

# Values Matter Discovery Starters

## We Are a Global Missions Movement

### 10. FUNCTION IN TEAMS

YWAM is called to function in teams in all aspects of ministry and leadership. We believe that a combination of complementary gifts, callings, perspectives, ministries and generations working together in unity at all levels of our Mission provides wisdom and safety. Seeking God's will and making decisions in a team context allows accountability and contributes to greater relationship, motivation, responsibility and ownership of the vision.

[Deu 32:30-31](#); [2Ch 17:7-9](#); [Pro 15:22](#); [Ecc 4:9-12](#); [Mar 6:7-13](#);  
[Rom 12:3-10](#); [2Co 1:24](#); [Eph 5:21](#); [Php 2:1-2](#); [1Pe 4:8](#)

### Value 10 – Function in Teams: Mobile Teaching Teams

#### Biblical Foundation:

*In the third year of his reign Jehoshaphat sent his officials to teach in all the towns of Judah. These officials included Ben-hail, Obadiah, Zechariah, Nethanel, and Micaiah. He sent Levites along with them, including Shemaiah, Nethaniah, Zebadiah, Asahel, Shemiramoth, Jehonathan, Adonijah, Tobijah, and Tob-adonijah. He also sent out the priests Elishama and Jehoram. They took copies of the Book of the Law of the LORD and traveled around through all the towns of Judah, teaching the people (2Ch 17:7-9).*

#### Discovery Starter:

Jehoshaphat was one of eight "good" kings of Judah (1Ki 22:43; 2Ch 20:32). Jehoshaphat was commended because he "sought his father's God" (2Ch 17:4) and "was deeply committed to the ways of the Lord" (2Ch 17:6). Not only this, but Jehoshaphat "went out among the people, traveling from Beersheba to the hill country of Ephraim, encouraging the people to return to the Lord" (2Ch 19:4). But he knew that his singular efforts were insufficient. So, from the earliest days of his reign, he commissioned mobile teaching teams to help him spread the Word of God.

We are told that he appointed three groups of people to these teams:

#### **Officials**

Ben-hail = *son of strength*  
Obadiah = *servant of YAWEH*

Zechariah = *YAWEH remembers*

Nethanel = *given of God*

Micaiah = *who is like God?*

#### **Levites**

Shemaiah = *heard by YAWEH*

Nethaniah = *given of YAWEH*

Zebadiah = *endowed by YAWEH*

Asahel = *God-made*

Shemiramoth = *name of heights*

Jehonathan = *YAWEH has given*

Adonijah = *my lord is YAWEH*

Tobijah = *YAWEH is good*

Tob-adonijah = *my lord is good*

### **Priests**

Elishama = *my God has heard*

Jehoram = *YAWEH is exalted*

The sixteen persons mentioned in this passage mentioned nowhere else. Everything we know about them is found only here. Some were governmental officials, others religious priests. Some were Levites, others are without tribal identity. We do not know their ages, their marital status, their professional skills, nor personality traits.

We do know this. This mobile teaching team had (2Ch 17:9):

- a clear foundation. The Scriptures were their curriculum. Therefore they “took copies of the Book of the Law of the LORD” with them wherever they went.
- a clear strategy. They wanted to make sure that everyone heard, that no one was left out. That is why they “traveled around through all the towns of Judah.”
- a clear purpose. They wanted to see people return to God and his ways. So they spent their time “teaching the people.”

What was the result of their ministry? The consequences were far more transformative and far-reaching than you might expect. We are told that, “the fear of the Lord fell over all the surrounding kingdoms so that none of them wanted to declare war on Jehoshaphat” (2Ch 17:10).

### **Keep Going:**

In the Original Testament 29 persons are named Zechariah; 25 Shemaiah; 15 Jehonathan; 13 Obadiah; 10 Nethanel; 9 Zebadiah; 5 Elishama; 4 Asahel, Nethaniah or Tobijah; 3 Adonijah or Jehoram; and 2 Micaiah or Shemiramoth. Only the names of Ben-hail and Tob-adonijah are found exclusively in this passage. Review the list of 16 names that made up Jehoshaphat’s mobile training teams. Consider the Hebrew meaning of their names. As you reflect on that is there something that stirs in your spirit? How can you respond to God, seeking him and wanting to make him known, like those who formed Jehosphaphat’s team?

Consider finding a few friends of like mind. Spend time seeking God, envisioning what might happen if you were to embark on something together to draw people to God. Something with a clear foundation, a clear strategy, and a clear purpose. What would it look like? Together plan how to form a ministry team that will impact the nations.

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