

LEAD LIKE JESUS

Small Group discussion guide

Week # 4 March 1 & 2, "The Hands of a Servant Leader"
Ken Blanchard

John 13:1-5 Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ² The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper ³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴ got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵ Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 ⁴ Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Notes and Thoughts ...

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Facilitator Guide

At this point, the **LEAD LIKE JESUS** series is about half finished. *If your group is new*, you might want to begin praying about what next. Has this time been fruitful for members of the group? Would it be worth considering continuing to meet together? If the group is going to continue, what might you do with your time together? Don't get bogged down in all the details of this now. If you begin thinking about it now, it will be an easier decision at the conclusion of this series.

Remember, the idea of this series was "a seven week commitment" (plus one week over Easter). Don't pressure anyone to stay; don't force it! Trust the Holy Spirit is working and moving in people's lives, whether or not they want to continue with this small group.

If your group has some history together, this is a great time to consider one or two things. *First, does everyone want to stay together?* Don't assume just because everyone has been together for a while that everyone wants to maintain status quo. Some in your group might be sensing the need to move to something else. Some in your group might feel led to launch out and begin a new small group during the next sermon based small group series. If so, it is worth celebrating the way God is working through that person or couple.

Second, if you are staying together, what do you want to do next? **One option to consider, at the end of this series, Lead Like Jesus ministry is offering their six week workbook** for anyone or group that wants to go deeper with the content from this series. The workbook is designed for individuals to spend 5 days per week working through material. It carries themes and concepts from the book deeper into our heads, hearts, hands, and habits. It would be great for small groups to work through this together and use small group time to discuss what everyone is learning.

A few things to remember:

- We are here to help. If you or your group has questions, suggestions, or needs help, please communicate with us. Call or email Joe or Rochelle at RBCPC.
- Don't neglect the power of prayer, as a facilitator and as a regular part of the group dynamics.
- Your small group is filled with amazing, powerful, wonderful, influential people. Trust that God is delighted to meet with you each time your group meets.
- Don't underestimate the need people have for friendship/ community/ camaraderie. Especially in new groups, the relationships people are forming could be some of the most influential connections made this year.

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START IT:

- [New groups] What are some of your hobbies and interests the group might not yet know about?
- What specific behaviors of a leader in your life have influenced you?
- Did anyone in the group work on a family mission statement or family values last week? Share your work.

STUDY IT:

- Read the Scripture passages aloud. What observations can be made about modeling behavior by a servant leader?
- Why are the actions of Jesus in John 13 so scandalous and revolutionary?
- Have you ever considered *love* one of the key pieces of *leadership*? How are love and leadership connected? Is love more closely associated with authority or influence?

Teaching section. [Read aloud] The true test of servant leadership begins when the EGO of the leader and the EGO of the follower engage one another. How well they recognize and overcome the pride and fears in their relationship determines whether they move toward mutual satisfactions of commonly held goals or share in frustrations of their own making.

Ken Blanchard and Phil Hodges, *Lead Like Jesus*, pg. 140-141.

- When a leader and follower are fearful of one another what is most likely to happen? Give an example that you have observed or experienced.
- How do you assess the needs of a person or situation? How do you build trust, love, and accountability into your leadership relationships?

LIVE IT:

- What steps can you take to remove fear from a situation as a follower? As a leader?
- How are you modeling servant leader behavior for those you influence?
- What area of your life needs the most growth in love described by 1 Corinthians 13?

PRAY IT:

- **Application:** Pray for God to open your eyes to areas of influence you were unaware of.
- **Personal requests:** Break into smaller groups (by gender, or randomly) to pray for specific needs of one another.
- **Ministry (within the church):** Pray for the recent new members of our church and the many visitors at RBCPC since the Lead Like Jesus series began.
- **Mission (in the world):** Pray for missions that reach children and youth through after school and educational enrichment programs.