

# LEADING SAINTS

## How I Lead as Elders Quorum President | An Interview with Brad Brockbank

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we must face up with boldness and courage and ability. Welcome back to another episode of the leading saints podcast. This is how i lead segment where we are talking with. Brad brockbank our you brad. Doing well thanks awesome. And you are a an elder scorn. President in star. Idaho boise area. Yes treasure valley as they call it. Good yeah i've been there quite a bit. Have quite a few connection. So i know the lingo as they know not safe. Boise is boise right so you know. So that's awesome brad. How long have you been serving scored president this point bit over five years nice. That's like a i mean. That's longer than typical right. Yeah it was kind of straddle both sides before they made it a combination between the high priest squirm. So you're your clock probably started over and at that point yes. that's great. Well we were. I connected by our mutual jason coons. Who's in your corm. And he's been on the podcast for remarkable story runs a remarkable business help addicts recover and just an awesome gal around and he mentioned he talked about the just really praised as elders corm experience in what he is eligible president was doing. I said jason. We i got it. I got to meet them right. And so that's that was you and here. We are having this conversation. And so i think this'll be a educational helpful. How i lead segment is week. Maybe explore how. You've approached a being elders. corn president. Do you remember like in the beginning of your time. L. president. Was there anything in particular that you found helpful as far as transitioning into that role. You know it was obviously baptism by fire for me. I would say in by ristau bunch. People that i admire. Kinda got their feedback. Everybody always referring back to let the spirits guide which obviously we are that a lot and they're kind of annoying the first because i you know he's good to have revised with the spirit but yeah.

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I think the best thing was for me to know first hand to rely on the spirit when it started but took some time to get into that yup and as we do on how i lead segments is i had you prepare list of handful of principals. The maybe have helped you in your service there. Let's go through those and see what we can learn. The first one is listened to minister. What do you mean by. Yeah so i can attest to this. I'm not a very good lesser. Very task oriented person so i make risks and i check them off in so sometimes in the process of that i forget to listen to the people in so after this I learned throughout the years that it is very important. Obviously to listen to Hear a lot from our prophet today is learning to hear him. But i gained testimony that it's not solely through the spirit that we hear him but it is through people that we come across any tartu as we meet with them in our homes in the hallway and things like that and just listening to what they're saying to you and then at that point the spirit will prompt you or help you to understand what that percents dealing in so into ministers has been. My mantra is to like. Just listen and then that. I love that because you know i'm the type of person i think. Everybody obviously has their own method in process of hearing the spirit some individuals. They'll go new quiet room. Bill kneel down though paret after that prayer they sort of have prompting or feeling in. That's not typically how i roll. I mean maybe there's a handful experiences in my life for that's happened but often it's like all right. I'm praying now. I'm going to be proactive. I'm just gonna jump in engage with individuals. Listen in through that process. It's that's when the Come in in a simple conversation right or in an activity or as you're making a visit somewhere suddenly these thoughts and promptings

come that propel you forward and influence the decisions and choices they make. That's awesome experts. We'll stagnant water loses. Its purity wow ice. I feel a metaphor here. Yeah didn't try to buy any. I heard it never really thought about stanford obviously was period period and siphon back when i was a kid. You're on a small. I wouldn't call her farms makers in lehi utah and we had a pond and my brothers night we'd have In over time as we fill it up it would up at moss and all these other things just because of stagnant but obviously when we go in swim edition everything else. It was clenwar claiming to where our but you know when we're just stagnant and we have one thing in place in serving and we just do that same thing over and over while it might be a good thing if we're not continually trains bro and bulwer people become standing in your not progressing and so to me because i try to do everything by myself. I and i tried to not delegate a lot to my counselor. 'cause i didn't wanna overwhelm i've found is best the purpose of having counselors to delegate and to let them lead and grow their rings and to bring wets you know they've been blessed with bring tada In not just succession myself. To come up. With all the answers town councillors by sanitary and then also arm hours worrying lauder by less stagnant. Your the more permission has allows thinking about that and really utilizing your counselors to avoid the stagnant corp right in giving him opportunities to shake it up a little bit and keep everybody proactive as laura. Guess how right the next one. I'm not sure where we're going here. Don't inhale can be many different things. One of my favorites lessons. That i took from general conference talk was was elder. Dwarf any talks about when he was calling and he advice when he was called a believed to the corner of the twelfth. And i can't remember which also gave us advice but a base sarah grandfather so i don't kill me but i didn't allow that. Yeah it was present fast. That's right Remind me that but he just he you know as as we serve in these and as we do things you know were inspired to do what we try to do and some good things happen. And it's easy for us to kinda think ally did a good job or A really good president for man has a reason why i was called to this and i think quickly slapped him face and realize that you know all these things come god and if we do what he asks us to that yes.

