

THE 28th.LIFE

THE UNLEASHING

MODULE 3 — SERVANT LEADERSHIP

Leading Like Jesus in a World That Leads Differently

Module Overview

Leadership is one of the greatest opportunities God gives His people.

Unfortunately, it is also one of the most misunderstood.

The world often defines leadership by position, power, recognition, and influence. Success is measured by how many people serve the leader.

Jesus completely turned that definition upside down.

In God's Kingdom, greatness is measured by how many people the leader serves.

Throughout **THE SPARK**, your faith was ignited.

Throughout **THE EMBERS**, your spiritual life matured.

Throughout **THE IGNITION**, you discovered your gifts, learned to serve, and embraced God's mission.

Now, in **THE UNLEASHING**, God is preparing you to become the kind of leader who helps others encounter Christ.

Whether you ever stand behind a pulpit is not the question.

Every Christian is already a leader.

Someone is watching your life.

Someone is learning from your example.

Someone will be encouraged—or discouraged—by how you represent Jesus.

Leadership in God's Kingdom is not about building our own platform.

It is about building God's Kingdom.

Jesus demonstrated this perfectly.

He washed His disciples' feet.

He welcomed children.

He touched lepers.

He fed the hungry.

He forgave sinners.

He gave His life for the world.

His authority came through humility.

His influence came through love.

His leadership came through sacrifice.

John Wesley embraced the same model. He developed leaders not because they sought positions, but because they demonstrated faithfulness, humility, holiness, and compassion. Ordinary believers became extraordinary leaders because they first learned how to faithfully serve.

The greatest Christian leaders have always understood one simple truth:

Before God calls us to lead people...

He first calls us to follow Jesus.

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

— Matthew 20:26

Learning Objectives

By the end of Module 3, you will:

- Understand Jesus' model of servant leadership.

- Develop Christlike character that inspires trust.
 - Learn to influence others with humility and integrity.
 - Lead through service rather than position.
 - Build habits that reflect the heart of Jesus.
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LESSON 9 — LEADERSHIP BEGINS WITH HUMILITY

Theme

The greatest leaders are first faithful servants.

Key Scriptures

- Matthew 20:20–28
 - Philippians 2:1–11
 - James 4:6–10
 - 1 Peter 5:5–6
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Big Idea

Godly leadership begins by humbly following Christ.

Introduction

The disciples often wondered who would become the greatest.

Jesus answered by redefining greatness itself.

Instead of climbing higher...

He taught them to kneel lower.

Humility isn't thinking less of yourself.

It's thinking of yourself less.

Servant leaders don't seek recognition.

They seek opportunities to glorify God by helping others flourish.

When our identity is secure in Christ, we no longer need titles to give us significance.

We simply serve.

Characteristics of Humble Leaders

Humble leaders:

- Listen before speaking.
- Serve before leading.
- Encourage before criticizing.
- Celebrate others' success.
- Admit mistakes.
- Depend on God.
- Give God the glory.

Humility creates healthy leadership.

Reflection

1. How does Jesus define greatness?
 2. Where does pride most often challenge you?
 3. How can humility strengthen your leadership?
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Weekly Challenge

Perform one act of service this week that no one else knows about.

Serve simply because Christ first served you.

Prayer

Lord,

Teach me to lead with humility. Remove my desire for recognition and replace it with a heart that delights in serving others for Your glory.

Amen.

Memory Verse

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

— Matthew 20:26

LESSON 10 — LEADING THROUGH SERVICE

Theme

Leadership earns trust through faithful service.

Key Scriptures

- John 13:1–17
 - Mark 10:45
 - Galatians 5:13
 - Romans 12:10–13
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Big Idea

The greatest leaders willingly serve others.

Introduction

On the night before His crucifixion, Jesus did something unexpected.

He washed His disciples' feet.

The Creator knelt before His creation.

The King became a servant.

The Master performed the task reserved for the lowest servant in the house.

Then He simply said:

"Now do as I have done."

Servant leadership is not weakness.

It is strength directed toward helping others succeed.

Leadership asks,

"How can I help you grow?"

"How can I encourage you?"

"How can I serve God's purpose in your life?"

Living a Life of Service

Serve by:

- Meeting practical needs.
- Encouraging others.
- Giving generously.
- Listening patiently.
- Offering forgiveness.
- Leading with compassion.

- Helping others succeed.

Leadership is love in action.

