Review:

Lesson 1: Introduction, Pt. 1 Lesson 2: Introduction, Pt. 2 **Lesson 3:** This Little Light of Mine **Lesson 7:** Welcoming Fear **Lesson 4:** Standing Up to Power

**Lesson 5:** A Trio of Heroes Lesson 6: Who God Say I Am **Lesson 8:** Asking for a Sign

Lesson 9: In What Power? Lesson 10: Trust and Obey Lesson 11: Pitfalls of Leadership

## Pitfalls of Leadership, Pt. 2 Judges 8:18-34

Much of following Christ is about the heart as opposed to the outward behavior, i.e., the "why" behind the behavior. Spiritual growth, then, includes building a reliable mechanism within us to check our own heart. For leaders, this is a issue.

Discussion 1. What kinds of disciplines help you check your own heart? What mechanism(s) do you (or could you) put in place to help you stop and assess your real motives behind your decisions and your behavior?

Among Christians today, the celebrity leadership culture presents a particularly dangerous to leaders and their families; once popularity outgrows character, the trap is set. It is only a matter of when the fall occurs...not if.

Discussion 2. Our newsfeeds are filled with stories of fallen leaders whose popularity outgrew their character. How can a Christian leader make sure he/she is continuing to grow his/her character and spiritual maturity even while becoming more and more popular? What things does this cause you to look for in your own leaders?

As Christ followers, when we make our lives (and especially our successes) a story about us rather than about God, we get no credit from God even for the outward behavior that seems right. In those seasons, everything about our lives is

Discussion 3. For you, how do you know if you are making your life a story about yourself rather than a story about God? What are some warning signs? What are some corrective measures?

Ultimately, every Christian leader's legacy will have very little to do with his/her strengths or abilities and will have everything to do with how well he/she the people to in a meaningful way.

Discussion 4. In your experience, how does a Christian leader (i.e., pastor) "connect" you to God? What are the things he/she does that help you better connect with God?

Discussion 5. How does this lesson cause you to pray? How does it prepare your heart for worship?