

SESSION 3: HEART OR HEAD FOR LEADERSHIP?

Welcome & Review Last Week's Homework/LIFE Starters: 15 minutes

Session #3 Teaching: Have Heart for Leadership, NOT Just Head Knowledge: 10 minutes

Are YOU ready to be a Passionate Biblical leader? As stated in Session #1, true Biblical leadership starts in the heart, NOT the head. Many of us have been trained to lead like dictators instead of loving servants. We start ALL of PBC's Life Studies with the WHY of the subject we are covering in the study. In the case of servant leadership the heart is **"your why."** Within the heart lies the reason why we do what we do; it is our intention and motivation. It is the core of who we are, so it has everything to do with everything. Proverbs 4:23 tells us clearly, "Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life."

In your heart, your beliefs about Jesus are stored – and that belief changes everything. Without a solid foundation with Christ in your heart, you will struggle as a leader. The heart of a leader is everything; it's the lifeline to the leader's health. When our hearts are muddled—the foundation rocky—our ability to inspire and lead others will suffer, and people will feel it. Which is why it is so important to examine our hearts. To be honest and open to evaluation. We lead others to serve God and for the greater good. With that, there is an **upward focus, inward examination and outward manifestation**. In his book, **Lead Like Jesus**, Ken Blanchard states that self-promotion (pride) and self-protection (fear) dominate today's leadership style. Many leaders act as if the sheep are there only for the benefit of the shepherd. Ken talks about the alternative approach to leadership that Leaders for Life is founded on and it is driven by four basic beliefs that have become central to his ministry:

- **Leadership happens anytime we influence the thinking, behavior, or development of another person.**
- **Jesus is the greatest leadership role model of all time.**
- **Servant leadership is the only approach to leadership that Jesus validates for His followers.**
- **Effective leadership begins on the inside, with our hearts.**

If we can grasp these truths, we will begin a transformational journey towards influencing others for Christ in a new and more effective way. They discuss the role of your heart, as much as your head when it comes to leading. They also discuss creating NEW habits and encourages you to be open and vulnerable to CHANGE! That is a scary proposition, but one we need to embrace to grow!

- **Are YOU ready to grow? Are you ready to lead with your heart?**

A changed heart equals a changed leader. And leading like Jesus – leadership that achieves strong relationships and results – starts on the inside, beginning with the heart. Through Scripture, we learn that love is stored in our hearts (Mark 12:33); we forgive each other from our hearts (Matthew 18:35), our words are banked in our hearts (Luke 6:45), we store Scripture in our hearts (Psalm 119:11), and it is in the heart that we seek and find God (Jeremiah 29:13). No wonder we are told to guard our hearts above all else! Now it's time to follow Jesus' basic motivation which was love for his followers, being fully aware of his position as leader. Before the disciples experienced Him as their servant, they had already experienced him many times before as Master, and as a strong and extremely powerful leader. He voluntarily became a servant to His followers, not only as their foot washer, but ready to serve His followers as needed.

Jesus set the example, now it's up to YOU to follow!

Small Group Discussion: 20 minutes

- Discuss how YOU have been led in the past. Has someone led you with heart before?
- What might block you from leading as discussed in today's video?
- If you agree that leading like Jesus is leadership that achieves strong relationships and results and starts on the inside, beginning with the heart...Discuss together some practical ways you need to make some changes to do that:
 - With your family,
 - Your work,
 - Your church,
 - Other areas of influence.
- Finish in prayer asking the Holy Spirit to adjust your vision of leadership to shift it from your head to your heart!

Small Group Wrap-Up: 10 minutes

- What were the biggest take-aways and action items from your small group time?

Discuss This Week's Homework: 5 minutes