
FACILITATOR MANUAL

Training for
Christian
LEADERS



Introduction

Welcome to the Leadership training program. These sessions will help you develop a strong leadership culture in your ministry area or church. You can choose sessions to suit or work your way through the manual over a period of time.

I have been a leader from the age of seventeen with all the ups and downs so I am passionate about developing quality leaders. Perhaps the most satisfying thing has been seeing the leaders in my care develop in confidence and character and successfully go on into many ministry roles including missionaries and pastors.

The sessions run for 40 to 60 minutes and I would suggest you allow a ninety-minute time frame where you end with some food and fellowship.

These sessions will help participants develop greater understanding of who they are, give them more confidence in communicating, and help them have a strong concept of leadership and how it applies to them.

It has been developed to be informative and personal with multiple opportunities for interaction and decision making.

I am confident that the leaders and facilitator will find the program very satisfying and highly enjoyable. God has given us all the ability to lead at some level in our lives.

Regards,

David Sykes.

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Objectives

To teach the leaders some important basics on leadership

To encourage the leaders to be interactive

To develop the leader's ability to communicate

To help the leaders take initiative

To develop the leader's decision making abilities

Tips for the Facilitator

- Encourage the leaders to ask questions; particularly if they don't understand something
- If you only have a few people you can still do these sessions
- The print is large so it's easy to see when you are running the sessions
- Make it your aim to enjoy the sessions and for the leaders to enjoy them as well
- The speaking exercises are designed to help people gain confidence in front of a group of people
- Some exercises are aimed at younger leaders so check that everything is relevant to your audience before training
- Words in **red** are answers or key words. Words in **green** are scriptures. Words in **blue** are instructions.
- You may decide to choose a different method than a 'whiteboard' to display answers.
- If you have enough leaders organise them into small groups of around four to a group depending on how many leaders you have.
- The leaders will need a pen, notepad and a Bible

Session One

DEFINING A LEADER

LEADER'S PREPARATION

THINGS TO PRINT OFF:

- nothing

THINGS NEEDED:

- Whiteboard or similar

WHO ARE YOU EXERCISE

Ask the leaders in turn to stand up and tell the whole group about themselves for 30 seconds. They could include things such as their interests, family and what they would like to do in future years.

DEFINITION OF A LEADER

What do you think the definition of a leader would be?

Encourage their suggestions.

A leader is someone who
leads others towards a **goal**.

Dr Robert Clinton in his book, 'The Making of a Leader' wrote that 'leadership is a dynamic process in which a person with God-given capacity influences a specific group of God's people toward his purposes for the group.'

LEVELS OF LEADERSHIP

There are different levels of leadership. Everyone has to lead sometimes.

Take the leaders through the following list one at a time, asking how each one would lead.

- Prime Minister
- Captain of a sporting team
- Teacher
- Parent
- Pastor/Minister

We all need to evangelise, but we are not all evangelists.

We all need to care for others, but we are not all pastors.

We all need to lead at times, but we are not all leaders.

YOUR DREAM

Have you ever dreamt of achieving something exciting? Something difficult, but possible?

Think about it and write something down - even if it is something you have to think of right now.

Would anyone like to share what they wrote?

Don't pressure them, as it may be personal to some.

GUESS THE LEADER

(15 minutes including discussion).

Form a circle and ask one person to leave the room.

Choose someone to be the 'leader'.

Everyone must do exactly what the leader does like patting their head while cross legged without giving away who they are.

The person comes back in from outside and stands in the middle of the circle.

They have two guesses to try and figure out who the leader is.

The leader must change what they are doing from time to time.

Have others take turns at playing.

When you have finished ask the following questions:

- How important was it for everyone to follow the leader?
- If everyone did their own thing what would happen to the game?
- If there were no leaders in the world and everyone just did their own thing what would happen?

•
Answers such as: There would be no planning and working together. Nothing much would be achieved.

GREAT LEADERS ACHIEVE GREAT THINGS

Moses led the downtrodden Israelite people out of the slavery they were experiencing in Egypt and towards the promised land God had prepared for them.

Paul was significant in spreading the gospel across many countries. He raised up many leaders and established numerous churches.

