

Freedom Life School of Ministry Course Syllabus

Leadership Development 101 – The Servant Leadership of Jesus

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Online Course – Weekly Zoom Meeting Tuesdays 6:30-7:30PM

Course Purpose:

To effectively lead in ministry involves developing skills in employing servant leadership behaviors, then modeling them for your people; training & equipping them in these behaviors; and then sending them out to replicate those behaviors in others they will lead. This course will utilize the leadership traits exhibited by Jesus Christ with His disciples as the benchmark to strive for. Specifically, students will be taught how Christ's servant leadership, as the foundation for the faith, provides a model for today's Christian leaders by reminding them of their identities as beloved children of God, and instilling a passion in them for advancing His Kingdom through challenging their hearts to love and serve the people He brings to them.

Required Texts: (to be purchased by students prior to class start)

1. Nouwen, Henri. *In the Name of Jesus: Reflections on Christian Leadership*. New York, NY: Crossroad Publishing Company, 1992.
2. Coleman, Robert E. *The Master Plan of Evangelism*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Publishing Group, 1998.
3. Bird, Warren & Ferguson, Dave. *Hero Maker*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2018.

Suggested Texts:

Coleman, Robert E. *The Master Plan of Discipleship*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Publishing Group, 1998.

Supplementary Bibliography: (Consult **Appendix A** for supplementary bibliography)

Course Objectives (How will we get there?):

1. Define & explain servant leadership; identify good & bad examples of leadership; and recognize why Christ utilized this style of leadership in His ministry.
2. Recognize that a believer's identity flows from their status as a beloved child of the Father; learn that Satan employs a strategy of three specific "temptations" to get believers to doubt this; and learn the tools available to combat his attacks.
3. Learn and be able to describe the "two-pronged" aspect of the mission of Christianity: (1) God's plan from the Fall forward to restore His Kingdom on Earth, and (2) His mission for Christ-followers to make multiplying disciples as part of the fulfillment of His plan.
4. Learn that servant leadership derives from selfless service to followers through the leader embodying it through personifying the cause and creating the community for followers; imparting it through clear, compelling communication (the "language of leadership") & application of Jesus' method of instruction; and empowering it through commissioning followers to reproduce (multiplying discipleship).

Course Requirements:

1. Reading Assignments (10%) – Students are to complete the assigned reading material for the course. The reading is to be done by the module due date in which the material is presented, prior to the Zoom class meeting for the module so that the student is prepared for class discussions.
 - a. Book Reading Assignments - The required reading for each book assigned (*In the Name of Jesus*, *The Master Plan of Evangelism & Hero Maker*) should be done thoroughly to support understanding of the principals described.
 - b. Scripture Reading Assignments – The scripture readings assigned in each module will be discussed during the associated lecture(s) for that module. Students are to complete the assigned readings for exposure to the text prior to viewing the lecture.
2. Lectures/Video Clips (15%) – Students are to view the associated lectures and video clips by the module due date in which the material is presented. This will be prior to the Zoom class meeting for the module so that the student has accomplished related essay questions and is prepared for class discussions. Transcripts of each lecture, along with copies of the associated PowerPoint presentations, are also provided for each module to aid the student’s note-taking, but are not intended to be used in lieu of viewing the lectures. Lectures are included within all modules, and each should be viewed in one sitting prior to the associated Zoom class, if at all possible. Additionally, there is one video clip included within module 4 and two video clips included within module 5, each of which should also be viewed in one sitting.
3. Written Assignments/Essay Questions (30%) – Each module includes questions for the student to answer based on the content presented in the readings, lectures and video clips. Students are to complete the questions and submit them by the module due date. This will be accomplished prior to the Zoom class meeting for the module so that the student is prepared for class discussions.
 - a. Details on the assignments and questions for each module are contained in your online dashboard.
 - b. Students will be able to provide responses to assignments and questions via uploading them through the dashboard within the applicable module.
4. Zoom Meeting Participation (15%) – There will be a Zoom class meeting for each of the 8 modules for the course. Students are to attend, and participate in, each meeting unless previously excused by the course instructor. Students are expected to join each meeting prepared for class discussions by having viewed assigned lectures/video clips and completed readings & written assignments for the applicable module.
 - a. Excused absences from Zoom class meetings are to be limited to no more than two per student, if at all possible.
 - b. To receive an excused absence the student must submit a request to the course instructor via email at least 72 hours prior to the meeting (the preceding Saturday 6:30PM Eastern). If an emergency occurs (i.e., illness, family or ministry situation/crisis) less than 72 hours before class an explanatory email or text may be submitted to the course instructor.
5. Exam/Video Recording (30%) – There will be one exam for this course, which will be an oral exam. Each student is to provide a 7-10 minute video where they will present a talk explaining Christ’s servant leadership and how it will impact their leadership in today’s ministry environment. The purpose of this exercise is to assist the student in the practical application of the course materials (through remembering, analyzing, & evaluating them to create the presentation) in order to enhance their leadership abilities. Following are the exam details:
 - a. The talk, at a minimum, should describe Christ’s mission; why servant leadership was utilized; how He did it; and its application in the current ministry environment.
 - b. Each student should begin preparation for their talk at the start of the course. Students will be reminded of the assignment in each module.

