

Empower the Greatness in Others



**Jesus answered, “Unless
I wash you, you have no
part with me.”**

- John 13:8

Lesson 1005

The Servant-Leader

What are New Name Journals?

You've probably completed numerous Bible studies over the years. Most of these studies strive to increase your knowledge of the Bible itself or strengthen your commitment to the doctrinal principles you were taught. Both of these pursuits are valuable, but neither are transformative if you do not find a way to apply them to your walk.

New Name Journals are designed to take you further. Our goal is to help facilitate your desire for change. Applying Biblical principles to your daily life leads to transformation. To be effective, this must go beyond the mental exercise of accumulating facts. Openness and honesty in your responses can lead you to a point of changing the way you think about yourself, others, God, and your world - essentially repentance (the renewing of your mind).

To arrive at this point of repentance, you will want to personalize the information to your own individual circumstances. Feel free to use any extra space available to complete your thoughts.



Journal Goals

This Journal will help you to discover your God-given greatness so you can grow in confidence to "do even greater things than these" (John 14:12) as Jesus promised.

This *The Servant-Leader* Journal will give you an opportunity to:

- † Apply the Word of God
- † Repent of old ways of thinking about being a leader.
- † See serving as the key to leading others.
- † Gain some tools for leadership.
- † Better understand what you need to know about yourself to be a servant-leader.



_____ Name
_____ Date

What Leadership Ain't

True leaders are servant-leaders. In this journal, we will look at what a leader isn't, what he is, and what he's made of. Leaders who bear the imprint of Kingdom principles do not operate as the world operates yet are far more effective. Leadership has nothing to do with position; it has everything to do with heart. It is rooted in trust and service. Leadership gives; it doesn't take. It operates out of a limitless Kingdom that does not add, it multiplies.

The Bible teaches us what leadership is not, both in instruction and by example. Matthew 20:25 states, "Jesus called them together and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant.'" Jesus explained this to His disciples after James and John asked Him for positions in the Kingdom. They just didn't get it. Leadership, just like so many principles of the Kingdom, is not positional but rather relational.

Everyone has been a leader sometime in their life. Share the worst characteristics you've ever exhibited as a leader?

I hire professional staff, then micro manage them until they walk out the door.





Getting the Picture

In 2 Corinthians 1:24 Paul tells the church, "Not that we lord it over your faith, but we work with you for your joy, because it is by faith you stand firm."

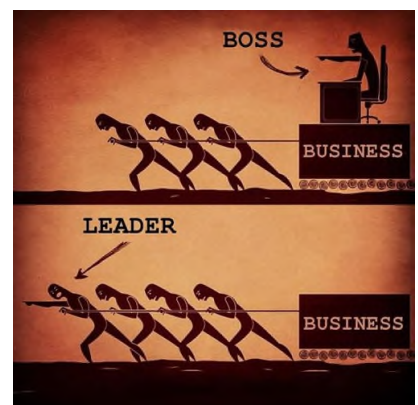
Paul, an apostle to the Corinthian church, once again points out that "lording over" is not the pattern to follow. Instead he offers a partnership. No tyrants here.

The Kingdom principle is to walk along the side of those we lead, to share in the effort, to collaborate. True leaders carry part of the load. They don't dictate; they delegate. They don't order; they ask. They don't brow beat; they build up. They don't emasculate; they empower.

The servant-leader sees himself as one who serves others to accomplish their goals. He works with his subordinate to discover the best path to success for all concerned. As much as possible, he involves the subordinate in the planning and method of carrying out of assignments. Since the subordinate is now part of the process, he is likely to take more of an ownership stake in the results. He feels more responsible for the results because he played a greater role in the decision making.

Imagine if you saw yourself serving others to accomplish their goals instead of the way you described yourself on the previous page, what would you have done differently? (Please be specific.)

Remember the difference between a boss and a leader; a boss says "Go!" a leader says "Let's go!"
-E.M. Kelly





Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

- Proverbs 22:6

In the Hebrew, the term translated here as “train up” is also translated “dedicate” or “dedicated.” This tells us that leadership includes a sense of commitment to those being led, maybe more like mentoring.

