

Sacred Roots: Leading Like Jesus: Awakening the Servant Leader (Week 7)
Unearthing Who We Are, Planting Who We Will Be
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I. Introduction



I AM A _____

"The servant leader believes that my success is your success"

● Icebreaker: Discuss the qualities and characteristics of servant leaders.

● Do you perceive yourself as a leader? If so, in which category of leadership do you believe you fall?

I WANT TO LEAD LIKE _____

Section 1: Jesus: Speaking to The Greatest

Explore Jesus' teachings on leadership and servanthood

- Mark 10:42-45 ----Context (v.32-41)

Main Ideas:

1. Being Great = Serving (Willingly) v.43
2. First = Slave (Serving at the mercy of another) v.44

3. Deserving to be served ≠ Nobody v.45

“Son Of Man” is a model of servanthood - to do for the world what would not be done for oneself.

Discussion Question:

How does the concept of the "Son of Man" model of servanthood inspire and challenge your understanding of leadership and service in your own life?

Section 2: Jesus’ Display of Radical Servant Leadership

- John 13:1-17
- Discuss how Jesus' life and actions embody the essence of servant leadership.

Main Ideas:

- (v.3) Jesus was clear on his mission, and service was a part of his mission.
- (v.4) Mission required a wardrobe change- the towel is a slave garment
- (v.6-11) Simon Peter’s Outrage
- (v.12) Jesus Teaching a Lesson

Discussion Question:

1. How does Jesus' washing the disciples' feet challenge traditional notions of leadership and authority in today's world?
2. Reflecting on Jesus' statement, "I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you," how can we practically apply this servant leadership principle in our daily interactions?

Section 3: Applying Servant Leadership Today (in the Church and our World)

Top 5 Ways to Apply Servant Leadership

1. **Lead by Example:** Model humility, compassion, and selflessness in your actions and interactions with others.
2. **Prioritize Relationships:** Focus on building genuine relationships with congregation members, valuing their well-being.
3. **Empower Others:** Encourage and support the growth and leadership development of individuals within the congregation.
4. **Listen Actively:** Take time to actively listen to the voices, opinions, and feedback of the congregation.
5. **Address Needs:** Identify and address the spiritual, emotional, and practical needs of the congregation, demonstrating care and support.

Discussion Questions:

Can you share a situation where you've experienced the positive impact of a servant leader? What made it memorable?

Section 4: Overcoming Challenges in Servant Leadership

1. **Perceived Weakness:** One challenge is the misconception that practicing servant leadership might be seen as a sign of weakness or lack of assertiveness. Address this by emphasizing how servant leaders can display strength through humility, empathy, and the ability to inspire and guide.
2. **Time and Efficiency Concerns:** Some might worry that prioritizing others' needs might hinder decision-making or slow down processes. Address this by highlighting how a servant leader's focus on collaboration and empowerment can lead to more engaged and motivated team members, ultimately contributing to better results.
3. **Difficulty in Authority Balance:** There might be a misconception that servant leaders can't effectively exercise authority. Discuss how effective servant leadership requires finding the right balance between leading with authority and leading with humility and service, which can actually enhance a leader's credibility and influence.

Conclusion & Notes:
