



SERVANTS **OF** GOD

Servant Leadership

Hamilton Park UMC

Leadership Training

- The Pastors Vision
- Purpose of the discussion
- Calendar – February – May
- Tools – Books & References

Jesus' Teaching on Servant Leadership





Transitioning the Mind, Body, Spirit, and Campus

Cast the vision of a repurposed campus to members

- Engage NTC Spiritual Directors to create a curriculum for biblically based transition to community mindedness
 - Coordinate Sunday School lessons and Bible studies for children, youth, young adults, senior groups
 - Increase and encourage Prayer Groups throughout the congregation
 - Manage congregation questions with regular information updates
 - Provide Training to Church Leaders
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Servanthood is not about position or skill. It's about attitude. Leaders seek ways they can add value to others, and the primary way they do it is by serving them.

Jesus' Teaching on Servant Leadership



Servant Leadership is illustrated by
Jesus Christ and his service to others.

Luke 22:24-27



Luke 22:24-27

- ▶ A dispute also arose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest
- ▶ Jesus said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them call themselves Benefactors
- ▶ But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves
- ▶ For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves



ARTICLE- Bible

<https://www.thenivbible.com/blog/jesus-teaching-on-servant-leadership/>



In [John 13](#), the Savior of the world exhibited that he was also the greatest Servant of all time. The story is familiar to many. When the disciples booked the upper room for the Passover feast, they forgot to secure the services of a servant to wash feet at the door. It was a custom to do this. Interestingly, as the disciples realized the servant was missing, none of them volunteered for the job. Instead, they argued over who was the greatest.

When Jesus saw this, he decided to make an object lesson out of it. So after supper, Jesus stripped down to a garment around his waist. He even looked the part of the servant! Then he took a basin of water and a towel and began washing his disciples' feet. As Jesus interacted with his men, several lessons about service and adding value arose.



Christlike Servant Leaders ...

- ▶ 1. ARE MOTIVATED BY LOVE to serve others ([John 13:1-2](#)). Jesus' love was undeserved, unending, unconditional and unselfish. It was not the worthiness or the merits of the disciples that drove Jesus to serve them. He wasn't expressing gratitude, but grace. Love made him serve his disciples. Think about it: Jesus even washed the feet of Judas Iscariot, the man who would betray him and have him killed the next day.
- ▶ 2. POSSESS A SECURITY that allows them to serve others ([John 13:3](#)). Jesus knew who he was, and he was secure enough to get down on the floor and wash his disciples' feet. He didn't have to prove anything. In fact, he had nothing to prove, nothing to lose and nothing to hide. The insecure are into titles. The secure are into towels. Jesus' security enabled him to both stoop and stretch.
- ▶ 3. INITIATE SERVANT LEADERSHIP to others ([John 13:4-5](#)). Jesus didn't wait for someone to clarify protocol. He saw a need and met it. No one else had volunteered for the foot-washing job that night—so Jesus made an object lesson out of the event. He started something that he hoped would be passed down from those twelve disciples to others (see [John 13:12-15](#)). Foot washing will never be in vogue. It will be done by leaders who are willing to pioneer an act of humility and sacrifice.
- ▶ 4. RECEIVE SERVANT-MINISTRY from others ([John 13:6-7](#)). A servant's heart exposes pride in others. Peter had a hard time letting Jesus serve him. He still possessed a worldly mindset that assumed that someone of Jesus' caliber should never stoop to wash feet. Sometimes leaders must learn to let others serve them. Because they become so used to serving others, it is difficult for them to relax and receive. In this instance, Jesus was asking Simon Peter to sit and allow the Master to serve him.



Christlike Servant Leaders ...