Alexander the Great (356-323 BC), considered the greatest general of ancient times, conquered most of the civilised world by the age of 33. He never lost a battle, introduced new ideas for governing conquered countries and spread the Grecian culture throughout the world.

HOW TO SPOT LEADERS

How do you spot leaders?

- They are often at the centre of a group.
- They are good at organising and making decisions.
- Others want to do what they are doing.

Write down three people who you think are leaders (only 1 from this group).

A leader has a **plan** (vision).
It makes sense that for people to **follow** you,
you must be going somewhere.

A **bad** leader gets others to serve what they
want. A **good** leader inspires others to work
towards what is **best** for all.

SUCCESSFUL PEOPLE ARE NOT ALWAYS
LEADERS

HOW MUCH LEADER IS IN ME?

Draw a line on the whiteboard (or similar) and write 'none' at one end and 'lots' at the other end. Ask the leaders to come out and put a mark on the line to indicate how much leadership ability they think they have in their life.

Point out that we all have different gifts and so not everyone is a strong leader. It is also worth mentioning that leadership develops in some people as they mature.

None

lots

Session two

WE ARE ALL DIFFERENT

LEADER'S PREPARATION

THINGS TO PRINT OFF:

- The "Who are You Most Like" sheet for each person
- The "Core Values" sheet for each person
- The "What Type of Leader are You" sheets for each person

THINGS NEEDED:

- Whiteboard or similar

WHO ARE YOU MOST LIKE EXERCISE

Have the leaders fill in the WHO ARE YOU MOST LIKE sheet. Ask them to complete it without looking at one another's answers.

When they are finished, get them to compare answers until they find the person who is most like them.

Discuss how everyone is different.

WHO ARE YOU MOST LIKE?

WOULD YOU RATHER:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ___ A: savoury food | B: sweet food |
| ___ A: be outdoors | B: be indoors |
| ___ A: go to bed early | B: go to bed late |
| ___ A: holiday in Australia | B: holiday overseas |
| ___ A: read a good book | B: have a real adventure |
| ___ A: look your best always | B: only when needed |
| ___ A: eat breakfast | B: skip breakfast |

WHICH DO YOU LIKE BEST?

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| ___ A: hot days | B: cold days |
| ___ A: being by yourself | B: being with others |
| ___ A: being careful | B: taking risks |
| ___ A: chocolate flavour | B: strawberry flavour |
| ___ A: the city | B: the country |
| ___ A: to help with a job | B: be in charge of a job |
| ___ A: hard physical work | B: hard thinking work |

ARE YOU:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| ___ A: a thinker | B: a doer |
| ___ A: often late | B: usually on time |
| ___ A: down to earth | B: a dreamer |

IMMEDIATE RESPONSE - WHAT DO YOU DO?

Ask the leaders to use their imagination in this next exercise.

Ask them to picture the following scenario in their minds and decide what the first thing is they would do.

Laughing is not included.

Someone walks into a preschool room carrying a jug of water. They trip and fall, spilling the water and breaking the jug.
What is the first thing you would do?

The answers should reinforce that different people have different responses in situations.

We view things differently to one another.

Discuss why this would be.

I.e. Different personalities, experiences, upbringing, cultures, gifts and values.

CORE VALUES

(WHAT YOU FEEL STRONGLY ABOUT)

Put a tick next to the values that are very important to you.

When you are finished, number from 1 to 3 the three you rate as the most important.

Be ready to share one of those three values and why.

- people being real
- having a good balance in life
- taking on challenges
- things being fair
- family
- living the way God wants you to
- being tolerant of beliefs and lifestyles
- people showing compassion
- everybody working together
- being able to be flexible
- friendship
- loving God
- sharing – being generous
- happiness
- gaining knowledge

- __ love
- __ never giving up – no matter what
- __ not needing anybody – independent
- __ being a person of influence
- __ integrity - where people respect you
- __ getting better at things
- __ having money
- __ people applauding my skills
- __ being given responsibility for things
- __ looking after the environment
- __ feeling safe and secure
- __ self – respect
- __ fitting in with others
- __ competing with people
- __ contributing something
- __ serving God
- __ being in control
- __ health and fitness
- __ achieving things
- __ being good at things
- __ having power
- __ looking good
- __ people being loyal to one another
- __ working for peace
- __ being a really good person
- __ serving people

WHAT TYPE OF LEADER ARE YOU?