Reflection

1. How did Jesus demonstrate servant leadership?
 2. Who has served you in a way that reflected Christ?
 3. Where can you serve more intentionally?
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Weekly Challenge

Volunteer to serve in a ministry or community project where your contribution happens behind the scenes.

Prayer

Father,

Help me lead with the same heart Jesus demonstrated. May my life become an example of humble service and sacrificial love.

Amen.

Memory Verse

"The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve."

— Mark 10:45

LESSON 11 — DEVELOPING GODLY CHARACTER

Theme

Our character gives credibility to our leadership.

Key Scriptures

- Proverbs 11:3
 - Galatians 5:22–23
 - Titus 2:7–8
 - Colossians 3:12–17
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Big Idea

Who we are matters more than what we accomplish.

Introduction

Talent may open doors.

Character keeps them open.

People may admire our abilities.

But they trust our integrity.

God is far more interested in forming our hearts than expanding our influence.

Leadership built on charisma eventually fades.

Leadership built on Christlike character leaves an eternal legacy.

The Holy Spirit continually shapes believers into people marked by honesty, patience, kindness, self-control, humility, and love.

These qualities make leaders worth following.

Building Christlike Character

Healthy character grows through:

- Daily obedience.
- Honest repentance.
- Faithfulness.
- Consistency.
- Humility.
- Prayer.
- Time in God's Word.

Leadership flows from who you are becoming.

Reflection

1. Which fruit of the Spirit is strongest in your life?
 2. Which needs greater growth?
 3. How does your character influence those around you?
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Weekly Challenge

Choose one fruit of the Spirit to intentionally practice every day this week.

Ask God to develop that quality within you.

Prayer

Holy Spirit,

Continue transforming my character until others increasingly see Jesus reflected in my life.

Amen.

Memory Verse

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace..."

— Galatians 5:22–23

LESSON 12 — LEADING WITH COURAGE AND COMPASSION

Theme

Christlike leaders speak truth with love and lead with courage.

Key Scriptures

- Joshua 1:9
 - Ephesians 4:15
 - 2 Timothy 1:7
 - Micah 6:8
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Big Idea

Biblical leadership balances courage with compassion.

Introduction

Leadership is not always easy.

Sometimes leaders must make difficult decisions.

Correct gently.

Stand for truth.

Address conflict.

Persevere through criticism.

Remain faithful when obedience is costly.

Jesus demonstrated both unwavering courage and boundless compassion.

He confronted hypocrisy.

He defended the vulnerable.

He welcomed sinners.

He comforted the grieving.

He never sacrificed truth for acceptance.

Nor did He sacrifice love for being right.

Godly leaders learn to hold both together.

Courageous Leadership

Lead courageously by:

- Speaking truth with grace.
- Standing firm in Scripture.
- Loving difficult people.
- Making wise decisions.
- Trusting God in uncertainty.
- Remaining faithful under pressure.

Leadership requires courage.

Love gives courage its purpose.

Reflection

1. Where is God calling you to greater courage?
 2. How can you show compassion without compromising truth?
 3. What leadership challenge are you trusting God with today?
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Weekly Challenge

Identify one difficult conversation or decision you've been avoiding.

Pray first.

Then approach it with both truth and grace.

Prayer

Lord,

Give me the courage to stand for what is right and the compassion to love people as You do.
May every decision I make reflect both Your truth and Your grace.

Amen.

Memory Verse

"Be strong and courageous... for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

— Joshua 1:9

Module 3 Wrap-Up

Leadership in God's Kingdom is not about status—it is about stewardship.

Throughout this module, you've learned that Jesus calls His followers to lead through humility, service, integrity, courage, and compassion. True Christian leadership is measured not by how many people follow us, but by how faithfully we follow Christ and help others do the same.

As you continue serving, remember that influence is built over time through consistent faithfulness. Every act of humility, every quiet moment of service, every courageous stand for truth, and every compassionate response to others reflects the heart of Jesus. God delights in using servant leaders who seek His glory rather than their own.

Leadership is not the end goal.

It is preparation for helping others discover and fulfill God's unique purpose.

Up Next: Module 4 — Discovering Your Calling

In the next module, you'll explore how God has uniquely gifted and called you for Kingdom service. You'll learn to recognize your spiritual gifts, discern His direction for your life, serve with excellence, and work alongside others as part of the Body of Christ. Your calling is not something you create—it is something you faithfully discover and live out as God leads you.