## Leading With a Servant’s Heart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>DURATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dinner and Fellowship</td>
<td>45 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teach lesson on “Servant Leadership — The Path From Success to Significance”</td>
<td>75 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion of book <em>Spiritual Leadership — Using the application guide</em></td>
<td>75 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sharing of “Intentional Acts of Service”</td>
<td>15 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prayer time</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
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### Notes:

1. The big idea this month is to show that the path from **success to significance** is servant leadership. The objective is to communicate and challenge the men to cultivate a servant heart and integrate that into a leadership lifestyle.

2. There are few things (if any) about servant leadership that are too complicated to quickly and easily understand. However, consistently living a life as a servant leader is a significant challenge. Keep this in mind as you teach/discuss. Don’t let the guys nod in easy agreement, keep them focused on how well they live what they know.

3. When discussing Sanders’ book *Spiritual Leadership*, keep the discussion as personal and challenging as possible. As always, don’t feel compelled to answer all the questions, hit the ones most relevant to your group that night. But, as always, the guys should have completed all the questions ahead of time.

4. Take time to have each of the men share at least one Intentional Act of Service they did in the last month.

5. Pray for the servant heart of Christ as a leader in the prayer time.

6. Assign each man to do one (or more) of the following options: Begin to **relationally invest in an unchurched, spiritually unresolved person**, invite an unchurched, spiritually unresolved person **to church**, or if God should so bless, **actually pray with someone** to receive Christ. The point isn’t to do a certain thing a certain way. The point is to reach out. Each man is to tell his experience next month.
7. Hand out copies of *Becoming a Contagious Christian*, and the **Application Guide** that goes with it.

Hand out the **Your Personal Testimony** worksheet and have them bring it to the next meeting. They verbally gave their testimonies in January at the retreat, this time they are writing their testimony. The goal is to write clearly and concisely which will help them communicate clearly and concisely.
Servant Leadership — The Path from Success to Significance

DR. DAN REILAND

I. There is a big difference between enduring through the leadership demands of life and leaving a joyful legacy.

A. Survival
   1. You live day to day without a plan and without focus.
   2. You are highly reactionary and achieve little results.
   3. You are often caught in the tyranny of the urgent.
   4. Life is not much fun and key relationships are at risk.
   5. You feel frustrated and personal insecurities are evident.

B. Success
   1. You gain a sense of momentum and things begin to land in your favor.
   2. You realize measurable productivity. You get desired results.
   3. Some of life’s rewards and enjoyment begin to come your way.
   4. You will likely experience a false sense of security.
   5. There is a sense of inner unrest.
   You are tired more than energized. You have a desire for "something" deeper — something with more meaning, but not sure how to get there.
   The pathway from success to significance is a servant’s heart.

C. Significance
   1. You know who you are and you are secure in Christ.
   2. You experience a deep sense of personal peace.
   3. You possess a clear sense of purpose.
   4. Your passion level runs deep and focus is strong.
   5. You experience a profound sense of meaning and fulfillment
   6. Your constellation of relationships is flourishing.
   7. You see abundant fruit as a result of your life and leadership.
II. Characteristics of a servant leader

A. A servant leader is **self-led** and attentive to character issues.

   - The Diamond: Power, Personal, Relational, Calling, Purpose.
   - Maturity
   - *First base.*
   - Authenticity
   - *First base.*
   - Humility
   - Responsible
   - Initiative
   - Honesty
   - Discipline

When any of the above breakdown, life becomes all about you.

   - There is nothing about third base: competence.

B. A servant leader puts others ahead of his own agenda.

   Easy to say, difficult to live.

   - **Sensitivity** to other’s needs
     - Aware, notice, concerned, do something?
   - *JM and T.E. – diabetes*

   - **Availability** to other’s needs
   - *G.F. – young man needing a place to stay*

   - Desire to meet other’s needs and see their life changed.

   ³Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. ⁴Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

   *Phil 2:3–4*

The issue is heart.

C. A servant leader is **confident** in his own identity.
“The remarkable thing is that we really love our neighbors as ourselves; we do unto others as we do unto ourselves. We hate others when we hate ourselves. We are tolerant toward others when we tolerate ourselves. We forgive others when we forgive ourselves. It is not love of self but hatred of self which is at the root of the troubles that afflict our world.”

Eric Hoffer

We must see ourselves just as God sees us, nothing more, and nothing less.