We are going to look at ten leadership styles. Score yourself out of ten for how much you see yourself in each one.

1. **Visionary** (has a clear picture in their mind of what the future could be).____

2. **Directional** (has an amazing ability to make the right decision when it is hard to know what to do).____

3. **Strategic** (they take a big vision and break it down into small pieces and organise everything so the big vision is achieved).____

4. **Managing** (someone who is good at organising people, resources – bringing order out of chaos).____

5. **Motivational** (someone who inspires everyone to keep going).____

6. **Caring** (builds a team slowly, loves team members deeply, nurtures them gently, supports them consistently and listens to them patiently).____

7. **Team-building** (have good insight into people's lives. They know the right people, with the right gifts etc. to suit the right jobs)._____

8. **Entrepreneurial** (regularly create/give birth to/come up with new ideas)._____

9. **Reengineering** (thrive on repairing messes)._____

10. **Bridge-building** (love relating to different teams and unifying them)._____

From 'Courageous Leadership, Bill Hybels, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, Michigan 2002'.

Share what you think your main leadership style is with the whole group.

If you are young you will develop your leadership styles more as you grow and mature.

Session three

THE BIG PICTURE

LEADER'S PREPARATION

THINGS TO PRINT OFF:

- Enough "Church Vision" sheets for each small group

THINGS NEEDED:

- Whiteboard or similar

TESTIMONIES

Give each person 30 – 60 seconds to share their salvation testimony or to share what God means to them.

POTENTIAL MINISTRY ROLES

Ask the leaders to come out and write different leadership roles on a white board. They can be things that are already happening and things that could occur. They should be able to come up with at least 20 although 50 is possible!

Some examples are: singing, mentoring, small groups, promotions, prayer team and administration.

Discuss the list. Circle the things you are already doing.

It could be useful to make a copy of the list to remind yourself of the many ways you can include people in leadership roles.

CHURCH VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS

Give each group a CHURCH VISION and MISSION sheet from the next page.

Guide the groups through the exercise.

Tell them where they can go to find the information (if they need guidance). If there is no known vision/mission/values statement they will need to create a vision statement and some values based on their observation of their church. Make sure they know that a Vision statement generally tells people **who they are** and a mission statement **what they do**.

They are to discuss and write answers to the questions in their groups.

When they are finished, a representative from each group is to share their insights with the whole group.

CHURCH VISION STATEMENT

CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT OR VALUES

Do you think everyone knows them? _____

What can we do to promote them?

How can we follow them better?

A leader sees the **big picture** (the finished product) and instinctively knows how to get there.

A quality leader is good at **giving** orders and is also good at **obeying** orders.

WHAT I NEED TO BE A SUCCESSFUL LEADER

- Ability: **Natural** talent you are **born** with that increases as you use it.
- Character: Is formed by the values you decide on as you grow up so it's important to make good decisions.
- Drive/passion: How **determined** you are to succeed. This is often the difference between **good** leaders and **great** leaders.
- Ownership: Taking full responsibility for something and making it **happen**.
- Teachability: As long as you are **willing** to learn you can **improve**.
- Servanthood: This is an ongoing decision to **serve** others in whatever role you are privileged to have.
- Opportunities to develop by leading things.

Session FOUR

GOALS

LEADER'S PREPARATION

THINGS TO PRINT OFF:

- Enough "Goals Exercise" sheets for each group
- "Long Term Preparation" sheet for each small group

THINGS NEEDED:

- Whiteboard or similar
- A ball and bucket

GOALS

What are goals?

Things you are aiming for.

The things we do to support the vision.

What would be a possible goal in your ministry? Discuss.

TARGET PRACTISE

Have a ball and a target such as a bucket. Have the leaders line up and try to lob the ball into the bucket in turn.

When it comes to your turn, throw the ball way off to the side like you were not aiming at all.

Now move them closer so there is more success.

Blind fold one of them, spin them around a few times and then ask them to throw the ball into the bucket (hopefully they will have no idea where the bucket is).

