# **Servant Leadership**

In light of surrender (laying down our expectations and desires) and service (taking up the call of God to love others), we can now discuss the topic of Servant Leadership. This topic could easily fill a twelve-week training in and of itself, but today, we’re providing an overview and asking God to grow deep roots in us as we move on from these classes.

Servant leadership is influence (leadership is influence) geared toward personal and communal transformation. Servant leaders are active participants in the work of the Holy Spirit by laying down their lives and caring for others. The goal of servant leadership isn’t transactional in nature; that is, it is not about getting something by giving something. Instead, servant leadership is about influencing others toward the Kingdom of God. It is not socialism, where a top-down group instructs you what to give or when to give it. It is internally motivated by love and the betterment of others. Servant leadership is a joyful choice we each get to make.

That said, servant leaders do not think poorly of themselves. They offer from what they have freely received. They aren’t weak or pathetic people. They are just willing to give of the wisdom and experiences that God has given them. As such, they are transformed by their giving as much as those who are receiving.

Why does Servant Leadership matter? Because this is the example, Jesus left for us when he washed His disciple’s feet. Jesus also gave authority to his disciples to follow in His footsteps. (This includes us!) Servant leaders rejoice in the successes of others and cry with those who are struggling (Romans 12:15). Servant leaders recognize that the only way the Church can fulfill its mission is for each member to become healthy and mature. As such, servant leaders see themselves as one valuable part within the context of many valuable parts. You must comprehend this!

Reflections:

What would it look like for you to become a Servant Leader within this community group?

What Gifts and talents do you bring to this group that the community needs?

What has God taught/shown you that others need to experience or walk through?

In a few weeks, after this training has been completed, how will you continue your personal and communal journey?

Servant Leadership is a vast topic, but we discuss it here so you recognize that you are called to be a servant leader in your spheres of influence. The goal isn’t to “lord over” or control others. The goal is to become the blessing that God has made you to be. Servant leaders intentionally participate with God in whatever He is doing in an individual’s life. You GET to be a part of something much bigger than yourself. Will you take up the call?