

"And the charge of Elazer the son of Aharon the Kohen, shall be the oil for the light, and the sweet incense, and the Tamid meal offering, and the anointing oil, the charge of all the Mishkan. And of all that is therein over the Mishkan and over its vessels." (4:16)

The *Midrash* notes that while Elazar was appointed overseer of *Bnei Kehas*, he personally transported the heavy articles mentioned in the above *pasuk*. There is a difference of opinion among the commentators whether Elazer was very strong or whether this was a miraculous feat. The *Midrash* also emphasizes Elazar's self-effacing attitude. Despite his inherent right as Aharon's son to delegate the transport of these articles to others, Elazer took upon himself to perform this relatively menial service personally. This *Midrash* teaches a valuable lesson, especially for those who are involved in leadership roles. One who has responsibility should not merely sit back with folded hands, delegating to others all the work to be performed. This attitude will not catalyze successful results. A leader must take the initiative and show his followers that he is also a "partner" in the menial jobs. Thus, he will serve as a role model and an inspiration for others to join heartily in the task at hand. This thesis may be derived from the *pasuk* which states that Elazer carried "all" the vessels of the *Mishkan*. Obviously, this is not true, as *Bnei Kehas* were charged with carrying the vessels. Since Elazer, the great Prince, personally carried many of the heavy articles, however, he served as an inspiration for the others to join in the effort. Consequently, the *Torah* attributes the execution of the entire endeavor to Elazer. Every leader should realize that the prescription for success is contained in his ability to "lead" by involving himself in the actual endeavor.