Explain that the bucket was the goal we were aiming for. Get them to discuss success based on what they just observed.

They should discover that:

- The closer you are, the clearer the goal is, therefore giving you a better chance of success.

- Your throw showed that you did not realise there was even a target to aim for – which shows that you cannot expect to do well if you have no goals.
- The blindfolded person had a problem because they knew there was a goal but did not know where it was – which shows that knowing what the goal is needs to be supported by knowing how to get there.

GOAL EXERCISE

Use the following goal as an example:

‘To help the children/youth find a close relationship with Jesus’.

Ask for suggestions of things that could be done to help reach that goal and write them up on the board.

MEASURING GOALS

Goals need to be measurable.

Why do you think that would be?

So you know how accurately you are heading towards your goal.

Read out this fun 'measuring goals' chart.

PERFORMANCE FACTORS	FAR EXCEEDS JOB REQUIREMENTS	EXCEEDS JOB REQUIREMENTS	MEETS JOB REQUIREMENTS	NEEDS SOME IMPROVEMENT	DOES NOT MEET MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS
QUALITY	Leaps tall buildings with a single bound	Must take running start to leap over tall buildings	Can only leap over a short building or medium with no spires	Crashed into buildings when attempting to jump over them	Cannot recognise building at all, much less jump
TIMELINES	Is faster than a speeding bullet	Is as fast as a speeding bullet	Not quite as fast as a speeding bullet	Would you believe a slow bullet	Wounds self with bullet when attempting to shoot gun
INITIATIVE	Is stronger than a locomotive	Is stronger than an elephant	Is stronger than a bull	Shoots the bull	Smells like a bull
ADAPTABILITY	Walks on water consistently	Walks on water in emergencies	Washes with water	Drinks water	Passes water in emergencies
COMMUNICATION	Talks with God	Talks with angels	Talks to self	Argues with self	Loses those arguments

(John Maxwell, Developing the Leaders Around You)

Direct the leaders to look at their ideas on the board again to see whether they were measurable or not. You may need to alter some to make them measurable.

GOALS EXERCISE

Give each small group a **MINISTRY GOALS** sheet and direct them to write in some one, two and five year goals in the **Vision Implementation** column. If needed, help them think of things that support the church vision.

Get feedback and briefly discuss each small group's ideas with the whole group.

SHORT TERM VERSES LONG TERM POLICIES

(Whole group discussion)

Discussion One.

You own a pond on your property. It has lots of fish in it and your friends love fishing there every weekend. After a few weeks you notice that the fish stocks are running low.

What do you do?

What will your friends think?

Discussion Two.

The road outside your house keeps getting potholes. You can save up and get it done properly in 3 years' time or you can keep patching it forever.

What will you do?

How will the people in your street feel about your decision?

Help the leaders understand that the right decision is not always the popular one and that leaders need to be strong enough to make the right decision.

Discuss how easy or hard you think it is for politicians to make long term policies that are best when they know it could cost them at the next election?

Session FIVE

TEAMWORK

LEADER'S PREPARATION

THINGS TO PRINT OFF:

- "Teamwork" sheets for each small group
- "Unity Problem" sheets for each small group

THINGS NEEDED:

- Whiteboard or similar
- 1 X 100 piece jigsaw puzzle for each small group (Ravensburger puzzles recommended). It is also best to buy identical puzzles

TEAMWORK

Discuss these facets of teamwork in small groups and then share your findings with everyone:

Decide on the three most important roles of a team leader

List up to 10 things about “Working together”

It is great to be a leader, but where would we be if everyone was in **charge**?

Briefly discuss the above statement with the whole group.

JIGSAW CHALLENGE

Hand a jigsaw puzzle to each group.

Tell them that they need to think about how they are going to work together to finish the jigsaw as quickly as they can.

Allow about 30 seconds for them to discuss 'tactics' and then start timing them. Watch the way they interact.

When time is up give positive feedback on any team work and leadership you observed.

JUST FOR YOU TO KNOW

An excellent way to do the jigsaw puzzle is to turn all the pieces over while separating the edges. Then have someone put the edges together while others each choose, collect and put together large sections. Then attempt to combine everything that is ready when most of the puzzle is done.

