

Read: Ezra 8:21-36

Connect Questions:

- 1. Why do you think fasting is mentioned so often in the Bible? What are the "fruits of fasting"? How have you or can you experience those fruits in your walk?
- 2. What things have you or should you delegate in your areas of leadership?
- 3. To what degree do you have accountability in your leadership and life? How can you help provide it to someone else in your sphere of influence?
- 4. Why and how are sin and sacrifice so closely tied together?
- 5. Have you seen "success" in leadership trump dealing with sin? What sin do you need to deal with? How?

Memory Verse: **Ezra 8:29 NKJV** ²⁹ Watch and keep *them* until you weigh *them* before the leaders of the priests and the Levites and heads of the fathers' *houses* of Israel in Jerusalem, *in* the chambers of the house of the Lord."

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Scripture: Ezra 8:21-36

Title: <u>5 Leadership Lessons from Ezra</u>—Part 2

1. Love Those You Lead (v. 1-14)

2. Value Those Who Serve (v. 15-20)

3. Prepare Spiritually (v. 21-23)

What is Fasting?

Types of Bible Fasts:

A. Normal (Luke 4:2)

B. Absolute (Acts 9:9 & Deut. 9:9)

C. Partial (Daniel 1:11,12)

D. Regular (Lev. 23:27 & Luke 18:11,12)

E. Public (2 Chron. 20:1-4)

F. Involuntary (Dan. 6:18; Matt. 15:32 & 2 Cor. 6:5)

Why Fast?

Matthew 6:16-18 & Matthew 9:14,15

The Fruit of Fasting:

A. Subduing the Flesh (Luke 4:2)

B. Receiving Revelation from God (Daniel 1:11-21)

C. Increased Spiritual Power (Luke 4:14-19)

Mark 9:28,29

How to Fast?

4. Delegate With Accountability (v. 24-30)

- Giving Account

5. <u>Deal With Sin</u> (v. 31-36)



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