3For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you.

Romans 12:3

God does not love us because we are valuable; we are valuable because He loves us.

The truth is, we can’t serve others if we ourselves are too caught up in being served.

D. Servant leaders understand how to integrate servanthood and leadership.

Yes, you lead by serving, but the major expression of your service is your leadership.

Fred Smith, Learning to Lead

Take, for example, Lee Iacocca, a great leader. He is the servant of Chrysler Corporation, but he doesn’t ask the assembly line workers to decide where the company should go. He may solicit opinions, but Lee Iacocca doesn’t ask the man on the machine to do anything except run the machine and run it well — and have faith in the company. Iacocca’s servanthood is expressed by his leadership. If he were to quit leading, he would no longer be a trustworthy servant of Chrysler.

Fred Smith

• We are willing to do anything, but wisely serve by leading.
E. A servant leader is a mature listener.

One of the greatest gifts you can give anyone today is the gift of loving listening.

People are so intensely rushed today...listening is nearly a lost art.

- *Who is the best listener you know? What makes you say that?*

We’ve long known about the power and importance of touch

- Listening communicates **care** and concern
- Listening communicates that you **value** the person
- Listening communicates the **love** of God

F. A servant leader has a **generous** spirit.

- Giving is at the heart of servanthood.
- Giving is the **true test** of a servant.
- Giving according to God’s heart is evidenced by **joy**.

**KEY:** (It doesn’t bug you that people treat you like a servant)

- Giving ultimately is following the example of Jesus.

G. A servant leader is willing to give up his rights.

- **(The Triangle)**
  - The right to put yourself first. Philippians 2:3–4
  - The right to complain. Philippians 2:14, I Thessalonians 5:18
  - The right to do whatever feels good. Galatians 5:16–17
  - The right to hold a grudge. Colossians 3:13
  - The right to live by our own rules. John 14:23–24
  - The right to understand God’s plan before we obey. Hebrews 11:8
  - The right to be honored and served. Mark 10:42–45
  - The right to spend money any way we please. Matthew 5:11
  - The right to popularity. Matthew 5:11
  - The right to personal revenge. Romans 12:19–20

- *Which of these “rights” is most difficult for you to surrender?*
H. A servant leader **forgives** easily and quickly.

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

*Ephesians 4:32*

The leader is responsible to set the example, no matter what the circumstances.

- **Ralph Cornforth**

An unforgiving heart cannot lead with the love of God.

I. A servant leader is not position conscious.

- **Doug, SG leaders baptism, Cohen’s, Bryan M, John Burgess**
- Non-servants reach for **titles**
  Servants reach for **towels**

1*It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love.*

2*The evening meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus.*

3*Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God;*

*John 13:1–3*

A dramatic act of washing his disciples’ feet — including Judas, John sees Jesus’ love still trying to reach the traitor.

There is more in the background of this passage than even John himself tells us. If we turn to Luke’s account of the last meal together, we find the disappointing sentence:

“*And there was a strife amongst them which of them should be accounted the greatest.*”

*Luke 22:24*

Even at the last meal together, within sight of the cross, the disciples were still arguing about matters of precedence and prestige. It may well be that this argument caused Jesus to respond as He did.

The roads of Palestine were quite unfinished and unclean, nothing like you and I would be accustomed to. In dry weather they were
hot and inches deep with dust. In rainy weather they were up to their ankles in mud. They wore sandals. You get the idea. Because of this there were always water pots at the door of a house, and a servant with a towel to wash the feet of guests as they entered.

Jesus little band of friends had no servants to wash anyone’s feet. The duties that servants would perform in wealthier circles would have to be shared by the disciples. But they got themselves in such a competitive state of pride that not one of them would accept the duty of being responsible for seeing that the water and the towels were there to wash the feet of the company as they came in.

Jesus saw it, and Jesus assumed the servant’s role.

4so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. 5After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

John 13:4–5

KEY: In the hour of darkness Jesus thinks of others instead of Himself.

Servanthood exposes pride.

- Who’s going to... Wash the feet? Pick up the poop? Say “I’m sorry”?

6He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?” 7Jesus replied, “You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand.” 8“No,” said Peter, “you shall never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.” 9“Then, Lord,” Simon Peter replied, “not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!”

John 13:6–9

Peter is humble enough to see the incongruity of Christ’s actions, yet proud enough to dictate to his Master.

