

2021 – Men’s Training Camp - Mr. Bower - Sunday Break-Out Session – “Aaron”

When you think about "Aaron," what comes to mind?

- Weakness
- Golden calf
- Follower
- High priest

Aaron is easy to criticize. It's low-hanging fruit. We notice when someone cuts us off in traffic, but when someone is kind and lets us in, we hardly notice. How can we see the positive around us?

Exodus 4:27 - Moses told Aaron all that happened to him on the mountain, and Aaron believed and quickly followed his instructions. He influenced Israel as that "first follower" of Moses. Without that, there might not have been as easy of a transition. Aaron could have mentioned, "Hey, I'm the older brother here!" And the phrase, "Moses and Aaron" is spoken a lot, including the context of Israel complaining against the two of them.

Aaron grew from his mistakes and learned from the golden calf mistake and his sons' deaths. He kind of blamed the people. Yet Aaron quickly apologized for his part in his and Miriam's rebellion.

We can all make mistakes in the same manner as Aaron, but what do we do with those mistakes? But can we choose to NOT focus on the mistakes and see what growth comes from those, instead? As a follower, we cannot be following for the wrong reasons. Some want to be *seen* as a good follower.

Exodus 17:10 - Aaron and Joshua were supporting Moses' hands. He wasn't the great general of the army, and he wasn't the focal point that Moses was. **His glory was simply helping raising his brother's staff for Israel to succeed.** Aaron saw a situation where he could help and he did so. This is what godly followers do. They don't do it for attention.

We're all followers, even Jesus Christ, Mr. Weston, Dr. Winnail, and every pastor of the Church. Matthew 6:1 - The number of times we say, "I" in conversation, people take notice. "Me Monsters" are everywhere. Don't serve just to be seen and to be recognized. "Do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets that they may have glory from men." Compared to "When you don't care who gets the credit". Aaron saw something that needed to be done and he did it. He didn't care about the credit. Either way, God sees. When we're serving behind the scenes, we'll get all the credit and glory later.

Aaron was brave. Numbers 16:41-50 - Aaron ran out among a rapidly growing plague killing thousands trying to save them despite their murderous intent, regardless that his brother ordered him to do it, not worrying about who got the credit. Some of the best ministers around are extremely appreciative. This is one of the lessons of the foot washing service: Jesus washed everyone's feet. Look for someone you don't know, or someone you haven't always gotten along with.

Eli's sons died out and his lineage died out with them. Aaron's sons continued to carry on throughout today! Aaron's name appears positively five times in the Psalms without Moses' name there with it. He had a hand in winning a battle and tried to help God's disobedient children.