- ▶ 5. WANT NOTHING TO HIDE THEIR RELATIONSHIP with God ([John 13:8-9](#)). Peter moved from one extreme to the other. If Jesus was going to wash him, he didn't want to miss anything he might do. He wanted Jesus to wash his entire body. Simon Peter exhibits a great attitude here. If Jesus was giving away, he wanted to receive all that Jesus had to give; he didn't want anything to stand between him and his Lord.
- ▶ 6. TEACH SERVANTHOOD by their example ([John 13:12, 15](#)). Afterward, Jesus discussed the meaning of his foot washing. He reminded them that the Master and Lord had just washed their feet, so no position should prevent them from doing it for someone else. Jesus let them know that if the Master washed their feet, they ought to imitate him. His model was to be reproduced. In fact, his example was much more powerful than a lecture about the principles of service. Actions speak more loudly than words.
- ▶ 7. LIVE A BLESSED LIFE ([John 13:16-17](#)). Jesus reminded them they were blessed if they obeyed him in this lifestyle. The greatest blessing follows those who step out by faith and do the opposite of what the world is doing. God blesses those who "go countercultural" and serve people with no thought of getting something in return from them. The return comes in the form of God's blessing.
- ▶ When leaders serve, they add value to the people who receive their service. This value might be as simple as feeling worthwhile or special. It could be that the value is a resource we put in people's hands or a word of encouragement we speak to them. Whatever it is, people always receive something and feel better about themselves because of their leader.



Ten Characteristics of a Servant Leader

1. Vision- Ability to be a visionary for the church - (Habakkuk 2:2)
2. Foresight- Encompasses a Servant leaders' ability to know that God holds the future - (Jeremiah 29:11)
3. Stewardship- Taking responsibility for the leadership role entrusted to the leader - (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)
4. Commitment to the growth of people - (Hebrews 13:16)
5. Building community- Servant leadership foster the development of community - (Romans 12:4-5)
6. Listen- Communication between Leaders and followers - (James 1: 19)
7. Empathy- "Standing in the shoes" attempting to see the world from that person's point of view - (Ephesians 4:32)
8. Healing- To bring peace to a person or situation - (Matthew 5:9)
9. Awareness- is a quality within servant leaders that makes them acutely attuned and receptive to physical, social, and political environments - (Matthew 10:16)
10. Speech that leads -clear and persistent communication that convinces other to change – (Proverbs 18:21)



Vision- Ability to be a visionary for the church

Habakkuk 2:2

- Then the Lord replied: “Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it”.



Foresight- Encompasses a Servant leaders' ability to know that God holds the future

Jeremiah 29:11

- For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you , plans to give you hope and a future



Stewardship- Taking responsibility for the leadership role entrusted to the leader

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

- Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly and whoever sows generously will also reap generously
 - Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver
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Commitment to the growth of people

Hebrews 13:16

- And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased



Building community- Servant leadership foster the development of community

Romans 12:4-5

- For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function
- So in Christ we, though many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others



Listen- Communication between Leaders and followers

James 1:19

- My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry



Empathy- “Standing in the shoes” attempting to see the world from that person’s point of view

Ephesians 4:32

- Be kind and compassionate to one another forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you



Healing- To bring peace to a person or situation

Matthew 5:9

- Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God



Awareness- is a quality within servant leaders that makes them acutely attuned and receptive to physical, social, and political environments

Matthew 10:16

- I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves



Speech that leads -clear and persistent communication
that convinces other to change

Proverbs 18:21

- The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit



Leadership Applications

- Put others ahead of your agenda.
- Develop the confidence and security to take risks.
- Look for a need and take initiative.
- Perform small acts anonymously.
- Learn to walk slowly through the crowd.
- Begin your day reflecting on the love you have for others in your life.
- Develop a bias for action.



Questions

When you think of servanthood, do you envision it as an activity performed by relatively low-skilled people at the bottom of the flow chart?

Now here's another question: Do you have a lower view of your mother because she serves you, or a higher view of her? Most everyone would say a higher view. Why?

What can each of us do to improve our Servant Leadership?

Discussion

Where do we go from here?