

The King Pillar

Stu Weber points out that in a man's kingly role he provides direction. If a man is not providing direction, or if he is not acting out his warrior role, he is out of balance and tends to break out in fits of rage or depression. He becomes... a wandering generality. Stu reminds us that Jesus was both the Lamb of God, and the Lion of Judah. As the lion, the king, he knew when to roar and when not to roar. "Jesus roared about the right things - always kingdom issues and righteousness issues, never petty personal frustrations... There is no merit in roaring unless it is for the right reason." That's exercising self-control. That's thinking ahead of time why I'm about to say something and to whom I'm about to say it. It is keeping the end in mind: Will it build them up? Will it give them direction? Should I be giving direction right now? Will that really benefit them?

To be honest, I've never been very good at that. I have a tendency to say whatever comes into my head. I take time to phrase it and carefully choose my words, but I can't say I am always concerned with whether my audience -my wife, my children, my friends, or my co-workers - ought to hear it. That's not good. I need to be selective in my speech and that involves discipline. Discipline is doing the right thing, at the right time, in the right way, with the right motive. Developing discipline is hard work. I used to think that discipline would help me develop character, but I'm finding that discipline *is* character. It needs to be developed all on its own, and it takes self-control to become disciplined. Two different things. Self-control precedes discipline, and thought-control precedes self-control. I've always taught my children, and I always need to remind myself, that you cannot be disciplined in one area of your life and undisciplined in another. You are either disciplined, or you're not. Discipline is a character trait.

Stu encourages me with this: "It's never too late to begin doing the right things." If I'm to lead, and if I want others to follow, I've got to be *consistent* in my leadership. That builds positive expectations and trust in everyone around me. I'm the one who picks out that spot on the horizon every morning, and calls out, "Head 'em up! Move 'em out!" I'm excited about becoming a leader. I'm looking forward to inheriting more than the wind... because that is what God intends for me and for my family. That's what he intends for you and for your family too: prosperity – the result of prospering. What do we mean by that? Bringing home the paycheck, Stu says, isn't to pile up a bunch of stuff. It's to provide for healthy life and relationships. My role as leader, when I exercise it properly, lays a foundation for healthy relationships in my home and at work. It enables others to draw around me, and to support me. It builds team. Discipline. Consistency. Concern for those under my care. That's powerful. Thanks for the reminder, Stu. Lead on!