

WHAT'S YOUR SECRET SAUCE FOR LEADERSHIP?

with Josh Swing

FOCUS VERSE

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.

James 1:5

DISCUSSION

- 1. Josh said that as a kid, he was reluctant to share his testimony for a long time because it didn't sound "as cool as other people's." (See Colossians 1:13.)
 - a. Have you ever felt inferior to members of your peer group—as a child or as an adult—because your life hasn't had the ups, downs, adventures, or "cool" moments that theirs has?
 - b. Think about some of the events or experiences in your life that have done the most to shape you into the person you are today: What can you draw from those experiences that, action-packed or not, might be of value to others?
- 2. Who are the people in your life who have done the most to shape your views or practices concerning leadership?
 - a. What did you learn from them that you apply to your life today?
 - b. Are there any people with whom you had *negative* experiences that taught you how *not* to function as a leader or member of a team?
- 3. Think of a major setback, failure, or disappointment you experienced as a child.
 - a. Did anyone, either inside our outside your family, help you deal with and recover from that failure, or did you have to mostly deal with it on your own?



- b. Did you gain any positive lessons from that experience?
- c. Did you gain any negative lessons that, looking back, weren't correct or healthy?
- 4. In what areas of your life do you currently serve in some sort of leadership capacity—your family, your workplace, your community, or some other area entirely?
 - a. How would you describe your leadership style?
 - b. Is that something you've put a lot of thought into over the years, and if not, do you now feel inspired to consider your leadership traits more deeply?
- 5. Are there any leadership insights you've learned in one aspect of your life that you've been able to carry over into other areas?
- 6. Discuss Josh's statement that "winners lose more than losers lose."
 - a. What was your gut reaction upon hearing that?
 - b. Have there been times in your life when you didn't try for something because you were afraid of failure, and now you realized you missed out on a valuable experience as a result?
 - c. When you think about the things in your life that you regret, are they mostly things you've done, or mostly things you haven't done?
- 7. Think about the question "How has God designed *me*?" that Josh poses toward the end of the podcast. (See Psalm 139:13-18.)
 - a. Have you ever sat down and devoted some time to thinking about your own story, your most vivid memories, the people who did the most to shape you into the person you are today, etc.?
 - b. As you briefly discuss some of those pieces of your life now, do they offer clues to anything about your personality or purpose that you hadn't considered before?
- 8. Outside of this group, is there anybody in your family or friend circle with whom you'd feel comfortable talking about your answer to the previous question? If not, why not?