



Opening Remarks

You are a leader. Anytime you seek to influence the thinking, behavior, or development of people in their personal or professional lives, you are taking the role of a leader.

I appreciate Rick Warren's reflection: "One of our world's great problems is ego-centric leadership – leaders who think people exist for their benefit, instead of visa versa. Jesus modeled servant leadership. Jesus has over 2.1 billion followers, which makes Him the undisputed greatest leader of all time. No one else comes close!"

I pray that we begin or refresh our desire to live as His disciples by leading like Jesus, the ultimate servant leader!

Don't worry if you do not have a formal leadership role. The principles are applicable to your relationship with your spouse, kids, friends, coworkers, colleagues, and casual acquaintances. This is far from just an intellectual pursuit of a philosophy of leadership. As Jesus himself noted, "If you know these things, you'll be blessed if you do them" [v. 17].

Warm it up

Think of two people. One who you think is a good leader. One who is leading but badly. Share with your group two characteristics of each. [Bonus for more characteristics!].

Talk it over

Read John 13:1-17 reading one verse each around the circle.

Scott's sermon used Ken Blanchard's framework of Head, Heart, Hands, Habits of leading like Jesus.

- 1] Head: Vv. 1-4 focus on five things Jesus knew which shaped his ambitions and actions. How did Jesus' knowledge shape his leadership?



- 2] Heart: How did Jesus' heart or motivation shape his leadership? [v. 1].

- 3] Read also Matthew 20:20-28 for pointed contrast with common leadership motivations. Discuss the contrast. How have you seen these contrasting motives expressed?

- 4] Hands: What did Jesus actually do? How did his actions express the inner workings of his head and heart? What impacts flowed from his actions?

- 5] Habits: What habits does Jesus urge for his followers [15-17]? Why would he prioritize these?

Work it through

I'm including a list of reflection questions offered in the sermon. Choose which ones you want to consider during your time together.

Head

- 1] What do you want your epitaph to say?

- 2] Who are "your own" [2]? Who matters both to you and to God?



- 3] Who is the primary authority and audience for your life? Who are you trying to please?
Who gives direction for your day?

Heart

- 4] What are you working/living for? In your life, when it's over, what matters?

- 5] Do you identify most with a servant leader or a self-serving leader? What goals are on your "bucket list", position, perks, power or impact for other people's benefit?

Hands

- 6] How do you feel about washing other people's feet? What do you do that is like foot washing? What could you do?

Habits

- 7] In order to follow Jesus example of servant leadership [15- 17], what habits do you want to pursue for your head, heart, and hands?

Pray it through

Having heard each other's honest and hopeful reflections on Jesus servant leadership, lift each other by name into our Father's care, asking Him to make you more like Jesus.