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Scrapings will happen but it is still because of him but they are happening. Miracle the atonement all of these things in so not when hail when when people come out and say no great job. Great lesson or thank you so much for doing this. I really appreciate it. You realize where the source coming from. Is there any practice routine that you have in order to keep that in check core mainly just the i assume maybe over time. Sort of get that habit of not absorbing or inhaling net feeling no. That's a good one. It took me a while. Figure this out you know. He's a wife. Tell my wife says this will happen your ensure She'd always listened. She'd smile but she'd always remind me she's like balanced great to be you as an so always having that came back to me but also whenever you can get a complimentary or someone would share feedback with you is to always floated to shore via tele has come in to help. People understand in me to be more aware of as well next week is recited. Keys are real and meant to be used. Yes so this one. I remember when i first called. I had a wonderful high council assigned to our war and was a very outgoing. Individual might have many create a councilman. This particular. His name is greg and he told me he's like you hold those keys. And i knew that and i understood the principle of a

really didn't understand what holding keys bent over time. He was very good health. Meet understand along with bishops served with that. He's are there to osceola doors in to give authority to lead by scenery years. where a state presidents. they vicious have used their keys to leave a blessing on the congregation or promise and there were experiences that i've had through serving to understanding the core members of things they were dealing with things in struggles and i tried to put that to use to where if there was a particular thing that might harm native to be blessed with under the russian steered. Obviously in praying about it. I would believe that blessing to my. I would leave it with a promise that you know you do acts or if you honor and try to understand you know we this promise with you. These blessings and i just saw over the years of dumyat. Now i didn't do a ton wasn't every sunday but it was often enough to where you know. They fell amid new. That lesson came from. And those were max. V used and. I didn't utilize them as much as i should have. I calls but it's just something that i really That they're there to be used in their lesson. People misinterpret the purpose of keys or oversimplify. It that he's the keys so he gets the last day on on all matters or in which may be true here and there but to learn how to activate your keys and be proactive. It with your keys. I remember in zone conferences on my mission. My mission president would stand and give us sort of this this blessing than you'd always say according to the keys which hold you know and it was such a unifying incredible like moment as a mission to have our mission president pray for us and bless us according with his keys you know and so i don't know if i have the comprehension of priesthood keys their purposes but i think the more we can explore that as leaders especially the who hold keys keys of presidency as we learned from barrymore gardner intergrate episode that everybody should listen to you know the more we can really understand those the the better we can utilize them in your. I think we'll find that it's more than just ow. He's the guy with the makes all the decisions it. There's there's a lot more that goes in those keys so tell me about like this. You know jason's told me that. Just the feeling of your corm is very open. And it's very vulnerable at times like there's this comfort there that people appreciate and he really encourage elders to celebrate certain progress in their life. And sometimes that's overcoming an addiction or wrestle with sin or whatever it is so many break that down and what was jason getting after their. What was he talking about. This is obviously to to jason's influence. Our state here in an star has been in my opinion been very front occur with regards to the very with play pornography and substance abuse and addiction and mental illness. And things like that and so passed six years since our state president Kind of came out with that.

