

ARISE WITH JESUS' TEACHING ON SERVING

Jesus' whole life illustrates his commitment to serving others. (CCC #608). In Mark 10:45 we read, "The Son of Man has not come to be served but to serve, to give his life in ransom for many." Jesus modeled servant leadership, and he asks us to follow his example. Serving with a generous and grateful spirit takes us beyond serving through a sense of legalism or obligation. *Commitment to serving with love in our relationships is a hallmark of Jesus' disciples.*

Relationship trait number ten is, "Willingness to make a commitment and stick with it."
(This was trait #12 on the January handout.)

WHAT ARE CHARACTERISTICS OF A SERVANT LEADER?

1. Willingness and commitment to serving others
2. Seeing yourself as one among equals
3. Using power honestly
4. Caring for significant others and co-workers
5. Listening attentively to other
6. Acknowledging and evoking the gifts of others
7. Promoting teamwork
8. Committing to relationships as well as to achievements
9. Using a creative, solution-focused approach
10. Willing to accept help from others

DO CULTURAL VALUES OF LEADERSHIP DIFFER FROM JESUS' VIEW?

<u>Cognitive Distortion</u>	<u>Mind of Christ</u>
1. Self-sufficiency	Allow others to wash my feet (Jn. 13:8)
2. Prestige, greatness	Greatest is least (Lk. 22:24-26)
3. Self-righteousness, Pharisee	Boast in Christ crucified (Gal. 6:14)
4. Valued for accomplishments	Saved by faith (Rom. 5:1)
5. Individualism	Giftedness of community (1 Cor. 12:4-11)
6. Authoritarianism	All power from God (2 Cor. 4-7)

HOW DOES A COMMITMENT TO SERVING BENEFIT RELATIONSHIPS?

1. Belonging: I am worthy. (AA)
2. Purpose: I have something to offer.
3. Fulfillment: We mutually give and receive.
4. Affirmation: My gifts support your gifts.
5. Liberation: I am not self-absorbed but "us" focused.
6. Bonding: Common vision strengthens us.

WHAT IS A DISCERNMENT PROCESS IN SERVING JESUS?

1. Know myself, my gifts. Notice what I am drawn to.
2. Ask Jesus, "Show me about serving you in love." (Jer. 29:11, God's plan)
3. Re-examine the fruits of my serving as needs of relationship change.
4. Make changes as Jesus guides me over time.