



## 2 - SERVANT LEADERSHIP

**Biblical leadership begins with serving.**

### SUGGESTED READING

1. "Developing the Leader Within You" by John C. Maxwell
2. "Contending for the Authentic: When God's people become a 'church without walls'" by Jim Hayford
3. "Spiritual Leadership: Moving People on to God's Agenda" by Richard and Henry Blackaby
4. "Cross-Cultural Servanthood: Serving the World in Christlike Humility" by Duane Elmer

### INTRODUCTION

1. Key Scriptures — Matthew 20:20-28; John 13:1-17; Acts 6:1-7.
2. In Matthew 20:20-28, Jesus confronted the disciples' view of power and authority and turned leadership "upside down," comparing secular norms with Kingdom principles.
3. In John 13:1-17, Jesus modeled servanthood by washing the feet of the disciples. With a towel and basin He established the pre-eminence of others instead of self and challenged us to follow His example of leadership.
4. Without a \_\_\_\_\_ it is *impossible* to become a Godly leader. Because it is not our natural behavior to serve, it requires a personal transformation (salvation and baptism in the Holy Spirit) to become a servant leader.



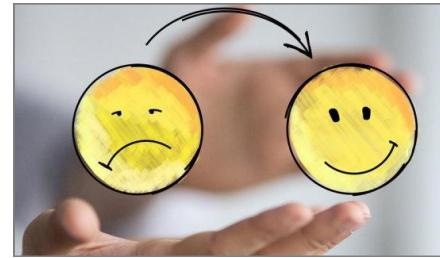
### PRINCIPLES OF SERVANTHOOD

1. Success in God's Kingdom is not based on our ability, talents or strength but on servanthood as defined in God's Word and empowered by the Holy Spirit. (Zechariah 4:6)
  - A. Jesus illustration of servanthood in John 13:1-17 ...*So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.* (Matthew 20:25-28; Philippians 2:5-11)

2. We are all called to serve \_\_\_\_\_ through God's love.
  - A. Galatians 5:13 *For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.*
3. Serving one another is actually \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. Colossians 3:23-24 *And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.*
4. Serving is an act of obedience and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. Romans 12:1 *Present your bodies as a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.*
  - B. Matthew 4:10 *You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.*

### SERVITUDE OR SERVANTHOOD?

Webster's Dictionary defines servitude as "the state of subjection to an owner or master, slavery." When we serve Christ and His Church, we must be careful not to serve with this attitude. Servanthood is motivated by a love for the one being served, in this case, Christ and His Church.



1. Servitude is serving \_\_\_\_\_ love.
  - A. Serving out of obligation, "I have to..."
  - B. Motivated by what others see, serving to please others.
  - C. Having the attitude that it's not their job, doing the minimum to get by.
  - D. The result is drawing attention to self.
2. Servanthood is serving \_\_\_\_\_ love.
  - A. Serving out of obedience, "I want to serve God."
  - B. Motivated by what God sees, serving for an audience of One.
  - C. Doing whatever it takes and going beyond expectations.
  - D. The result is praise to God and directs attention to God.



The measure of a man's greatness is not the number of servants he has, but the number of people he serves. — John Hagee

### KINGDOM LEADERSHIP

1. **Jesus based effective leadership upon servanthood, not \_\_\_\_\_.**

Matthew 20:20-28 *...But Jesus called them to Himself and said, "You know that the rulers of the*

*Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave — just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.” (Mark 10:41-45)*

- A. “A true and safe leader is likely to be one who has no desire to lead, but is forced into a position of leadership by the inward pressure of the Holy Spirit and the external situation.”  
— A.W. Tozer
- B. Christ’s leadership principles are different from those used by secular organizations.
  - Worldly leadership in the church may bring strife because it is usually based on position and human abilities. Leadership in the church begins from a foundation of serving Christ and self-sacrifice and originates from a humble, Spirit-led position.
  - Authority is submission with responsibility. Notice the Centurion’s response to Jesus in Matthew 8:5-10 *The centurion replied, “Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and that one, ‘Come,’ and he comes. I say to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.”*

## 2. To serve is to be blessed.

*John 13:3-17 Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him... “Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.”*



- A. Jesus, the Son of God in human form, served the disciples by washing their feet! He could easily do this because He knew His identity in the Father, He knew where He had come from, and where He was going.
  - Foot washing was something the servant would do as guests entered the house. It was a very normal part of everyday life because everyone walked and their feet would be dusty.
- B. When our identity is secure, we can serve others with a pure heart.
- C. Jesus clearly stated that if we would “wash each other’s feet” (serve others), we would be blessed.

## 3. Leadership in the Kingdom is spiritual leadership.

- A. Spiritual leadership always begins with God’s call. (Exodus 3:4; Joshua 1:6-9; Nehemiah 1; Isaiah 6:8; Jeremiah 1:1-10; Matthew 10:1-4)

B. Spiritual leadership can be exercised only by Spirit-filled people.

*Acts 6:1-7 ...Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business;..." And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them. Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.*

- Name the three leadership qualifications set by the Apostles in the Scripture above.
- What was the result of this action?