Peter knows that if Jesus will do this then he might half to.

- I like to give myself permission when I’m having a bad day...
- Non-servants love power
  - Servants love people
- Use v. Serve. I’m not a leader so I can say I have followers. It’s the best way for me to serve.
- Non-servants find joy in fame
Temporary
Servants find joy in **fruit**

**Lasting!**

**III. Practical application of servant leadership through the local church.**

The church is not the only place to serve, but I personally believe it’s the best place to serve. It is the model and method that Christ gave us by which to live out the Great Commission. It is our opportunity to live life in such a way that we make a difference for eternity.

**A. Support your leader.**
- Give your leader permission to dream big dreams.
- Give your leader permission to be him/herself.
- Give your leader permission to make mistakes.

**B. Make a commitment to **pray** for your church.**

Colossians 4:2 “Devote yourselves to prayer”...
- **You can use this as a list for prayer.**
  - Pray for people who are far from God to trust Christ as Savior.
  - Pray for God’s favor and His power through the Holy Spirit.
  - Pray for a spirit of love and unity.
  - Pray for a maturing of the body of Christ.
  - Pray for the leaders in the church.

**C. Devote yourself to a spirit of servant leadership that results in life change.**
- **ASK:** Do you believe you have the **heart** of a servant?
- Who, among those close to you, would say you have a servant heart as a leader?
- **ASK:** Are you leading/serving in your area of passion and giftedness?
  - Spiritual gifts — Romans 12, I Corinthians 12
  - Pastor is coach — Ephesians 4:11–12
  - **KEY:** You are not helping the pastor(s) do their ministry; they are helping you do yours.
- Are you producing **solutions**?
• Whose life are you impacting? (Karate, Softball, Volleyball, School, reason for extracurricular activities)

Not just who’s competency am I advancing, but who is actually changing as a person — growing in both spiritually and in life competency. This is a life of significance.
Spiritual Leadership

J. Oswald Sanders

Chapter One — An Honorable Ambition

1. Do you seek leadership or does leadership seek you? (There is a thin line between the two.) How do you answer this personally? How do you think it should be?
   • Leadership seems to seek me. No matter what group I am in, I seem to eventually lead. I don’t seek to be titled the leader, but a person with a cause. I step up to fulfill it, pursue it.

2. If it’s true that true greatness comes from giving yourself away in service to others, (Mark 10:42–44) how do you integrate this with your concept of leadership?
   • I have had so many examples of great leadership: Mike Gibson, Dan Reiland, Kevin Myers, Bill Myers, they were great servant leaders.

Chapter Two — The Search for Leaders

1. No answer needed here, instead make this quote your meditation and prayer.

“The road to spiritual authority and leadership”...

Is not won by promotion, but by many prayers and tears. It is attained by confession of sin, and much heart-searching and humbling before God; by self surrender, a courageous sacrifice of every idol, a bold uncomplaining embrace of the cross, and by an eternal, unfaltering looking unto Jesus crucified. It is not gained by seeking great things for ourselves, but like Paul, by counting those things that are gain to us as loss for Christ. This is a great price, but it must be paid by the leader who would not be merely a nominal but a real spiritual leader of men, a leader whose power is recognized and felt in heaven, on earth, and in hell.

Samuel Brengle, Salvation Army
Chapter Three — The Master’s Master Principle

This chapter is a strong chapter on servant leadership. Don’t read it over too quickly. Let it soak in. The material may not be new to you, but test yourself against it.

The Spirit of Servanthood:

1. In which are you strong and in which are you weak according to Sanders definition? (Notice none are skills, but all are character and attitude based.)
   - Dependence  Isaiah 42:1
   - God upholds
   - Approval  Isaiah 42:1
   - My Chosen one
   - Modesty  Isaiah 42:2
   - Arrogance – fake humility
   - Empathy  Isaiah 42:3
   - Bruised reed, Peter broken
   - Optimism  Isaiah 42:4
   - Anointing  Isaiah 42:1

Chapter Four — Natural and Spiritual Leadership

Leadership skills are important, but when it’s all said and done, “spiritual leadership transcends the power of personality and all other natural gifts.”

1. Are you able to tell the difference when you are leading in the natural and leading in the supernatural? How do you really know?
   - Absolutely! Baptism and Prayer. Page 29

Chapter Five — Can You Become a Leader?

