

#### 4.18 Arguments about Leadership: Five Kinds of Leaders

Topic: Peace in Community

Subtopic: Leaders – Five kinds

3B- Integrity and Justice

4E – Leadership and Power

Class: Standard IV (Grade 4)

Objectives: **Knowledge:** When asked students will explain and give examples of five kinds of leaders.

**Attitude:** Students will honor those in leadership and recognize different kinds of leaders.

Materials Needed:

Blackboard and Chalk

Exercise book

*Optional:* Old newspapers

References: Numbers 16

Memory Verse: I Timothy 2:1-2a

#### Teacher Activities

**Introduction:** (1) Ask students to think of someone who is a leader. What is that person like? (2) Moses was a great leader. Let's list some of the things that made him a great leader. Write on the board as students list Moses' characteristics

#### **Bible Story:**

Tell the story of Korah and Moses.

Ask students questions about the story to make sure they understand.

Compare how Korah was different from Moses.

**Application:** Write the five kinds of leaders of the board and explain each one.

Encourage your students to give examples.

- Coercive – uses force
- Reward Leaders- uses rewards
- Expert- uses education or experience
- Informational- uses information
- Servant – like Moses; a servant of God

Share the memory verse and encourage students to honor leaders and pray for them.

**Evaluation:** Do students understand the value of informational and servant leadership? Do they understand that they need to honor their leaders?

#### Student Activities

**Introduction:** *Answers to question (1) will vary. Here are possible answers to (2).*

Moses was humble; he obeyed God; he cared deeply about the people; he gave wise advice; he organized people as judges under him; he listened to others (Jethro).

**Bible Story:** Students listen to a story and then tell how Korah was different from Moses.

**Application:** Students learn five kinds of leadership and give examples of each, either from the Bible or from their own experience. (Jesus is the greatest example of a servant leader.)

**Evaluation:** When asked, can students describe the five kinds of leadership? Do students know which kind of leadership can be especially helpful with peacemaking? (Informational) Do students know what kind of leader Moses was? (Servant)

**Extension Activities:** *Identifying different kinds of leadership.* (Optional materials: newspapers) If you have newspapers available, give students old newspapers and let them see if they can find articles that show someone using leadership. What kind of leadership are they using? If you just have one newspaper you could read headlines from different articles and discuss them together. If you have enough papers, you can divide the class into groups and let them work as a small group to find examples.

*Writing.* Have students make a list of the different kinds of leadership in their journal. Have them write a brief description, definition or example for each kind. OR have student write a story about someone they know who demonstrates leadership. They should not name the person or tell what kind of leadership they used. Then have students exchange journals and see if they can tell for the written description which kind of leadership that person was using.

*Problem Solving Review.* You may do this as a whole class or as groups of 3-5. Tell the students this: **We will pretend that you are the teachers in a new school. You have enough students and teachers for 16 classrooms but there are only 10 rooms. What can you do?** Work through the five problem solving steps. When they are done ask: Who in your group acted as a leader? How did you decide who would be the leader? Did anyone use any information to persuade their group? Were you able to agree on a solution?

*Prayer for Leaders.* Encourage your class to pray for the leaders of your school, church or country. You might, as a class, write a prayer and pray it together in unison.

### Notes for Teacher

This story compares Moses' humble leadership to Korah who tries to take leadership away from Moses. Five kinds of leaders will be described and students will learn the advantages and disadvantages of each kind. The lesson will be more interesting if you or the students share about leaders they know. Tell them not to name the person but just to describe characteristics that make a good leader or that cause conflict.

Key Points: Students will recognize why Moses was a great leader. They will honor those God puts in leadership positions and recognize different kinds of leadership.

Bible Story: Most of the people listened to Moses and did what he said but a man named Korah and three of his friends decided they wanted to be leaders. They went to Moses and said, "Everyone is God's, why do you get to be above everyone else?" When Moses heard this, he fell down and prayed. Then he stood up and said, "Tomorrow morning meet me at the altar and God will show us who He has chosen to lead the people of Israel."

The next day everyone gathered to see what God would do. The Lord said to Moses, "Tell the people to move away from these men or they will be destroyed." Everyone stepped away from Korah and his friends. Then the earth opened up and the men fell into the ground with their tents, their children, their wives and all their possessions. The earth closed over them and fire leaped out and killed more people. God showed, in this dramatic way, that Moses was chosen by Him to lead the people.

The rest of the people did not learn from this and they grumbled that Moses had made these men die. They were angry at Moses and Aaron, Moses' brother. Moses and Aaron went and stood by the Tent of Meeting where God met with the people. God spoke and said to Moses, "You and Aaron move away and I will destroy all these people." A plague began to destroy people. But Moses prayed for the people and Aaron took fire from the altar and stood between

those who had died and the living. This stopped the plague that God sent to punish the people for not accepting Moses as their leader.

