

LEAD LIKE JESUS

Small Group discussion guide

Week # 6, March 15 & 16, "Why Lead Like Jesus?"
Pastor Neal Nybo

John 12:12-19 ¹² The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³ So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord-- the King of Israel!" ¹⁴ Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: ¹⁵ "Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" ¹⁶ His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him. ¹⁷ So the crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify. ¹⁸ It was also because they heard that he had performed this sign that the crowd went to meet him. ¹⁹ The Pharisees then said to one another, "You see, you can do nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!"

John 12:20-26 ²⁰ Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹ They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²² Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³ Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵ Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

Notes and Thoughts ...

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Facilitator Guide

Points for your group to communicate about this week:

- 1. Good Friday and Easter-** Consider attending worship together on one or both of these days. Remember Easter services will be Saturday night at 6, Sunday at 8, 10, and 11:30.
- 2. Flex Week-** By now, you hopefully have made plans for your group for the week around Easter. One group attended a seminar at church this week. Another group is meeting and plans to share their testimonies during that extra week. Hopefully your group will do something together!
- 3. April 27 is service weekend.** Continue to make plans for this weekend putting your faith in action!
- 4. Another gathering-** Has your group done something outside of its normal meeting time yet? Don't neglect the importance of FREQUENCY when building community.
- 5. What next?** Continue to pray and process what your group plans to do into and beyond April. Keep your eyes out for the next release of the Small Group Spirit which will have valuable ideas and information about small groups.
- 6. Consider attending Bible Alive together.** This is a Friday/ Saturday seminar on April 4th & 5th. This seminar will enhance your understanding of Scripture and give you new insight into the Holy Lands. Details available at RBCPC.

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START IT:

- [New groups] Share an experience from one of your favorite Spring Break trips.
- What has been the most significant or most surprising thing you have learned about leadership in the past six weeks?
- Did anyone cultivate something new in their prayer life last week?

STUDY IT:

- Read John 12:12-19 aloud. What observations can be made about the response of different people to Jesus?
- Read John 12:20-26 aloud. What observations and insights can be made from this passage about the final week of Jesus life and leadership on earth?
- How is "losing your life" a servant leadership principle? Does that phrase contradict other forms of leadership you admire?

[Read aloud] I think it is both ironic and appropriate that the progression through the book brings us on Palm Sunday to the chapter titled *Why Lead Like Jesus*. Its ironic because, of all the accounts of Jesus that would cause us to admire him, Palm Sunday is the one event that might cause us to question his leadership and to ask the question *Why would anyone want to lead like Jesus?* This event book ends Holy Week with Good Friday at the other end and Easter as the new beginning. Palm Sunday was the peak of Jesus' popularity. People were shouting for God's glory and waving palm branches. It was a parade and a celebration in honor of this leader Jesus. It was practically a coronation by popular demand. But, within days, Jesus' leadership style infuriated the religious leaders, perplexed the Roman authorities and alienated these well wishers who ultimately stopped shouting 'hosanna' and began yelling 'crucify.' We ask again, *Why lead like Jesus?*

Neal Nybo, March 15 & 16

- Answer that question. *Why lead like Jesus?*
- If there were only three words that survived fifty years from today to describe the leadership legacy you left in the hearts and minds of those you served, what would you like them to be and why?

LIVE IT:

- "From a practical point of view, servant leadership best serves the dual objectives of effective leadership- results and relationships." *Lead Like Jesus*, Blanchard and Hodges, Pg. 197. How might this be true for you in the future?
- How will leading like Jesus bless those closest to you?
- What might you need to do in order to walk closer to Jesus in a surrendered relationship of love and trust?

PRAY IT:

- **Application:** Pray for God's help in applying what you have learned.
- **Personal requests:** Write out requests and pray for one another silently for 5 minutes.
- **Ministry (within the church):** Pray for all staff and volunteers who are preparing for Holy Week and Easter.
- **Mission (in the world):** Pray for many new believers to come to faith this Easter.