

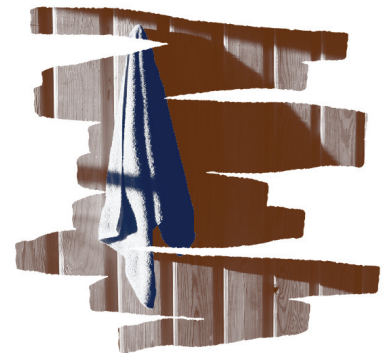
The Leader Serves by Leading

JOHN 13:1-17

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.

6 He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" **7** Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." **8** Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." **9** Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" **10** Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." **11** For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean." **12** After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? **13** You call me Teacher and Lord-and you are right, for that is what I am. **14** So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. **15** For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. **16** Very truly, I tell you, **servants** are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them.

17 If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them."



How is Jesus a servant in this passage?

How is Jesus a leader?

A Leader Serves by Seeing

A LEADER SEES MORE DEEPLY THAN FOLLOWERS AND HELPS THEM TO SEE.

- ▶ Seeing behind symptoms ■ approval orientation, fear of conflict, need to be needed
- ▶ Seeing behind false beliefs ■ about God, others, parents or oneself; about relationships and forgiveness
- ▶ Seeing behind feelings ■ bitterness, anxiety, fear, depression

A LEADER SEES FURTHER DOWN THE ROAD THAN FOLLOWERS AND ACTS ON IT.

- ▶ Seeing of decisions ■ relational choices, mized-up priorities, unintended consequences
- ▶ Seeing for growth ■ conferences, leadership, risk-taking
- ▶ Seeing potential and ability ■ gifts and temperament, experiences and passion

HOW TO DEVELOP INSIGHT & FORESIGHT ■ KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN. YOUR ABILITY TO SERVE IS LIMITED BY WHAT YOU ARE ABLE TO SEE.

- ▶ **Pray** and ask God for wisdom and insight. Pray by name for the people you lead.
- ▶ **Watch** other leaders and ask them why they made the choices they did.
- ▶ **Reflect** on what has worked and what hasn't.

Case Study

- ▶ The following is a case study of the kinds of relationships you will likely have as **servant** leaders. How would you exercise insight and foresight in this case?

Jenny came alone to your small group, having picked up information at church. She is quiet during the group meeting, but as she begins to gather her things to leave you strike up a conversation, and she stays for snack. She mentions that she has only recently begun to visit the church and she's really just "checking things out." Although she doesn't come to back to your small group, you see her occasionally at church. You do what you can to be friendly without fawning or pushing, though she usually rushes out pretty quickly after church. Last week after church she asks you if there is a way to send out an email announcement request for someone looking to share an apartment. You give her the email address of the church administrator.

INSIGHT ■

- ▶ What can you see about Jenny's current situation? What more would you try to find out?

FORESIGHT ■

- ▶ Where do you see Jenny heading if things stay the way they are now?
- ▶ What would she need to do to get on a better path?
- ▶ What can you do to help Jenny?

The Leader Serves by Leading

- Jesus know his
- authority
 - identity
 - destiny
 - timing

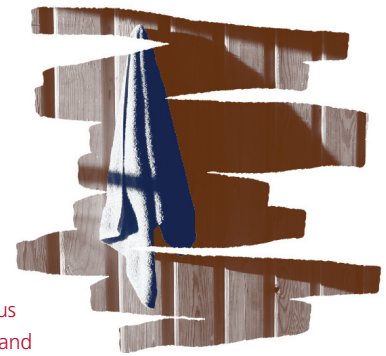
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↑
the blessing is in the doing, not in the knowing

→ He took the towel . . .

Peter calls Jesus "Lord" twice and then contradicts him both times



How is Jesus a servant in this passage?

- by washing their feet
- by being patient with Peter
- by even washing Judas' feet
- by calling them to become servants
- by loving them to the end

How is Jesus a leader?

- by knowing the hour
- by leading Peter and not being led by him - by insisting.
- by serving Peter on Jesus' terms
- by modeling servanthood and then calling them to it.

A Leader Serves by Seeing

INSIGHT

A LEADER SEES MORE DEEPLY THAN FOLLOWERS AND HELPS THEM TO SEE.

- ▶ Seeing **causes** behind symptoms ■ approval orientation, fear of conflict, need to be needed
- ▶ Seeing **assumptions** behind false beliefs ■ about God, others, parents or oneself; about relationships and forgiveness
- ▶ Seeing **deceptions** behind feelings ■ bitterness, anxiety, fear, depression

FORESIGHT

A LEADER SEES FURTHER DOWN THE ROAD THAN FOLLOWERS AND ACTS ON IT.

- ▶ Seeing **consequences** of decisions ■ relational choices, mized-up priorities, unintended consequences
- ▶ Seeing **opportunities** for growth ■ conferences, leadership, risk-taking
- ▶ Seeing potential and ability ■ gifts and temperament, experiences and passion

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INSIGHT ■

- ▶ What can you see about Jenny's current situation? What more would you try to find out?
 - ▶ busy, avoidant
 - ▶ housing/roommate turmoil

FORESIGHT ■

- ▶ Where do you see Jenny heading if things stay the way they are now?
 - ▶ not staying at church long
 - ▶ alone and isolated
- ▶ What would she need to do to get on a better path?
 - ▶ getting more involved relationally at church
 - ▶ reconciliation with roommate
- ▶ What can you do to help Jenny?
 - ▶ invite her, connect