

# The Leader Leads by **Serving**

## MARK 1:40-44

A leper came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him, "If you choose, you can make me clean." **41** Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, "I do choose. Be made clean!" **42** Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. **43** After sternly warning him he sent him away at once, **44** saying to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone; but **go**, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

## MARK 5:24-34

And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. **25** Now there was a woman who had been suffering from haemorrhages for twelve years. **26** She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. **27** She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, **28** for she said, 'If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well.' **29** Immediately her haemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. **30** Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, 'Who touched my clothes?' **31** And his disciples said to him, 'You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, "Who touched me?" ' **32** He looked all round to see who had done it. **33** But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. **34** He said to her, 'Daughter, your faith has made you well; **go in peace**, and be healed of your disease.'



What did you notice about Jesus in these passages?

What did you notice about the people who approach him?

What are the characteristics of a servant?

| ■ THE ABILITY TO SEE ...  | QUESTIONS FOR SELF-REFLECTION   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Beyond our own needs</li> <li>▶ Beyond others' obvious needs</li> <li>▶ Beyond the "presenting problem"</li> <li>▶ Beyond what is to what will be needed</li> </ul>                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Where are you likely to see people who are struggling? Where are you likely to miss them?</li> <li>▶ What strategies do you have for getting beyond the superficial, "How are you?"</li> </ul>   |
| ■ THE DESIRE TO ACT ...   |   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ A heart of <input type="text"/></li> <li>▶ A reflex to be <input type="text"/></li> <li>▶ A choice to make it <input type="text"/></li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ When or with whom are you most impatient?</li> <li>▶ Is servanthood a matter of the heart, gut or head for you? What perhaps is your weakness in this area?</li> </ul>   |
| ■ THE RESOURCES TO GIVE ...   |   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Time, availability</li> <li>▶ Money, things</li> <li>▶ Skills, education, training</li> <li>▶ Healing, God's power</li> <li>▶ Insight, wisdom</li> <li>▶ Love, care, compassion</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ What is your operating self-perception regarding the wealth of your resources?</li> <li>▶ How available are your resources to be employed in servanthood to others? Which are more available? Which could be made more available?</li> </ul> |

| WITH ...                  | ... BUT WITHOUT ... | “... YOU MIGHT SAY ... THINK ... DO ...” |
|---------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Willingness & Ability     | Sensitivity         |  |
| Sensitivity & Ability     | Willingness         |  |
| Sensitivity & Willingness | Ability             |  |

This inventory is intended to help us think practically about how Jesus' servant leadership is relevant in our lives. Identify the strengths and weaknesses in yourself. What steps can you take to grow?

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What did you notice about Jesus in these passages?

- moved with pity
- sees the real issues
- has time to go beyond mere physical healing
  - touch: emotional healing
  - stern change: spiritual cleansing and social reintroduction

What did you notice about the people who approach him?

- humble, needy, desperate
- faith
- affirmed by Jesus

What are the characteristics of a servant?

- compassion
- sensitivity
- willingness
- interruptibility
- ability, power
- insight
- willingness to be tough

# Characteristics of a Servant : Mark 1

| SENSITIVITY   | : THE ABILITY TO SEE ...    | QUESTIONS FOR SELF-REFLECTION   |
|---|-----------------------------|---|
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| WILLINGNESS   | : THE DESIRE TO ACT ...     |   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ A heart of <b>compassion (heart) - or -</b></li> <li>▶ A reflex to be <b>generous (gut) - or -</b></li> <li>▶ A choice to make it <b>a priority (head)</b></li> </ul>                      |                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ When or with whom are you most impatient?</li> <li>▶ Is servanthood a matter of the heart, gut or head for you? What perhaps is your weakness in this area?</li> </ul>   |
| ABILITY   | : THE RESOURCES TO GIVE ... |   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Time, availability</li> <li>▶ Money, things</li> <li>▶ Skills, education, training</li> <li>▶ Healing, God's power</li> <li>▶ Insight, wisdom</li> <li>▶ Love, care, compassion</li> </ul> |                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ What is your operating self-perception regarding the wealth of your resources?</li> <li>▶ How available are your resources to be employed in servanthood to others? Which are more available? Which could be made more available?</li> </ul> |

| WITH ...                  | ... BUT WITHOUT ... | “... YOU MIGHT SAY ... THINK ... DO ...”  |
|---------------------------|---------------------|---|
| Willingness & Ability     | Sensitivity         | SAY: "I'm willing to serve -- just ask me anytime!"<br>THINK: "If I don't serve often its only because people don't ask me to."<br>DO: Just what people ask, and no more. Finish tasks without seeing other opportunities to serve.           |
| Sensitivity & Ability     | Willingness         | "I'd love to do it but right now is not a good time..."<br>SAY: "My circumstances will change soon and I will be able to be more<br>THINK: involved."<br>DO: Justify your choices, prioritize your own schedule, always postpone servanthood. |
| Sensitivity & Willingness | Ability             | SAY: "I wish I could do more than I am able."<br>THINK: "How can I bring more resources to this need than I have at present?"<br>DO: sincerely look for others to join you or to help meet the need.  |

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