C. Spiritual leadership reflects God's \_\_\_\_\_.

- 1 Peter 1:15-16 ...but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy." (Moses' humility in Numbers 12:3)
- D. Spiritual leadership is based on God's \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Remember "What Would Jesus Do?" (Psalms 103:7)
- E. The spiritual leader is not a \_\_\_\_\_, but someone who faithfully works in second place. (1 Kings 19:21; 2 Kings 3:11-12; John 10:11-14)
  - A hireling (John 10:12-13) is a hired wage-worker, a person who works purely for material reward has no personal investment in the work apart from a salary. (1 Peter 5:2).
- F. The spiritual leader is courageous: the attitude which enables them to encounter difficulties with confidence in God's ability. (2 Chronicles 32:7-8; Nehemiah 4)
- G. The spiritual leader has a God-given vision: insight into spiritual matters and foresight to be able to guide Biblically and accurately. (Exodus 3:10; Proverbs 29:18)
- H. The spiritual leader seeks wisdom: the ability to make the best use of knowledge, right judgment concerning spiritual and moral truth. (1 Kings 3:16-28; Colossians 1:9)
- I. The spiritual leader is \_\_\_\_\_: the ability to wait upon the Lord and act in a proactive manner when everything dictates to act impulsively. (2 Timothy 2:24-26)
- J. The spiritual leader corrects and guides without being \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **4. The goal is to become a servant leader.**

*Exodus 33:12-23 Then Moses said to the LORD, "See, You say to me, 'Bring up this people.' But You have not let me know whom You will send with me. Yet You have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found grace in My sight.' Now therefore, I pray, if I have found grace in Your sight, show me now Your way, that I may know You and that I may find grace in Your sight. And consider that this nation is Your people." ...*

- A. Servant leadership is based upon loving \_\_\_\_\_ and loving \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Matthew 22:34-40 ... *Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself."*
  - 1 John 4:20 *If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?*
- B. God called Moses to serve Him by \_\_\_\_\_ His people. (Joshua 1:6-9; Isaiah 6:8; Jeremiah 1:1-10; Ezekiel 22:30; Matthew 10:1-4)
- C. God's servant leaders do not lead in \_\_\_\_\_ but desire to lead through relationships of mentoring and partnership.
  - The "Jethro Principle" from Exodus 18:17-26, the Seventy in Numbers 11:16-17 and the Apostles in the early church in Acts 2:42-47.
  - Moses and Joshua, Elijah and Elisha, Barnabas and Saul (then Paul and Barnabas), Paul and Timothy (and others).
- D. Proper stewardship of God's people is knowing that they belong to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 1 Peter 5:2-4 *Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.*

#### **5. The priority of servant leaders.**

*Acts 9:26-27 And when Saul had come to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples; but they were all afraid of him, and did not believe that he was a disciple. But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles. And he declared to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that He had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus.*

- A. The priority of servant leaders is not only to serve God's people in a leadership capacity but to equip others to take part in the work of the Kingdom. (Ephesians 4:11-16)
  - They bring others along on their journey.
  - They encourage others to discover their passion and purpose.
  - They assist them in that discovery and transformation.

- B. They identify emerging leaders who are filled with the Spirit, faith and vision. (Acts 9:26-30; 11:25-26; 13:1-3)
- C. They identify emerging leaders with the evidence of \_\_\_\_\_ and humility rather than human charisma and ability. (Luke 14:7-11; Acts 6:3)
- D. They look for \_\_\_\_\_ rather than social prominence, etc. (Acts 4:36-37)
  - Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power. — Abraham Lincoln
  - I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. — Martin Luther King Jr.
- E. They train people who exhibit a willingness to learn and to put into action the things God shows them.
- F. The responsibility of the spiritual leader is to \_\_\_\_\_ leaders with the same heart and passion to serve Christ and His people.
  - 2 Timothy 2:2 *And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.*
  - Go to the Institute website, [DiscipleshipDevelopment.org](http://DiscipleshipDevelopment.org), and click on the Discipling Others tab to learn more about discipling and mentoring.

## 6. The sacrifice and reward of servanthood.

- A. What do you think, "the servant is not greater than his Master," means in John 13:16 and 15:20?
- B. Philippians 2:5-11 — Jesus humbled Himself even to death on the cross in our behalf and was exalted to the Highest place.

*I* let this mind (the attitude of servanthood) be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bond-servant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.



*Therefore God has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

## DIGGING DEEPER

Read Matthew 20:20-28 and Mark 10:35-44 and answer the following questions on the back of the Weekly Journal.

1. What was the request of James and John?
2. Why do you think there seems to be a difference in the beginning of the story?
3. What was the motivation of the request?
4. What did this reveal about their character?
5. What was the response of the rest of the disciples?
6. What was Christ's response?
7. What are the key ideas taught by Jesus in this passage?
8. Give the purpose for authority from the following passages.
  - A. 2 Corinthians 10:8-9 and 13:10
  - B. Ephesians 4:11-12
  - C. 1 Peter 5:1-5
  - D. 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13
  - E. Acts 20:28-30
  - F. Galatians 6:1-5
8. Thoughts...

## ANSWERS LESSON 2

serving heart

one another  
serving Christ  
worship  
without  
with

position

character  
ways  
hireling  
patient

offensive  
God people  
leading  
isolation  
God

submission  
character  
reproduce



# Christian Life Center Institute LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

## WEEKLY JOURNAL Ephesians 5:16 ...redeeming the time...

Check ✓ each box as you do the activity for that day.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

My accountability partner(s) \_\_\_\_\_

ACTIVITY	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
Personal prayer time							
Bible reading and journaling							
Lesson reading							
Fasting							
Scripture memorization							
Sunday AM and Wednesday PM services							
Accountability meeting							
Volunteer service (Describe)							

## HOMEWORK

1. Study lesson 2, The Servant Leader
2. Read and Journal on “Digging Deeper” (page 7)
3. Memorize John 17:14-15
4. Do the weekly time sheet
5. Connect with your accountability partner(s)
6. Other