

We have been thinking about change! Dealing with it; managing it; and coping with it!
The people in Thessalonica had found in **the good news about Jesus, a way to be changed.**

They now possessed:

- a **faith** that works;
- a **love** that labours;
- a **hope** that endures.

If lives are to be transformed, then **the leadership must be transformed.**

Here is a picture of an effective leader.

- Paul's work was effective. **In three ways:**
- **courage**, 1-6;
- **a loving spirit**, 7-9;
- and **faithfulness**, 10-12.
- These are the marks of a transformed leadership.

What were the characteristics of Joshua's leadership style?

1. He walked with God.

2. He had courage.

3. He had a plan and followed it.

4. He didn't quit.

1. He walked with God.

Joshua was a man of God. "The servant of the Lord"

- Joshua **meditated** daily on the **Law** of the Lord (Josh. 1:8) and did what it said (11:15). He was a man of **prayer** (7:6-9), for the **Word of God and prayer** go together (Acts 6:4).

2. He had courage.

At the beginning of his ministry Joshua was told four times to "be **courageous**" (Josh. 1:6-7, 9, 18).

- Any kind of leadership involves risks and demands moral courage.

But Joshua's courage involved much more than fighting the enemy.

- He also had the courage to deal with sin in the camp of Israel (Josh. 7) and to challenge the tribes to "get with it" and claim their inheritance (17:14-18).
- **Sometimes it takes more courage to face your own people at home than it takes to face the enemy on the battlefield.**

3. He had a plan and followed it.

The conquest of Canaan wasn't a haphazard affair; it was carefully planned and skillfully executed.

- It takes planning and strategy to do the work of the Lord successfully. The leader who drifts with the tide and changes direction with every new wind isn't a leader at all.

4. He didn't quit.

When he was defeated he admitted failure.

- The successful leader isn't the one who is always right.
- Successful leaders are people who make the best decisions they can and keep on going when they make mistakes.
- They learn from their mistakes and know how to snatch victory out of defeat.
- If we turn our mistakes into **mirrors**, we'll see only ourselves; and this will make us **miserable**.
- But if by faith we turn our mistakes into **windows**, we'll see the Lord and get the strength we need to try again.