

# Christian Leadership

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This discussion handout accompanies the Christian Leadership video.  
This can be used as part of a workshop or a small group discussion.

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## Task #1: Is everyone a leader? Are leaders born or made?

What do you think? Share and discuss.

Do you see yourself as a leader? Do you think you have leadership potential?

Read the following excerpt.

Leadership isn't about having a title. Often, the strongest leaders in an organization, and in life, are those who don't have official titles. When I stay at a hotel, I rarely meet the General Manager, but I always meet bell caps, doormen, front desk personnel, housekeepers and restaurant staff. It is their service leadership that makes me decide to come back – or not.

Smart people and enlightened organizations know that having a title doesn't automatically make a person a leader, and not having a title doesn't keep one from leading and making a positive difference.

The fact is anyone who wishes to shape their own lives and positively influence the lives of others is a leader. And that kind of leadership is a skill that can be learned by anyone, anywhere...

– Mark Sanborn, *You Don't Need a Title to be a Leader: How Anyone, Anywhere Can Make a Positive Difference*

Do you agree or disagree with the author?

What difference does this make for how you think about leadership?

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## Task #2: Further Insights into Leadership

Read the following bible passage.

### **Romans 12:3-8**

New International Version (NIV)

<sup>3</sup> For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. <sup>4</sup> For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. <sup>6</sup> We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your<sup>[a]</sup> faith; <sup>7</sup> if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; <sup>8</sup> if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, <sup>[b]</sup> do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

### **Footnotes:**

- a. Romans 12:6 Or *the*
- b. Romans 12:8 Or *to provide for others*

What insights can we gain from this on leadership? Share and list our ideas.

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## Task #3: Watch the Christian Leadership Video

What were the four major principles of Christian leadership according to Chaplain Chong?

**L:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E:** \_\_\_\_\_

**A:** \_\_\_\_\_

**D:** \_\_\_\_\_

Notes:

Was there anything new or different for you? Or what did you find most helpful?

Would you add any other principles to this list of four?

Do you think you can lead – in your own way – according to these four principles?

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## Task #4: Jesus & Leadership

### **Luke 22:24-27**

New International Version (NIV)

<sup>24</sup> A dispute also arose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest. <sup>25</sup> Jesus said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them call themselves Benefactors. <sup>26</sup> But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves. <sup>27</sup> For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

Read the following bible passage.

From this passage, Christians are fond to speak of the leader as a servant, with the emphasis on serving, not leading. One might call it, “Leading Servanthood.” How might that look like today in real life? How would a leader, employing Jesus’ posture of servanthood here, be different from another leader who does not? And how does this change our perspective and value of leadership?

This following bible verse might reinforce Jesus’ point with a different emphasis: “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” – 1 Peter 4:10 (NIV)

### **Closing Prayer**

Consider closing your time together in prayer. If people are comfortable, you can each take turns praying or one person can choose to lead in prayer. Thank God for the gift of leadership. Pray for yourselves that you may nurture the leadership skills and potential in each one of you to serve in your own ways and areas. Pray for the leaders you know in your communities.

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