4. Chapters 6-9 of *Hero Maker* (Warren Bird/Dave Ferguson) should be read, and chapters 6-8 of *The Master Plan of Evangelism* (Robert Coleman) should be re-read, prior to viewing the lecture for module 7 on “Empowering It.”
5. All assigned scripture readings should be accomplished prior to viewing the lectures in the applicable modules.

Course Policies:

Development and Strengthening of Biblical Interpretation Competency:

- So that the student is aware of continuing evaluation and assessment, our faculty is using criteria for student competency that we are seeking in the area of biblical interpretation, as reflected in the paragraph below. Toward that end, we have specified competencies that the student will develop and demonstrate as a result of each course in the Theology core. Although *The Servant Leadership of Jesus* is part of the Leadership Development core, it can contribute to one’s competency in Level 1 and 2.
- **Biblical interpretation:** The student understands the Bible in its historical, literary, and theological contexts in order to apply and communicate the Scriptures.
 - Level 1 – The student is able to carry out inductive Bible study by means of observation, interpretation, application, and correlation.
 - Level 2 – The student is able to practice elements of biblical study that reflect sound hermeneutics.
 - Level 3 – The student is able to interpret the Bible and do biblical theology using a method that engages in the analysis and synthesis of Bible books and that reflects a broad knowledge of the content of the entire Bible, together with historical and theological influences.
 - Level 4 – The student is able to conduct exegetical and biblical theological research in from multiple literary genres, and is able to communicate its significance leading to spiritual transformation.

The Presence of the Instructor:

You can expect your instructor to participate substantially in this course. In addition to producing the videotaped lectures for each module and reviewing all assignments, the instructor will participate in each Zoom class meeting for all eight modules of the course. Should students have questions about the course materials and/or assignments they may address them to the instructor via email.

Late Assignments:

No late assignments will be accepted unless due to an extreme emergency.

APPENDIX A
Supplementary Bibliography

- Blanchard, Ken & Hodges, Phil. *Lead Like Jesus*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 2005.
- Briner, Bob & Pritchard, Ray. *The Leadership Lessons of Jesus*. Nashville, TN: The B&H Publishing Group, 1997.
- Collins, Jim. *Good to Great*. New York, NY: HarperCollins Publishers, 2001.
- Coyner, Michael. *The Andrew Paradigm: How to Be a Lead Follower of Jesus*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2012. Accessed June 15, 2017. Google Books.
- Duvall, J. Scott & Hays, J. Daniel. *Living God's Word*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2012.
- Engstrom, Ted & Cedar, Paul. *Compassionate Leadership: Rediscovering Jesus' Radical Leadership Style*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2006. Accessed June 15, 2017. Google Books.
- Ford, Lance. *Unleader: Reimagining Leadership – and Why We Must*. Kansas City, MO: Beacon Hill Press, 2012.
- Frost, Michael & Hirsch, Alan. *ReJesus: A Wild Messiah for a Missional Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2009.
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- Hirsch, Alan. *The Forgotten Ways*. Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2006.
- Hirsch, Alan & Hirsch, Debra. *Untamed*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2010.
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- McManus, Erwin Raphael. *An Unstoppable Force: Daring to Become the Church God Had in Mind*. Loveland, CO: Group Publishing, 2001.
- Nouwen, Henri. *Life of the Beloved: Spiritual Living in a Secular World*. New York, NY: Crossroad Publishing Company, 1992.
- Robinson, Bill. *Incarnate Leadership: 5 Leadership Lessons from the Life of Jesus*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2009. Accessed June 15, 2017. Google Books.
- Sanders, J. Oswald. *Spiritual Leadership: Principles of Excellence for Every Believer*. Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers, 1967. Accessed June 15, 2017. Google Books.
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- Wilkes, C. Gene. *Jesus on Leadership: Timeless Wisdom on Servant Leadership*. Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1998. Accessed June 15, 2017. Google Books.

Youssef, Michael. *The Leadership Style of Jesus*. Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 2013. Accessed June 15, 2017. Google Books.