

LEADERSHIP TESTS AND PITFALLS TO AVOID

There are some darkness God arranges as part of your training. When you are in darkness and you cannot see, God is developing your hearing — **Job 23:8-12**

If God is going to use you greatly He will test you thoroughly — **Psalms 26:2**

1. THE TESTS OF SMALL THINGS — **Luke 16:10**

This test comes when we are asked to do things that are beneath our potentials and ability. **David** was already anointed King but was asked to play music for a king God had removed from the throne. He was asked to distribute groceries to the other brothers. He did all these with joy and commitment. What you carry will show when you are tested with duties that look smaller than your position.

2. THE MOTIVE TEST

Doing all the right things for wrong reasons and in a wrong way — **1 Samuel 2:**

A. Are you overly concerned with image building? If yes, pretence will replace compassion — **Hebrews 4:12-13.**

B. Do you make decisions based on what is right or what is popular?

C. Do you behave differently according to who you are with?

D. Do people see more of God or more of you?

E. Do you dwell where people bow down to you?

F. Is God working through your life to change others? If that happens, you are a river, if it does not you are a reservoir (building your own empire).

3. THE STEWARD TEST — **Luke 12:32-48** (charter on steward)

If you want to remain in abundance, choose to be a river that flows not a reservoir.

4. THE WILDERNESS TEST

This test comes when our spiritual level is dry, and our joy is low. It helps us adapt to changes. Wilderness test is a place to submit to short time pain, with confidence that at the end it will produce long time gain — **Hebrew 10:32-end, Hebrew 11:1, James 5:7-11**

5. THE CREDIBILITY TEST

Your confidence before God and credibility before people matters so much. We must live a life that will not let people take us for a joke — **Genesis 19:14.** When you lose your credibility people will take you for a joke like **Lot.**

6. THE AUTHORITY TEST — Genesis 2:1-2

People must know you are human. When you make mistake on an issue, you must admit it and correct yourself before the people. You must compare notes with other matured people to confirm accuracy of the revelation you have received. God allows **David** to serve under **Saul** so that he will learn from the mistakes of King Saul and avoid his blunders when he sits on the throne. He learnt how not to persecute **Absalom** as Saul did to him, while he was serving under Saul. God allowed us to pass through some ministries or organizations and see their errors, so that we will avoid same error when we enter the throne. You must be a follower if you want to be a leader.

7. THE OFFENSES TEST

Offenses must come. When it comes it cuts off the anointing if you do not deal with it. When you keep offenses, your prayers are hindered — **Mark 11:25**.

8. THE WARFARE TEST

This test is for those who are great in their faith but could not fight. This test demonstrates the ability to continue in your vision in the face of disappointments. The level of the attack you face is an indicator of the blessing awaiting you after the test. The reason you have the attacks is because you have a promise.

9. THE TEST OF TIME

This has two dimensions. The first reveals **the strength of impact** while the second reveals **the length**. **Paul** had good relationship with God that he continued to receive revelation from God even to the end of his day. Why do you waste your time for what will not outlast you? You must be born as a child, grow to become a son, mature to be 'The Son,' but must die as an INSTITUTION that people will study long after you are dead. Impact is the measure of effective living. Why do you live for things that have no eternal value? — **1 Corinthians 3:9-15 (MSG)**. Consider how you spend your time and what you spend your time on. May God keep us true to the end. Amen.

10. THE LORDSHIP TEST — Luke 6:46-49

You must do everything the way the Lord commands. Peter submitted to the Lord's instruction and got abundance. If you can pass the test of small things, the test of His Lordship will not be difficult to pass. Passing the test of His Lordship enables you to proclaim His Lordship over the nations of the earth where global praise is instituted for Him to reign with the saints.

SOURCE — Tunde Bakare