

MSG: RE:DEFINE SERVANT

Scripture: Luke 22:24-30 NIV

SZN 3: LEAD LIKE JESUS

Luke 22:24-30 NIV

“A dispute also arose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest. Jesus said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles Lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them call themselves Benefactors. But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. You are those who have stood by me in my trials. And I confer on you a kingdom, just as my Father conferred one on me, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.”

If one were to take a simple purview of our society, our nation or our communities, it is clear there exist a desperate need of a new kind of leadership ethos. The leadership needed for the proper response to the Jackson, Mississippi water. The crisis of living within a hyper-capitalist nation that seeks to justify ultra-rich billionaires and corporate interest above meeting the basic needs of food, clothing, shelter and safety. In the middle of this landscape, hundreds of books, articles, social media post, tweets and comments, speak to the notion of leadership theory. Cultural titles like “Influencer” “Brand Ambassadors” and “Life coaches” are plentiful yet mental health, depression, suicide and violence is at an all time high. And The Church of Jesus Christ sits at the intersection of each these realities.

Unfortunately, The Church has been plagued by the same short coming and leadership disasters. The church’s proverbial light has been somewhat dimmed of influence and correct moral standing due scandal, abuse of power, sexual abuse, misappropriation of money and priorities that seem to be something other than building the Kingdom of God. A redefinition of leadership is in order. When you embrace role of a servant, live under submission to authority, manage your inner-life, you maximize your influence through willing service and are then equipped to react and respond in a visionary manner, to the needs of people, God has called you to impact. As we take on the attitude of Jesus, we become RE:DEFINED SERVANTS to a lost, hurting and broken world. Let’s discuss how we can RE:DEFINE SERVANT...

1. RE:DEFINED SERVANTS CELEBRATE IDENTIFYING WITH JESUS AS A SERVANT

Matt 20:25- 28

25 Jesus called them together and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. 26 Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, 27 and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— 28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

-THE RE:DEFINED SERVANT celebrates the paradoxical approach to traditional leadership, in which a leader postures and positions themselves to seek the greater interest and greater good of the people they have been empowered to serve, even at the expense of their own benefit.

-The RE:DEFINED SERVANT is not only concerned with results but with the health, well-being and thriving of those that lead with them.

-Ida B Wells, famed activist and prophetic spiritual leader spoke of leadership in similar terms. Wells (1892) said "all organized effort betokens leadership, and upon the world's leaders the seal of history has the stamp and by that we know that leader is true or false in proportion as it has been true to God, humanity and self" .

2. RE:DEFINED SERVANTS PRIORITIZE INNER DEVELOPMENT

Redefined Servant leadership, powered by spirit development, is more difficult and more time consuming to cultivate than style-emphasis results-only orientated leadership.

However, the results and effectiveness of servant leaders resonate much deeper and broader in reality.

Our society now more than ever is in need of not simply figured head point man positional leadership.

The Redefined Servants Inner life is developed by...

1. High intentional concentration of deeply forged character.
2. Proven consistent integrity .
3. Continual submission to the will of God.

-Ignorant neglecting or intentional undervaluing of formation leads to empty, shallow, temporary and even tyrannical leadership.

DEVELOP YOUR INNER LIFE TO AVOID YOUR OUTER DYSFUNCTION

-Character development takes time

-You can't rush formation and character development.

-I can't lay hands on you and you "magically" have integrity, a prayer life or spirit led decision making ability.

-Ultimately it is the regular working of the spirit to order your inner life.

3. RE:DEFINED SERVANT BECOME MUD-SPECIALIST

-RE:DEFINED SERVANTS HAVE NO PROBLEM GETTING MUDDY.

-WHY?

When you realize Creator, God created the mud, being a mud-specialist is a privilege not a punishment.

- **Get in the "mud"** of people's pain and suffering.
- **Give time to "muddy"** situations.

- Gain wisdom from “mud-specialist” aka OG's aka Mothers/Fathers.
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RE:DEFINED SERVANTS VALUE PEOPLE BEFORE PRODUCTIVITY.