UNITY PROBLEMS

Team unity is critical for success. In your small group discuss the following things that could disrupt this. Write down possible solutions.

People using humour to devalue other people's character or efforts (bullying).

A power struggle where a leader is subtly gathering support to replace the ministry leader.

Some people are "doing everything" while others are being slack. The complaining has started!

Session SIX

TAKING RESPONSIBILITY

LEADER'S PREPARATION

THINGS TO PRINT OFF:

- Print off and cut out the initiative exercises from the “Initiative Workshop” sheet ready for the small groups
- “Self Development” sheets for each person

THINGS NEEDED:

- Whiteboard or similar

INITIATIVE

Initiative is seeing something that needs to be done and making it happen without being asked.

Let's say you take the initiative to tidy up the children's ministry centre (you may want to suggest a different area to tidy). What would you do?

You can have a bit of fun with this. Initiative could be to stuff things in cupboards or pay someone else to do it for you.

What would you do?

You and a friend decide to go on a long walk through the bush on a day in summer. Use your initiative to decide what to do and take.

Write answers on a whiteboard. Make sure they have thought of the things listed below.

- thirst – (water)
- heat – (hat)
- emergency – (mobile phone)
- insect bites – (insect repellent)
- sun burn – (sun screen)
- lost – (notified people where you are going & when you expect to return)

True initiative involves making yourself think things through and often requires plenty of **determination**.

INITIATIVE WORKSHOP

Give each group one of the challenges listed below and get them to discuss and write down how they would take the initiative. They need to be ready to report back to the whole group.

You decide to paint the kitchen as a surprise for your family.

You would like to start a soup kitchen for homeless people.

You want to bring a child from a struggling family in outback Australia to see the coast for the first time in their life.

You and some friends want to put on a drama at church.

After each group shares their action plan, have the other leaders suggest anything they think could be added.

THE POWER OF OWNERSHIP

Ownership includes having initiative

Taking ownership of something means you are thinking it right through and as though you were the **only** person responsible for it.

Remind the leaders of when they talked about taking the initiative.

Help them understand that ownership is even better because it means they don't take short cuts but take responsibility for doing a great job.

When children and teenagers take ownership of something such as cleaning their room, it **transfers** the ownership from their parents to **them**. Transferring responsibility for things is part of becoming an **adult**.

PASSION

(Whole group discussion)

What are you passionate about?

What do you know about it?

What about people who do poorly at school but know everything about cars and how they work? A secret to learning is to give yourself a reason to want to learn.

If I asked you to learn something you are not very interested in you would be reluctant. However, if I offered you \$200, most of you would suddenly find the subject more interesting.

When we are passionate about something it is amazing how easily we **learn** and remember things about it. We can increase our desire to learn something by giving ourselves a **reason**.

What are some reasons you could give yourself:

Possible answers would be:

- Getting a good mark
- a reward for doing well
- believing that if you can learn it, you can learn nearly anything.

Session SEVEN

CHARACTER

LEADER'S PREPARATION

THINGS TO PRINT OFF:

- Enough "Who am I" sheets for each person
- "Character and Ability" sheets for small groups
- "Character Study" sheets for each small group

THINGS NEEDED:

- Whiteboard or similar

WHO AM I EXERCISE

Hand out the 'Who Am I' sheets for everyone to fill in. They need to keep their answers secret.

Once you have collected the sheets, shuffle them and read out the answers (do not read out their names). People try to guess who each person is.

When you have finished reading the sheets talk about how much they knew about one another. Ask questions like, 'Are you surprised at some of the answers?'

Discuss briefly how good leaders make an effort to find out what people are good at so they can help develop their gifts.

WHO AM I?

Do you like to work alone or with people?

What do you like to do to relax?

What are you passionate about?

What would you like said about you at your funeral?

Your name: _____

WHO AM I?

Do you like to work alone or with people?

What do you like to do to relax?

What are you passionate about?

What would you like said about you at your funeral?