1. There is a list of more than 20 bulleted items in the form of questions to help you investigate your leadership potential. This is a great set of questions to go over with your prayer partner.
Chapter Six — Insights on Leadership from Paul

1. I Timothy is a classic section of scripture on the qualifications for leadership. Reflect again through the categories that Sanders offers and make brief notes on where you excel and where you need improvement.

- Social Qualifications
- Above reproach
- Moral Qualifications
- Blameless
- Mental Qualifications
- Sound judgement
- Personality Qualifications
- Gets along, hospitality
- Domestic Qualifications
- Manages family
- Maturity
- Spiritual and emotional, Paul’s warning Page 45

Chapter Seven — Insights on Leadership from Peter

Great chapter, just enjoy, no questions.

Chapters Eight and Nine— Essential Qualities of Leadership

These chapters are two of the best, read them thoroughly. You do not have to give any answers, but you are to find someone to answer these questions about you. You can select anyone. You may not pay them for good answers. You can select an employee, a teenage child of your own, someone you are mentoring, or even your spouse.

1. Here’s how this will work. This person reads both chapters, and then jots down a few brief comments of evaluation about you and your leadership under each category.

- Discipline
- Vision and Inspirational Power
- Leadership faith cycle
- Wisdom
- Making use of knowledge
- Decision-making
- Discern God’s will
- Courage
- Moral and physical
- Humility
- Integrity and Sincerity
- W/O wax
- Humor
- Mature joy
- Anger (self-control)
- Patience
- With people?
- Friendship
- Number of quality relationships
- Tact and Diplomacy
- To deal with people.
- What did you learn? What surprised you?
- Inspirational Power
- Executive Ability: judgement
- Listening
- Letter writing: self-revealing

Chapter Ten — Above All Else

1. Are you a spirit-filled leader? How do you know? Describe the evidence.
   - Continuous growth. Full of HS, lead by HS, press of God, dependence, operate spiritual gifts...

Chapter Eleven — Prayer and Leadership

Another great chapter...since we have spent time on this topic in month two, just read and soak in the truth of this chapter — no questions.

- Leaders pray differently.
Chapter Twelve — A Leader and Time

1. William James said that the best use of one’s life is to spend it for something that will outlast it. What, do you believe, will outlast you, that is a result of your life on earth? (Reflect on your mission statement)

- *Kids, Stories, Churches, leaders/multiplication. Time management takes many out.*

Chapter Thirteen — The Leader and Reading

Well, enough said ... keep on reading!

Chapter Fourteen — Improving Leadership

1. How do you keep your spiritual life/spiritual leadership at a boiling point?

- *Education, being in decisions, playing the game, Marcus.*
- *Improving (Page 112 – six great points!)*

Chapter Fifteen — The Cost of Leadership

1. Choose one of the following categories and briefly tell a story of how you have paid a price as a leader.

- Loneliness
- *You bear the weight*
- Fatigue
- *Emotional and physical. Shape. My examples at 12Stone Church*
- Criticism
- *Destructive*
- Rejection
- Pressure and Perplexity
- *Leading at higher levels, leading at high levels requires tough decisions.*
Chapter Sixteen — The Responsibilities of Leadership
Edward White Benson (1829–1896) The Archbishop of Canterbury offers us a great list to reflect upon of the responsibilities of a leader. Read and Reflect. No need to write your answer, but marking the book is a good idea.

Chapter Seventeen — Tests of Leadership
1. Which is your greatest leadership “test”? Why?
   - Compromise
   - *Lower standards*
   - Ambition
   - *Altruism, title for me or impact? Going after too much.*
   - The impossible situation
   - *It’s hard, Red Sea, you go through it.*
   - Failure
   - *Get back up.*
   - Jealousy
   - *Others success*

Chapter Eighteen — The Art of Delegation
1. Do you believe you delegate well? Why/Why not?
   - *Delegate. Yes, well, no. I need to do a better job of it – communication.*

Chapters Nineteen and Twenty — Replacing/Reproducing Leaders
1. Do you have an apprentice leader you are investing in? Who? What are you doing?
   - *Who are you taking along? DR taking people on trips.*
Chapter Twenty-one — The Perils of Leadership
Chapter Twenty-two — The Leader Nehemiah
Two great chapters; read and reflect. Enjoy and soak up the good stuff!
(No questions to answer.)