To stop all the complaining about Moses and Aaron being leaders, God told each tribe to take a stick and write the name of their tribe on that stick. They put all the sticks in the Tent of Meeting in front of the Lord's Covenant Box (Ark of the Covenant). The next day, Aaron's stick, representing the tribe of Levi had sprouted and there were blossoms and ripe almonds on the stick. This is how God showed the people that members of Moses and Aaron's family were the only ones who could serve in the temple and He had chosen this family to lead the people.

*Discussion.*

1. Why did Korah argue with Moses? (He didn't think Moses should be leader.)
2. Who did Moses say had chosen him as the leader? (God; Remind students that God spoke to Moses through a burning bush and told him to lead His people from Egypt to the Promised Land. God said Aaron would help him.)
3. How did God destroy Korah and his friends? (The earth swallowed them alive.)
4. Did this stop the people from complaining? (No, they blamed Moses.)
5. How did God punish them? (Sent a plague)
6. How did Aaron and Moses stop the plague? (Moses prayed and Aaron took a fire pan with incense and stood between the living and the dead. The incense represented intercession.)
7. God told each tribe to bring a stick with the tribe's name on it. They left them in the tabernacle overnight. Whose stick had blossoms and almonds on it the next morning? (Aaron —Aaron was Moses brother so the family of Moses and Aaron was chosen by God.)

*Compare Korah to Moses.* Have student look back at the list of ways Moses was a good leader and notice how Korah was different. (He was proud, bossy, didn't listen, and he didn't obey God.)

Application: *Kinds of Leaders*

This is **Coercive Leadership**. There are different ways to lead. Korah tried to use force to lead. Coercive leadership is when you use physical strength, military leadership, or some other kind of force to make people do what you want them to do. Sometimes coercive leadership is necessary as when police stop people from doing something like stealing or when a quick decision is needed in an emergency but coercive leadership often leads to resentment and anger if people are forced to do something they don't like.

**Reward Leadership.** Some people can make others obey them because they are in a position to give out rewards. For example, a teacher can give rewards to students who work hard. Reward leadership can be used to encourage people to work hard and do their best but it can also be misused if people are give rewards just because they are friends or family members. Rewards are sometimes used to get people to do things they should not do. This is a bribe and can result in people doing things that are wrong. The Bible clearly says that leaders should not use bribes.

**Expert Leadership.** Experts are people who, because of education or experience, know a lot about a particular subject. For example, if you were working on an agricultural project, you might bring in someone who has a lot of experience in agriculture to advise you. You would listen to that person because of their education or experience.

**Informational Leadership.** This kind of leadership can be used by anyone. In this kind of leadership, if someone wants to persuade people to do something, they gather information, like scientific data, research studies, interviews with people who have experience and other information that support the kind of activity they are suggesting. For example, if there is

pollution in a river and it is making people sick, you would gather information about how many people are sick, what kind of pollution is in the river and how the pollution is causing sickness. Then you would inform people in the area about the problem and try to persuade them to clean up the river. This kind of leadership is one of the most effective kinds of leadership to use in peacemaking. When people understand what the problem is, they are better able to make good decisions about how to solve the problem.

**Servant Leadership.** A servant leader is someone who sees himself or herself as the servant of God. They always try to do what God wants. It is easy for people in leadership to begin to use their power or position to serve themselves or their friends but God gives leadership to people He can trust who will use their power to serve God.

Moses did not push himself into a position of leadership like Korah tried to do. He was a humble shepherd when God called him and told him to go to Egypt and lead his people out of slavery and into the Promised Land. Moses did not want to go but he obeyed God as a humble servant. He always did what God said. When people like Korah got angry at him, he didn't argue or try to convince them. He fell on his knees and asked God what to do. This is the kind of person God can trust with great leadership. He gave Moses the ability to do mighty miracles like opening up the Red Sea and sending plagues on Egypt. God could trust Moses to use leadership for the good of everyone because he only did what God told him to do. A servant leader knows that God is the real leader and he or she is the servant who listens to God and obeys Him.

*Closing.* Read the memory verse together. This verse and our story about Moses both show that we should be respectful and honor those in leadership even if we disagree with them. If we disagree with someone in leadership, what kind of leadership could we use to persuade them to do things differently? (Expert leadership and informational leadership can be effective. Servant leaders are also given special leadership to persuade. Remind students how Moses was able to change Pharaoh's mind about letting the Israelites leave because God gave him power to do miracles.)