Your name: _____

LEADERS THOUGHTS ON IMPORTANT ATTRIBUTES OF A LEADER

Phil Pringle – C3 church founder

1. *Faithfulness. Predictable and regular, honourable and loyal.*
2. *Consecration to God. A person must have sacrificed their life to God.*
3. *Teachability. If a person is unable to be taught, to receive teaching and to implement counsel into their lives, they are basically useless for the work of God.*

(You the Leader. Phil Pringle).

John Maxwell – Christian leader

1. *Strength of character. Things such as honesty, integrity, self-discipline, teachability, dependability, perseverance, conscientiousness, and a strong work ethic.*
2. *Influence. They are going somewhere and are able to persuade others to go with them.*
3. *Positive attitude. A positive attitude is one of the most valuable assets a person can have in life.*

(Developing the leaders Around You. John Maxwell).

Jesus

1. *Servanthood. Jesus led by serving God and serving people.*
2. *Team. Jesus recognised future leaders; gathered them around himself and taught them.*
3. *Compassion. Even though Jesus was the King of the greatest Kingdom, his focus was on the needs of the people around him.*

Joyce Meyer

1. *A servant's heart. A willing, confident, obedient and tender heart will dramatically affect the way people respond to you as their leader.*
2. *Leaders aren't born—they're made.*
3. *Belief in yourself - let God develop your heart and ability to be an effective, godly leader!*

(Embracing a Life of Leadership. Joyce Meyer).

QUIET PEOPLE SOMETIMES ARE LEADERS

Ability is the natural talent that someone has to do something.

Character is the way a person behaves based on good or bad decisions they have made about how to live.

BEING A LEADER DOES NOT MAKE YOU MORE
IMPORTANT THAN ANYONE ELSE

Not everyone is a leader, but everyone needs to lead at different times in their lives

AFTER FEEDBACK.

It is worth noting that even with God at work in their lives there was no guarantee they would turn out all right.

What do you think the key is to turning out all right?

Answer: An ongoing decision to allow God to do whatever he wants in our lives.

Session EIGHT

DISCIPLINE

LEADER'S PREPARATION

THINGS TO PRINT OFF:

- nothing

THINGS NEEDED:

- Whiteboard or similar

GOD DISCIPLINES THOSE HE LOVES

Just because some people have a great leadership gift, it does not mean they are going to be great leaders.

Great character does not automatically come with great leadership.

When someone rises in leadership it is not unusual for them to struggle if their character is not ready. Sadly, it is not unusual to see high profile people in our society doing things that show weakness in character.

Let's look up [Hebrews 12:5-11](#)

My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son. Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father? If you are not disciplined (and everyone undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons. Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of our spirits and live!

Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in his holiness. No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

Why does God have to discipline us?

Because of the weaknesses and sin in our lives that need dealing with.

What are some key words from the passage that explain what God does to discipline us?

Rebuke, discipline, punishment, hardship, unpleasantness and pain.

What good comes from being disciplined?

We get to share in God's holiness and we enjoy righteousness and peace in our lives.

Life throws some seriously nasty things at us whether we are a Christian or not. It is comforting to know that God uses life's struggles for our good.

We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose (Romans 8:28).

Note that the Bible does not say 'God **causes** all things' but rather that he '**uses** all things' to make us better people.

Session NINE

SERVING OTHERS

LEADER'S PREPARATION

THINGS TO PRINT OFF:

- nothing

THINGS NEEDED:

- Whiteboard or similar

SERVANTHOOD

As Christians we are called to be servants.
How does this affect the way we live?

How successful do you think the average
Christian is at serving others?

What do you think is the main thing stopping
people from serving better? (self-centredness)

SERVANTHOOD WORKSHOP

(Whole group Bible study)

Direct the leaders to look up the scriptures and
discuss.

JESUS EXAMPLE:

Mark 10:45 The Son of Man did not come to
be served, but to serve, and to give his life as
a ransom for many.

John 5:30 By myself I can do nothing; I judge
only as I hear, and my judgement is just, for I
seek not to please myself but him who sent
me.

Philippians 2:5-7 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus; Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

Make a list of ways Jesus served when he was on earth.

JESUS' EXAMPLE TRANSFERED TO US

Matthew 20:26-28 Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave – just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

US SERVING

1 Peter 4:10 Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

Mark 9:35 If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all.

