

The Servant Leader

Introduction:

What did Jesus do to conventional thinking about leadership?

Matthew 20: 24-28

Mark 10:42-45

Luke 22:24-27

Was Jesus a leader who served or a servant who led?

Note how our view of who is a leader and who is a servant has been shaped by culture.

How do we tend to define a Servant?

John 13:1-17

- **Doulos** is one who belongs to another—defining yourself by your relationship to another.
- **Diakonos** is one who serves others—defining yourself by your work.

Serving is first an identity... and then a task.

Exercise: A Servant no matter what the Role

Two identities: *Does my role define me or do I define my role?*



Exercise:

- 1. Imagine being led by someone whose identity is wrapped up in their role and whose philosophy is “your life for me.” What does that look like? What does it feel like? How does it impact your motivation? How does it affect the relationships in the ministry?**

- 2. If you lead with the philosophy of “my life for you” what would be some attitudes you would have and actions that you would take?**

Implications for living like Jesus:

Take a moment to think about some arena where you serve in leadership that could better reflect a servant identity. Share this area with a neighbor and discuss what practical steps you can take soon to apply principles from the workshop.

