to respond within a binary of two things that are contrary to truth.
 - We're being offered a false choice in order for God's people to be boxed in, coerced, and forced into that worldly belief system.
 - Politics are not our highest allegiance nor our greatest perspective.
 - At the end of the day, it's about the Kingdom of God against the kingdom of this world.
- We are leading in a day where church hurt is real and local church leaders don't always get it right.
 - Sin is sin.
 - Organizations should never cover up unreported and unrestored sin.
 - As church leaders who want to build God's church, we have to continue on building faithfully.
 - We have to be reminded that for every leader who "falls," there are thousands of faithful leaders and churches who are still honoring God and building with integrity.
 - We have to desire to champion the church.
 - We have to be built differently.
- In Daniel 6 - Daniel found himself leading in a place of two colliding kingdoms.
 - Daniel 6:3 NIV "Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom."
 - Daniel had an excellent spirit.
 - There was something different about him.
 - He was rare.
 - He was uncommon.
 - He was built differently.
 - Uncommon doesn't mean to be better than. It means to be different from.
 - He was separate. He was in it but not of it.
 - There was a distinguishing mark on his life. God used him powerfully in the nation in that season.

Uncommon Leader Matrix

1. Kingdom-Centered Leaders

- John 18:36-37 NIV "Jesus said, 'My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.' 'You are a king, then!' said Pilate. Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.'"
- The Kingdom of God is where Jesus rules and reigns.
- The church is not the Kingdom of God but it is the announcement/instrument of God in the world.
- When we commit to being Kingdom-Centered leaders, it establishes His way over our ways.
- Individual perspective: we have to lead out of the conviction that the Kingdom of God offers us a better way.
- Team perspective: when performance replaces Kingdom thinking and character, toxicity will always be present.
- Matthew 5:43-44 NIV "'You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,'"
- Craig Groeschel said, "Do something every day to kill your dark side."
- Corporate perspective: our highest loyalty and strongest voice should be announcing the Kingdom.

2. Biblically-Faithful Leaders

- The New Testament writers strongly guarded and spoke the truth.
- 1 Timothy 1:3-4, 7 NIV "As I urged you when I went to Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain people not to teach false doctrines any longer or to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. Such things promote controversial speculations rather than advancing God's work - which is by faith.... They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they so confidently affirm."
- We are leading in a day where the truth is under question.
- We are called to build potent churches.
 - Churches that declare the truth of the Word of God but invite everybody into the gospel message and to seek God's ways.
- It's time for us to make a new commitment to be biblically faithful in our teaching, leadership, and counsel.
- To be a Biblically-Faithful leader means to establish His Word over my truth.

3. Wisdom-Fueled Leaders

- We're going to see things in the world we've never seen before.
- As leaders, it's impossible to know everything that's going to come our way.
- But we can be leaders of great wisdom.
- James 1:5 NIV "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."
- Proverbs 1:20 NIV "Out in the open wisdom calls aloud, she raises her voice in the public square."
- Commanders Intent: the idea that it is impossible for a commanding officer to train their soldiers on how to navigate every aspect of the battle that they will face.
 - If all you've done is teach your soldiers how to do everything, they are ill-equipped for the changes ahead.
 - Instead, they will train the soldiers on what the battlefield will look like when we win.
 - Wisdom plays the same role.
 - The Bible doesn't necessarily instruct us how to do everything.
 - But there's wisdom that guides, leads, and shows us the target of what God's best is for us.
 - It empowers us in Godly living, leadership, and thinking.
- To be a wisdom-fueled leader is to establish His direction over my natural instincts or feelings.

4. Fruit-Focused Leaders

- Is your life bearing Kingdom fruit?
- Our pastors need us to keep our eyes fixed on what matters most in this season.
- Are we effectively carrying the vision of the house?
 - It is our job to hold up our pastor's arms and to champion and add value to their vision.
- People stay in and thrive in environments where they are being invested in.
 - Are you pouring your life into others and bearing good eternal fruit for the Kingdom of God?
- A fruit-focused leader establishes eternal fruit over temporal accomplishments.

Additional Resources

Connect With Us:

Want more from Leading Second? Check out www.leadingsecond.com, [Connect With Us](#), and follow us on [Instagram](#).

Resources From The Podcast:

[Woke Racism by John McWhorter](#)

Leading Second Coaching Groups:

Leading Second Coaching Groups are our environment to equip you to walk in your God-given calling and bring excellence to your unique role. Through this 12-24 month coaching journey, our commitment is to walk alongside you and help you to grow in your leadership in the second chair. Our heart is to see you begin to thrive in your leadership and to give you the tools to maintain strength as you lead.

Applications for the 2024 round of Coaching Groups are officially open.

Spots are limited. Apply today at leadingsecond.com/coaching-groups