A possible interpretation is if anyone wants to be first he must prove that he wants to be last by his actions therefore cancelling his desire to be first.

Another thought is that it is impossible to maintain total servanthood while at the same time wanting to be first.

So in reality, you have to completely give up any desire to be first if you want to be first!

WHO ARE WE REALLY SERVING?

Colossians 3:23,24 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

John 15:13 Greater love has no-one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.

What if we don't think of this as dying for some one. What else could it be referring to?

SERVING WORKSHOPS

(Small groups then feedback)

Give each small group one area to brainstorm about how we can serve.

The findings are then shared with the whole group.

SERVING GOD
SERVING THE CHURCH LEADER
SERVING YOUR LEADER
SERVING ONE ANOTHER

LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

Serving the Children/Youth

(Small group then whole group)

Brainstorm ways you can get to know the needs of the children/youth so you can serve them best.

Session TEN

TOUGH DECISIONS

LEADER'S PREPARATION

THINGS TO PRINT OFF:

- The "Election Time" and "Political Party Name" sheets for each group
- "Wisdom Challenge" sheets for each group

THINGS NEEDED:

- Whiteboard or similar

ELECTION TIME

(Small group exercise)

It is election time and the four big issues set out below are going to decide whether you get elected to govern Australia or not! Your political party must look at the submissions from each of the areas and decide how to spend the **14 billion dollars** that is available and why.

HOSPITALS

Four billion dollars is needed to provide basic care and facilities.

FOREIGN AID

Droughts and war have impacted countries we have traditionally helped. Four billion dollars barely provides our share of assistance to this crisis; especially for refugees.

EDUCATION

We are starting to fall behind compared to many other countries. Four billion dollars is desperately needed to ensure our future.

ENVIRONMENT

Everyone knows that environmental issues are critically important for our future and the future of the world. Unless we commit at least four billion dollars in initiatives we will not be doing our share.

Each small group (political party) must present their case and everyone must vote for the political party they think presented the strongest case. You are not allowed to vote for your own party. The party with the most votes is declared as the new government!

Decide on a name for your political party and go ahead and make your decisions. You have six minutes.

POLITICAL PARTY NAME

HOSPITALS: _____ billion dollars

WHY? _____

FOREIGN AID: _____ billion dollars

WHY? _____

EDUCATION: _____ billion dollars

WHY? _____

ENVIRONMENT: _____ billion dollars

WHY? _____

Good leaders **lead**, bad leaders **push**.

What is good about being a leader?

- Making **decisions**
- Getting **praise** for a job well done
- Respect
- The good feeling you get from **success**
- Knowing others are benefiting from your **decisions**

What can be hard as a leader?

- Trying to **please** everyone
- Dealing with real people and their shortcomings and **problems**
- Making **tough** decisions
- Leading by **example**
- Being emotionally **strong**
- The leader often gets the **blame**. e.g. bad service in a shop
- Sometimes people try and bring you **down**

Question: How do I know if I am a leader?

Answer: If people **follow** you, you are a leader.

When you are representing your church people judge your church by your **behaviour**.

Session ELEVEN

RELATIONSHIPS

LEADER'S PREPARATION

THINGS TO PRINT OFF:

- The three "Leaders/Volunteers" sheets – one for each group – double up if more than three groups

THINGS NEEDED:

- Whiteboard or similar

RELATIONSHIPS ARE VERY IMPORTANT

Let's look up [Philippians 2:2](#)

Make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and in purpose.

What do you think [Ephesians 5:21](#) means? Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Now let's check out [Hebrews 13:17](#)

Obey your leaders and submit to their authority.

They keep watch over you as men who must give an account.

Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden,

for that would be no advantage to you.

Discuss each of the four parts of the verse.

With the following three exercises, allocate them to small groups to discuss and to bring their findings back to the whole group.

RELATING TO THE CHILDREN/YOUTH

Spend some time in your small groups talking about the importance of working with the children/youth and how leaders should act towards the children/youth in their care.

Bring feedback to the whole group.

A LEADER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- To impart **vision**
- To build a **team**
- To empower and **release** others to do things.
- To make **decisions**
- To take **risks**
- To lead by **example**