Looking at the Hebrew for “train up” again, we find that the proper use of this word means *to narrow* and figuratively *to initiate or discipline*. This means to teach by means of using questions and answers to zero in on the solution. Jesus used this technique many times.

“And Jesus went out, and his disciples, into the towns of Caesarea Philippi: and by the way he asked his disciples, saying unto them, ‘Whom do men say that I am?’”

- Mark 8:27

Imagine you are charged with making sure your home’s monthly deep cleaning gets done and you have one man who does not see his need to be involved. Come up with 3 questions that may help you to “serve” him into taking care of his responsibility by “narrowing” the problem into a solution.

1.

2.

3.

What Leaders Know



³Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ⁴so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him." - John 13:3-5 (NIV)

In the selection above, who is the leader of this group?

In the selection above, who is acting as a servant to the others?

According to the Scripture above, Jesus, the Son of God, had to know three (3) things in order to wash the disciples' feet (perform an act of service):

- He knew that the Father had put all things under his power.
- He knew where he had come from.
- He knew where he was going.

In order for us, as Christians, to be the servant-leaders God has called us to be, we need to know the same three (3) things about ourselves. Spend a few moments considering these three areas of your life. What do they look like? The more honest and transparent you are with yourself, the greater insight you will find. Take your time and search deeply within yourself. Feel free to ramble as you answer the questions found on the following pages.



In our past, while living corrupt lives and lacking honesty before God and man, we told ourselves lies about the kind of lives we were living. These lies (called thinking errors in cognitive intervention) gave us permission to do the sinful things we wanted to do, making wrong things seem right. An example of this might be while we told ourselves that we were good providers for our family, we were actually workaholics and collectors of “stuff.” We substituted our paycheck for our presence leaving our families to wonder whether or not we valued them. Besides, all of the “stuff” was really for us, either as a status symbol or a supply of the “toys” we always wanted.

Answer these questions from your former perspectives: how did you see your life; what did you tell yourself about the life you were living; how did you see yourself, your behavior, your character? Your answers here should be full of the lies, justifications, and reasoning you used to do what you wanted even if it affected others negatively.

NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH

Address the same question above without the lies, the justifications, the distortions. Think about what was underneath the lies and justifications. What was the real truth? If you think your life was honorable and honoring, then what did you have to repent of? What led you into the mess that was big enough that you desired transformation?

What is the gut-level, honest, transparent answer to where you came from, what was your behavior and character really like? Was life all about you even when you made it look like it was all about those you told yourself you loved? Were you selfless or selfish?



How we see our lives in the present often indicates where we are going in the future. What we missed most while in prison (or in the prison of our own making) usually becomes what we seek out most once released. If we were man-whores in the past and what we missed most in prison is having sex, we may rush into marriage (because we are Christians now) with the wrong woman and before we are the right man. Perhaps what we missed most is a big juicy Whataburger. (We're not getting into a discussion comparing sex to a Whataburger.) Once released and trying to get back on our feet again financially, we may feel entitled to a Whataburger instead of paying a bill that is due or holding to a standard of saving money for our future needs.

What did you miss the most while being in prison (or in the prison of your own making)? What is the most important thing you feel you did without? Again, be honest. If you are honest with your issues, you can overcome them. If you keep them a secret, your issues will keep you in bondage. Just a hint: for those who never really valued their families, missing your family is probably a lie. Let's get real and dig deeper.



“Where there is no vision, the people perish.” – Proverbs 29:18

Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall. – 2 Peter 1:10

When we have purpose, we have direction. If we are clear about what God has given us or how He has gifted us, then we are better able to recognize the next step we are to take in our journey.

How has God gifted you for His Kingdom on Earth? How has He called you? If you have not yet sought the face of God in this area, spend some time in prayer before answering. If God has already revealed this to you, what is your level of confidence in what you have heard from Him so far? Have you sought confirmation? What does this vision look like if you were to describe it to others?

As you complete this stage of your journey of transformation, look back and appreciate what you have accomplished. Recognize what God has given you to carry you through the challenges and opportunities ahead.

This Journal has helped me to... _____

New Name Ministries envisions its model of community safe residential reentry replicated nationwide, promoting social reform through effective renewal of former offenders reentering society, resulting in fewer victims and a safer, stronger America.



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