

THE28th.LIFE

THE IGNITION

MODULE 7 — LEADERSHIP THROUGH SERVANTHOOD

Leading Like Jesus by Serving Others

Module Overview

The world often defines leadership by power, position, authority, and influence.

Jesus defined it differently.

He taught that true leadership begins on our knees.

Throughout His ministry, Jesus continually challenged the world's understanding of greatness. He welcomed the overlooked, served the forgotten, lifted the broken, and ultimately demonstrated the greatest act of servant leadership by giving His life for the salvation of humanity.

He never asked His followers to do what He was unwilling to do Himself.

He led by example.

As your journey through **THE IGNITION** continues, God is preparing you not simply to serve—but to lead.

Biblical leadership isn't about titles.

It isn't about recognition.

It isn't about being in charge.

It is about accepting responsibility for helping others follow Jesus.

Every believer has influence.

Whether you're leading your family, mentoring a new Christian, serving on a ministry team, teaching children, volunteering in your community, or encouraging a friend, God has entrusted you with opportunities to reflect the heart of Christ.

John Wesley understood leadership as stewardship. He empowered ordinary believers to lead small groups, disciple others, and care for their communities. His leadership model wasn't built around celebrity—it was built around humility, accountability, spiritual maturity, and multiplication. Because people were equipped rather than merely instructed, the Methodist movement spread across continents.

Jesus still calls leaders the same way today.

Not the most talented.

Not the most popular.

But those who are willing to faithfully serve.

Leadership in God's Kingdom begins by following Christ closely.

As we become more like Jesus, others naturally begin following our example—not because we seek attention, but because they see Christ reflected in our lives.

"Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant."

— Matthew 20:26

Learning Objectives

By the end of Module 7, you will:

- Develop Christ-centered leadership.
- Lead through humility rather than position.
- Influence others with integrity and compassion.
- Learn to mentor and encourage newer believers.
- Build confidence in leading through faithful service.
- Prepare to live missionally as you enter the final stage of **THE IGNITION**.

LESSON 25 — BIBLICAL LEADERSHIP

Theme

Biblical leadership begins by following Jesus before leading others.

Key Scriptures

- Matthew 20:20–28
 - Mark 10:42–45
 - Philippians 2:1–11
 - 1 Peter 5:2–4
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Big Idea

The greatest leaders are faithful servants.

Introduction

When Jesus spoke about leadership, He completely overturned the expectations of His culture.

The disciples argued about who would become the greatest.

Jesus responded by pointing to a servant.

In God's Kingdom...

Leadership is measured by sacrifice.

Influence grows through humility.

Authority is exercised through love.

Jesus never demanded privilege.

He accepted responsibility.

Every Christian is called to lead someone.

Parents lead children.

Friends influence friends.

Mentors guide disciples.

Church members encourage one another.

Leadership begins long before someone receives a title.

It begins with faithful obedience.

Characteristics of Biblical Leaders

A Christ-centered leader is:

- Humble.
- Faithful.
- Compassionate.
- Teachable.
- Dependable.
- Courageous.
- Servant-hearted.

Leadership is less about being followed and more about faithfully following Christ.

Reflection

1. How does Jesus redefine leadership?
 2. Who has demonstrated servant leadership in your life?
 3. In what areas is God inviting you to lead?
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Weekly Challenge

Look for one opportunity this week to lead by serving rather than directing.

Choose the towel before the title.

Prayer

Father,

Teach me to lead as Jesus led. Give me a servant's heart, humble spirit, and a willingness to place others before myself.

Amen.

Memory Verse

"Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant."

— Matthew 20:26

LESSON 26 — LEADING BY EXAMPLE

Theme

People are inspired more by what we live than by what we say.

Key Scriptures

- 1 Timothy 4:12
 - Titus 2:7–8
 - Matthew 5:14–16
 - Philippians 3:17
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Big Idea

Our lives often become the strongest message we will ever preach.

Introduction

Jesus never asked His disciples to follow instructions alone.

He invited them to follow Him.

He demonstrated prayer.

Compassion.

Forgiveness.

Obedience.

Faith.

Love.

The same principle remains true today.

People learn by watching.

Your consistency often teaches more than your words.

Authentic leadership is built over time through faithful living.

Integrity earns trust.

Faithfulness builds influence.

Christlikeness inspires others to follow.

Living an Example Worth Following

Lead through:

- Integrity.
- Consistency.
- Compassion.
- Faithfulness.
- Humility.
- Forgiveness.

- Joy.

Ask yourself daily:

"If someone followed my example today, would they become more like Jesus?"

Reflection

1. What kind of example are you setting?
 2. Where do your actions match your beliefs?
 3. Where is God calling you to greater consistency?
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Weekly Challenge

Choose one Christlike quality to intentionally demonstrate every day this week.

