

Servant Leadership

Hi everyone! I'm so glad that you're here tonight. Tonight I would like to share some information and discuss "Servant Leadership." When I was a student at Christ for the Nations, we were required to read this book, The Leadership Paradox-A Challenge to Servant Leadership in a Power Hungry World. This book really impacted me and I would like to share some of the concepts with you. First of all, the servant leader is one who follows in the footsteps of Jesus in humility-serving others, not following the steps that lead to fame, self-exaltation or self-promotion. Servant leaders do not have their own "agenda" or a desire to have a large important ministry in order to show others how successful they are. I'm not saying that it's wrong to have a large successful ministry, because God calls many people to do that. However, I am saying that we need to check our motives. Why do we want a large ministry? Is it to show how great we are or is it to serve Jesus and serve others? Servant leaders align and submit themselves to God's agenda, not their own. The servant leader is free from the noxious stipulation of ego that "I" must be seen.

"The beginning and the end of all Christian leadership is to give your life for others." Jesus said

it this way. “The Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.” (Matthew 20:28). And, Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all. (Mark 9:35b)

Now I would like to discuss some other Aspects of Leadership:

1. To be an effective leader, you must be able to “Focus.” You may have to remove the “clutter” from your life. You must be able to “hear” from God to get His blueprint, His strategies, in order to move forward with His plan as His Spirit directs.

2. In the book, The 360 Leader, John Maxwell talks about the fact that you don’t have to be in the top position to lead. He talks about the fact that you can lead from any position in an organization. Even if you are at the very bottom, you can “lead up” by supporting those in positions of authority above you and by being faithful where you are. If you are in the middle, you can lead laterally, leading sideways to your peers by being a good example.

3. A secure leader “empowers” those he is leading. This is done by adding value to them in any way you can. For the people you are leading, it’s important to help them to discover and reach their potential; to

develop each team member as a person. Maxwell talks about the difference between equipping people and developing people.” Of course, we must equip the people to do their job, whether it be intercession or doing the Harp and Bowl Model or being an usher in the prayer room or helping with administrative tasks. But in addition, we must develop those we lead by helping them to improve as individuals. When you help someone with character development, effective time management, relationship building, or developing leadership skills, that’s development. Development helps the whole person and lifts him to a higher level.

These are just some aspects of Servant Leadership as we follow in the footsteps of the only Perfect Servant Leader, our Lord and Savior, the LORD Jesus Christ of Nazareth.