

April 29, 2007

Jeff Mikels

AIEFM: Four Keys to Lasting Success

"NOW TO HIM WHO IS ABLE TO DO IMMEASURABLY MORE THAN ALL WE ASK OR IMAGINE..." – EPH 3:20

WEEK 4

[Direct people to my blog.](#)

Cal Ripken, Jr. vs Brian "The Boz" Bosworth

A similar comparison can be made with two biblical characters.

Saul:

1 Samuel 10:1-16 – UNWILLING TO DO GOD'S WILL

(p. 193)

[Looking for the donkeys](#)

UNWILLING TO DO GOD'S WILL

1 Samuel 10:21-22 – UNWILLING TO SERVE OTHERS

[hiding in the baggage](#)

UNWILLING TO SERVE OTHERS

1 Samuel 15:10-31 – UNWILLING TO GROW

[what then is this bleating of sheep?](#)

UNWILLING TO GROW

1 Samuel 18:6-9 – SELFISH AMBITION

[Saul kept a jealous eye on David and started to hunt him.](#)

SELFISH / BAD RELATIONSHIPS

David:

1 Samuel 17:32-37 – TOOK BIG RISKS FOR GOD

1 Samuel 24:1-12 – PUT GOD'S WILL ABOVE ALL

2 Samuel 23:13-17 – DEVELOPED DEVOTED FRIENDS

2 Samuel 12:7-13 – WILLING TO HUMBLE HIMSELF

The Four Keys to Success

PUT GOD FIRST

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5-6

...Your heavenly Father already knows all your needs, and he will give you all you need from day to day if you live for him and make the Kingdom of God your primary concern.

Matthew 6:32-33 NLT

[See also Psalm 112](#)

INVEST IN COMMUNITY

All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all. There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.

Acts 4:32-35

PURSUE PROGRESS

... If anyone else thinks he has reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more ... But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ ... I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:4-14

[Be ready for change!](#)

USE YOUR GIFTS

It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

Ephesians 4:11-16

GOD HAS GREATNESS IN STORE FOR US.

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1 Samuel 17:32-37 – TOOK _____ **FOR GOD**

1 Samuel 24:1-12 – PUT GOD'S WILL _____

2 Samuel 23:13-17 – DEVELOPED _____

2 Samuel 12:7-13 – WILLING TO _____ **HIMSELF**

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