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Thought for the Week.

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1 Samuel 28:17 NLT. *“The Lord has done just as he said he would. He has torn from you and given it to your rival, David.”*

When God anoints a person, a pattern of testing appears to take place at specific times in the leader’s life. God often takes a leader through four major tests to determine if that person will achieve God’s ultimate call on his or her life. The person’s response to these tests is the deciding factor in whether they can advance to the next level of responsibility in God’s Kingdom.

Control: Saul was a religious controller. This control led to disobedience and ultimately to being rejected by God because Saul no longer was a vessel God could use.

Bitterness: Every major character in the Bible, at one or another time, was hurt by someone. God watches us to see how we will respond to this test. Will we be offended? Will we retaliate?

Power: Power is the opposite of servant hood. How do we use the power and influence God entrusted to us? Do we seek to gain more power?

Greed: Money can have a great influence, either for good or for bad. When money becomes the focus in our life, it becomes a tool of destruction. When it is a by-product, it becomes a great blessing.

As leaders, you must be aware when you are tested. You can be confident that each one of these tests will be thrown your way, if God calls you for His purposes. Will you pass these tests? Ask for God’s grace today to walk through these tests victoriously.

Shalom.

Cobie.

Thank you to Dr Thinus van Dyk of Agape in Africa Ministries for your “Character development 4 a Leader” letter.