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It's just it's talk. A mining in discussions have been happening kind of started to wear the steak obviously was trying to bring awareness of this plague. And i always grew up in a home. And it's it's not wrong. You don't talk about sans or you don't talk about people's struggles staffer private and things like that and so it was very different for me to to kind of experiences with estate but as i was getting in and as is working with my bishop bishop would In situations where there was an elder in my corner the struggling with quantities with her mission he would let me know and then i would obviously reach out to them just to see if i can help in any way and just seborga and so over the years you know as working with many different men alongside the bishop in just

supporting him on the back end and came up with these years celebration of being sober from substance abuse or not looking at pornography or from a milestones have mental illness or those we would celebrate them and counselors came to me once and he came to me and he shared he had had similar editions with pornography and that he wanted to share his story with the corn in a light. That's great never knew that. That was a struggle for him and he counseled me about the invulnerable being honest with ourselves in helping being vulnerable. Help other people to understand a little better and so that happened right around the same time that mile son came to my wife and i just shared his experience that he had been suffering from pornography addiction. As well that we were not aware of but it just wait on his heart in you know. He met with fishe in many talk to us. All of these things were happening at the same time in just like. Why are we being so secretive abyss. Or why are we being so convert about all these things. That people showing with because so-and-so knew about selling salary to help each other in michigan networking kinda thing but obviously audience and to be respectful. No some people are in his own so one year. One of the elders in corum had celebration of reaching five years of sobriety rated with them. He's got his coining show. Needs coin said. Would you be willing to come into quorum. And chair is fighters success and the coin and he thought about it for a little bit because he hadn't really opened up a time talked. His wind and heat came to me that morning. He says yes. I'm ready to do it. And i think great so for the lessons started. I just got out there. And i said hey. We are here to celebrate success with each other and of the successes that i wanted to talk about today was selling so with regards to celebrating binders sobriety. At some time for him to share his story he took five. eighty seven minutes shared his struggle with pornography. You shared his his story about the process with when he talked to his wife. In bishop in this process of repentance and as he's talking i'm looking out over our corum grown men sobbing just sobbing because they can either relate or they felt love for individual and it just kind of went on from there and he went he took the coin and he went around the room and everybody after that cormie that was one of the most serious or meetings we've had the spirit was very is there and actually core meeting. Everyone got up and just gave him a hard and i kind of often. They're like why not buy these men. They don't have to say yes they don't have to if they're not ready but from then on every individual that i have been working with worded that That we were celebrating things. I just invited got to be to wear more duets. And every year we would celebrate their success and as new people would come in We would share what we're celery in. Why and it just became culture of life. Let's help each other and that's starting to long. I'd that's exactly rousing voice. So that's great so what about Is so you again. I want to highlight the principles here. Is you know it's not like you're you're pushing people to share your your standing up core alright addiction this week right like you're not doing any of that like it's very one to one and that takes a process of like building trust with the elders getting to know them but i promise you like i get these emails all the time you actually today.

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I got an email from somebody saying. Hey i just have this awesome story of recovery from addiction. Can i come on your podcast like well. We'll see we'll see. And so when people taste redemption they desperately want to share it right and maybe not ready yet and that's okay.