Ask someone you trust how they see that quality reflected in your life.

Prayer

Lord,

Help my life reflect Your character. May others see You through my actions, my words, and the way I love those around me.

Amen.

Memory Verse

"Set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity."

— 1 Timothy 4:12

LESSON 27 — INFLUENCE AND INTEGRITY

Theme

Our influence grows when our character consistently reflects Christ.

Key Scriptures

- Proverbs 11:3
 - Colossians 3:17
 - Psalm 15
 - Matthew 5:16
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Big Idea

Influence is built on trust, and trust is built through integrity.

Introduction

Every believer influences someone.

Whether we realize it or not, people observe how we respond to success, failure, conflict, disappointment, and opportunity.

Integrity means being the same person in private that you are in public.

It means honoring Christ when no one is watching.

Our witness is strengthened when our character aligns with our confession.

Leadership without integrity eventually collapses.

Leadership with integrity leaves a lasting legacy.

People may forget our accomplishments.

They rarely forget our character.

Building Godly Influence

Healthy influence grows through:

- Honest living.
- Keeping your word.
- Serving consistently.
- Admitting mistakes.
- Seeking forgiveness.
- Speaking truth with love.
- Remaining faithful over time.

God is far more interested in forming your character than expanding your platform.

Reflection

1. What does integrity mean to you?
 2. How do your daily choices affect your witness?
 3. Where is God inviting you to greater faithfulness?
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Weekly Challenge

Examine one area of your life where your actions and beliefs need greater alignment.

Take one practical step toward integrity this week.

Prayer

Father,

Shape my character so my influence always points people toward You. Help me faithfully represent Christ wherever You've placed me.

Amen.

Memory Verse

"The integrity of the upright guides them."

— Proverbs 11:3

LESSON 28 — MENTORING OTHERS

Theme

God grows His Kingdom as mature believers intentionally invest in others.

Key Scriptures

- 2 Timothy 2:2
 - Titus 2:1–8
 - Hebrews 10:24–25
 - Proverbs 27:17
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Big Idea

Leadership reaches its greatest impact when it develops future leaders.

Introduction

One of the greatest privileges of following Jesus is helping someone else follow Him.

Mentoring is simply walking beside another person as they grow spiritually.

You don't need to have every answer.

You simply need to remain faithful, teachable, and willing to share what God has been teaching you.

Every mentor was once a disciple.

Every mature believer was once a beginner.

As God continues shaping your life, He also prepares you to encourage others through your experiences, your prayers, your example, and your friendship.

Healthy mentoring is not about creating dependence.

It is about helping people become increasingly dependent upon Christ.

Becoming a Mentor

A faithful mentor:

- Listens well.
- Encourages often.
- Prays consistently.
- Speaks biblical truth with love.
- Celebrates growth.
- Corrects gently.
- Models faithful obedience.

Remember:

People rarely need someone who appears perfect.

They need someone who faithfully follows Jesus.

Reflection

1. Who has mentored you in your faith?
2. What did they do that helped you grow?

3. Who could you begin encouraging and investing in today?
 4. What first step could you take this week?
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Weekly Challenge

Prayerfully choose one person you will intentionally encourage over the next month.

Reach out.

Meet together.

Pray together.

Read Scripture together.

Simply begin walking alongside them.

Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for the people who have invested in my life. Help me faithfully encourage others with humility, patience, and love. May my leadership always point people toward Jesus and never toward myself.

In Christ's name,

Amen.

Memory Verse

"And the things you have heard me say... entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others."

— 2 Timothy 2:2

Module 7 Wrap-Up

Leadership in God's Kingdom is never about climbing higher—it is about kneeling lower.

Throughout this module, you've discovered that Jesus redefined leadership through humility, service, integrity, and intentional investment in others. As you've learned to lead by example, guard your character, and begin mentoring newer believers, you've embraced the kind of leadership that leaves an eternal legacy.

Remember that the most influential leaders are often those who quietly and faithfully serve behind the scenes. God is not looking for perfect leaders—He is looking for surrendered hearts that are willing to follow Him wherever He leads. As you continue growing, your influence will not come from your position but from your Christlike character.

But leadership is never the destination.

It is preparation for the mission.

In **Module 8 — Living On Mission**, you'll discover that every follower of Jesus is sent into the world as His ambassador. You'll learn to recognize your everyday mission field, intentionally build Gospel-centered relationships, make disciples in your daily life, and prepare your heart for the next pathway of **THE28th.LIFE...**

THE UNLEASHING.

The fire has been ignited.

Now it is ready to spread.

Your greatest adventure of faith is just ahead.