


The Responsibilities of A Leader

 COLLEGIATE STAFF-IN-TRAINING BIBLE STUDY

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

A focused study on leaders in Mark's Gospel through the lens of Lead, Develop, Care.

(5-8 hrs)

Select OT leaders to evaluate who embody facets of Kingdom leaders. **(2-4 hrs)**

REFLECT AND RESPOND

Questions to help you process your study and the implications on our Navigator calling, core values, and campus work. **(1-2 hrs)**

SOMETHING TO SHARE

Seek out the wisdom of leaders who have gone before you and share their insights with a key man/woman in whom you are investing.

(2-3 hrs)

CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION

Talk with your campus trainer about how what you're learning will continue to shape your life and role in the Navigators.



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INTRODUCTION:

In Mark 10:42-45, Jesus contrasts the position and power prized by the Gentile leaders by placing “servant” at the heart of his followers' identity. In God's kingdom, leaders are servants in various positions of influence and not merely characterized by having authority or positions of power. Effective leadership and the identity of a leader are both developed over a lifetime, but this study will help you begin to articulate what is distinctive of kingdom leaders and reflect on your own life and influence.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES:

- 1) As a lens for evaluating Bible characters as leaders, you will focus on three responsibilities of a leader used by leader development initiatives in the Navigators. Every leader is called to Lead, Develop, and Care for those in their sphere of influence.

Leading involves intentionally influencing and enabling people to accomplish a given task

Developing involves intentionally strengthening your people's capacity to grow and contribute

Caring involves intentionally watching over and responding to the needs and well-being of people.

For the first part of this study, you will study the portrait of leaders given in Mark's Gospel. (5-8 hrs)

Read through the Gospel of Mark and identify:

- a) Who are the leaders in the Gospel of Mark?
 - b) How did the exercise (or fail to exercise) the responsibilities of Lead, Develop, and Care?
 - c) What postures, attitudes, and values characterize them as leaders?
 - d) How would you summarize leaders in/outside the Kingdom in Mark?
- 2) Pick 3 characters in the Old Testament to evaluate as a leader (regardless of position). Select one who embodies the responsibility of leading, another who characterizes developing, and a final leader who demonstrates caring. In addition, identify:
 - a) What events or circumstances shape their leadership?
 - b) What characterizes them as a leader?
 - c) What influence do they have on others? (Positive/negative)
 - d) How does their identity affect their leadership?

REFLECT AND RESPOND:

**Write two to three paragraphs for each of the following four prompts. Draw from your study above.

- 1) Reflect on the responsibilities and characteristics of leaders in Mark and the OT. Consider a current ministry context where you have influence in others' lives. What principles of a leader do you see in yourself? What do you see lacking?
- 2) What are 2 or 3 character issues you presently observe in yourself as a leader? Imagine a future ministry role where you have greater responsibility and influence. If nothing were to change in your character, what effect would that have on your leadership?
- 3) What are the characteristics of a kingdom follower? Who in your life have you observed following well? How do you want the way you follow to influence how you lead?
- 4) Who/what are significant events and people in your life that shape how you think about leadership, and yourself as a leader? (Positive and negative)

SOMETHING TO SHARE:

- 1) Identify a ministry leader you admire, and who has been serving for over 30 years. Ask them for a one-hour interview, and ask the following questions, as well as any of your own. Send them your questions ahead of the interview.
 - a) What Scripture has most shaped your identity as a leader?
 - b) How have you seen God cultivate you as a leader?
 - c) What was lacking in your leadership early on in ministry?
 - d) What are the non-negotiables of kingdom leaders?
 - e) What have been some of the most challenging moments of leading?
- 2) Share these responses with a key man/woman you are cultivating as a leader, and discuss what it is like to receive and implement their wisdom.

CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION:

Reach out to your campus trainer. Before you meet, ask them to identify a few character traits and convictions that they think you could grow in as a leader. When you meet, discuss how you might take short and long-range steps toward your development as a leader.