That doesn't mean they're doing it wrong or whatever but when they're ready can bless a corn award so much when you create a platform increase space for them to share that in their own way right and like you said five seven ten minutes in elders quorum i mean. I don't think the instructors are going to be upset by that. I mean easy. Get teed up on the best spiritual wave. That's just going to pour over into their lesson right. And so then this is. The principle here is like getting men to share their story and their share. Their recovery share their their interaction with redemption. And Jesus Christ in these things. And I often tell people if you don't have individuals maybe like well. There's nobody in my in my elders core. Who's really struggling. That means you don't know the people in your own gorman upright and I guarantee you there are a handful of men that are struggling with either pornography or some other form of addiction or something like that and so what do you say to those like. What about the guys who are not struggling with progress. Your like Jason story with the substance abuse or things. Like that. I mean how do you get them to share their story when it's maybe not as dramatic. No that's a good one because you're absolutely right. It's so prevalent. I don't think people realize how prevalent is and obviously I'm a front row seats. A lot of things in my eyes were opened. You know until I hit home within my own home with my son. I didn't realize how close it was kind of blind to end. Just I would say into those that either have had a situation where they had personally been affected by four have family members affected by the blessing. That's wonderful but I would say that as you reach out in get to know your core members war and he built us At trust you will experience it because it is happening. And what I'm saying here isn't I'm not saying everybody's looking at pornography dislike San Francisco about doesn't mean we think everybody matures as without stage. It's that in some capacity it affects. Why especially reused and for parents elders corum members your view in how dialogue in hell to me is talking with my son about it just the things that he's experienced it and just listening again. So yes that's what I would recommend just when you're administering to somebody build trust and then as opportunities will come. Cancer has powerful for sure in. I don't know if I said this earlier but like if you don't if you're having a hard time of you know maybe everybody night. I want to tell story finds somebody outside of the former award to come and tell their story and the you can listen to this podcast and find. Numerous people have similar stories Jason. He will go anywhere just about. Especially in the the Boise area. He'll tell a story all day every day you know and and just the or knows people who will do that right so and then as you model this than men are like. Oh I see like I notice. How would that guy told a story. Nobody like ran out of the room screaming. So maybe I could tell my story you know. In their progresses any other thoughts as far as stimulating that that vulnerability year. Yeah like. You said it's as simple thing in doesn't need to be the focus of the meeting. Sometimes the spirit rex. It ahead has been. I mean certainly not meant to be alcoholics anonymous or asked you know it is meant to when we've asked for opportunities for to show people the atonement inaction those opportunities presented themselves. And that's what I say is the open to the following roadster says of For us in like. I get obviously that individual past his five-year coin around which is pretty cool. That you guys saying. I got a promotion to work or this week. It was awesome or anything like that. That often comes up. It's opened up to where it's kinda got into employment. People said you know I am. Currently employed are not happy run employed visit these skill sets. What can you help me with ends. So people talked about employment. People have actually been brought up. Listen new dad to a teenager. I don't know what's going on. I know south concert. Please help me. And it isn't

necessarily we discussed in inform people have reached out to die individual afterwards and talks. Yeah blossomed into a bunch of different things as last question i have.

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Brad is as you've met five years as elders corn president. I mean there may be. There may be an insight. I don't know. I haven't talked with your bishop. Brendan five five years. They may have a change for you but as you reflect back on those five years of leading how has being a leader helped you become a better follower of jesus christ you know i would say it has helped me to understand leading as helping understand the devon and that i truly have to rely on. Saturdays is christ and it were blessing. It is the way to the church to set up to where we are led by presidencies bishoprics that we have counselors to help keep a straight and help us to understand made where we are kind of during but being in this position has helped me understand how much the lord loves everybody that there is an individual worst everybody here on earth and he knows us. Joya spelled download from an aura. And that is helping you want to follow my seder that much more to whatever he asked me you and that concludes this how i lead interview. Hope you enjoyed it. And i would ask you. Could you take a minute and drop this lincoln. An email on social media in taxed wherever it makes most sense and share it with somebody who could relate to this experience and this is how we develop just hearing what the other guys doing trying some things out testing adjusting for your area. And that's where great leaderships discover right. So we would love to. Have you share this with somebody in this calling or a related calling and that would be great and also if you know somebody Any type of leader. Who would be fantastic guests on the how i lead segment reach out to us. Go to leading saints dot org slash contact. Maybe send this individual letting them know that you're going to be suggesting their name for this interview will reach out to them and see if we can line them up. So again go to leading saints dot org slash contact and there you can submit all the information and let us know and maybe they will be on a feature how i lead segment on the leading saints. Podcast and remind you once again to text. The word lead to four seven four seven four seven in order to subscribe to the leading saints weekly newsletter.