

Prayer

1. Pray for a heart of humility to prioritize the needs of others over your own.
2. Ask God for wisdom to recognize and avoid being a stumbling block to others.
3. Thank God for Jesus' example of servant leadership, and commit to following His example in your daily life.

Selfless Leadership Small Group Materials

Week 3: Spiritual Leadership

Warm-Up

1. Recall that one person who has influenced your life the most spiritually. How did God use that person to help you become a more active, involved and continually growing follower of Jesus?
2. If you could share one piece of wisdom with someone who is new in their life of faith in Jesus, what would it be?
3. What's the most important lesson you've learned so far about fully trusting God?

Word

"Now all glory to God, who is able to make you strong, just as my Good News says. This message about Jesus Christ has revealed his plan for you Gentiles, a plan kept secret from the beginning of time. But now as the prophets foretold and as the eternal God has commanded, this message is made known to all Gentiles everywhere, so that they too might believe and obey him. All glory to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, forever. Amen." — Romans 16:25-27 (NLT)

In the first week of our series break, we have learned that a Selfless leader is a person who focuses on serving not being served. We also learned about the importance of building relationships by connecting with those we lead with empathy and care. This lesson takes us full circle in the calling God has for us which is to lead purposefully and missionally. Here are biblical insights on spiritually leading others in their faith journey with King Jesus:

1. Spiritual Leaders Strengthen Others Through the unchanging message of the Gospel

“Now all glory to God, who is able to make you strong, just as my Good News says. This message about Jesus Christ has revealed his plan for you Gentiles, a plan kept secret from the beginning of time.” —Romans 16:25

The gospel is the foundation of a true spiritual leader. We never graduate from it and we always operate through its pattern and God’s power that flows through it. It continually transforms us and it is the only core message we as leaders point people to. It’s the ultimate good news which can strengthen the growing faith of those we lead and equip and empower them for a life of serving King Jesus all our days.

(Share your story in response to this question as the leader of the group: How did a growing understanding of the gospel transformed you into a better disciple-maker and spiritual guide to others?)

2. Spiritual Leaders Focus on God’s Glory

“All glory to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, forever. Amen.” —Romans 16:27

Leadership isn’t about personal recognition but about directing others to glorify God. This eternal perspective shapes a leader’s priorities and actions.

(Share your story in response to this question as the leader of the group: Have you ever felt at certain times you are unqualified to lead because of lack of knowledge or experience? How did a focus on honoring God made you keep your eyes on Jesus as you lead others in their faith journey with Him?)

3. Spiritual Leaders lead with the Sufficiency of Scriptures

“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.” — 2 Timothy 3:16-17

The Word of God is the ultimate tool for equipping spiritual leaders. It is the only tool that is God-breathe and life giving to us ourselves. It provides the wisdom and guidance necessary for us in leading others effectively towards God’s agenda. Therefore, we use it as references for a life of trusting God’s ways and knowing His will for our lives. It is God’s Word not our personal experiences that truly gives light and clarity to the people we lead in their faith walk with King Jesus.

(Share your story in response to this question as the leader of the group: What is your life verse when you began following Jesus? Has it changed over the years? How did this passage/s of Scripture help you navigate through life and ministry)

Application

1. How can you use your current opportunities to point others to the truth of the gospel?
2. What habits can help you stay focused on God’s glory rather than personal success?
3. What specific area of your spiritual life do you feel called to strengthen so you can lead others more effectively?