BY THE CO-AUTHOR OF
THE NEW ONE MINUTE MANAGER®

## LEAD LIKEJESUS

#### REVISITED

LESSONS FROM THE GREATEST
LEADERSHIP ROLE MODEL OF ALL TIME

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A PDF COMPANION TO THE AUDIOBOOK

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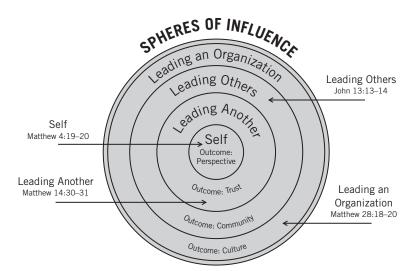
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## A TRANSFORMATIONAL JOURNEY THAT BEGINS ON THE INSIDE



## THE RESULTS OF A HEART OUT OF ORDER

#### **EDGING GOD OUT**

As the object of my worship

As the source of my security, self-worth, and wisdom

As the audience and authority over my daily work and life story

#### EXPRESSES ITSELF THROUGH:

#### PRIDE

An overly high opinion of yourself; exaggerated self-esteem

"Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought" (Romans 12:3).

#### PROMOTING SELF

- · Doing all the talking
- Taking all the credit
- · Boasting and showing off
- · Demanding all the attention

#### FFAR

An insecure view of the future, resulting in self-protection

"The fear of human opinion disables" (Proverbs 29:25 THE MESSAGE)

#### PROTECTING SELF

- Intimidating others
- Hiding behind position
- Withholding information
- Discouraging honest feedback

#### LEADS TO:

#### **SEPARATION**

from God, from other people, and from yourself

#### COMPARISON

with others; discontent

#### DISTORTION

of the truth; false sense of security

#### A HEART TURNAROUND

#### **EXALTING GOD ONLY**

As the object of my worship

As the source of my security, self-worth, and wisdom

As the audience and judge of my life decisions

#### EXPRESSES ITSELF THROUGH:

#### **HUMILITY**

Something to hope for but never claim; something to observe in others

"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves" (Philippians 2:3).

Looking out the window, not in the mirror, to praise

A kingdom perspective

#### GOD-GROUNDED CONFIDENCE

Resting assured in God's nature and goodness; proceeding in faith one step at a time

"So we can confidently say, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?'" (Hebrews 13:6 ESV).

Promoting others

Protecting others

#### LEADS TO:

#### COMMUNITY

Drawing near to God and to others

#### CONTENTMENT

Being satisfied in all circumstances

#### TRUTH

as a basis for decision making

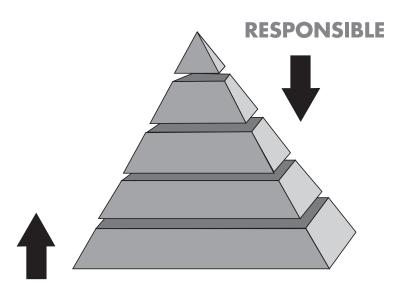
#### PART III

#### THE BEING HABITS



## IMPLEMENTING YOUR COMPELLING VISION

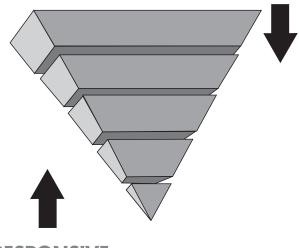
Visionary/Direction Role



**RESPONSIVE** 

#### **Implementation Role**

#### **RESPONSIBLE**



**RESPONSIVE** 

#### THE WAY OF THE CARPENTER

#### LEARNING STAGES

#### NOVICE

Someone just starting out

#### **APPRENTICE**

Someone in training

#### **JOURNEYMAN**

Someone able to work on his or her own

#### **MASTER**

Someone able to teach others

#### LEADER PROVIDES

#### **INSTRUCTION**

Basic information: what how, where, when, why

#### **DEVELOPMENT**

Instruction, practice, and evaluation

#### **MENTORING**

Assignment and encouragement

#### **COMMISSIONING**

Affirmation and autonomy

#### THE EGO FACTOR

# PRIDE RESULTS PRIDE SERVE SERVE FEAR SUSPICION/ PARALYSIS

#### PART VI

#### THE DOING HABITS

#### **Doing Habits Modeled by Jesus**



## NEXT STEPS TO LEADING LIKE JESUS: CHECKLIST

Leading like Jesus is not a destination but a journey. Like any good traveler embarking on a journey, you will need to make sure you pack what you need.

Item	$\checkmark$
Personal mission statement that is	
understandable by a twelve-year-old	
Personal definition of success that	
mentions God's call and His involvement	
Set of rank-ordered personal operating	
values to help you decide which road to travel	
when you find yourself at a crossroads	
Truth tellers who will keep you headed in the right direction	
Journal to record the triumphs, challenges, and lessons learned	
that you will want to remember and pass along to others	
Well-used instruction manual for daily living	
A commitment to—with God's help—practice	
the Being Habits: accept and abide in God's love;	
experience solitude; practice prayer; know and apply	
Scripture; and maintain supportive relationships	
A commitment to—with God's help—practice the	
Doing Habits: obey God and express His love, grace,	
forgiveness, encouragement, and community	
Memorized set of emergency numbers when you are in trouble	
Set of recalibration tools to help keep your path straight	

## NEXT STEPS TO LEADING LIKE JESUS: RESOURCE LIST

If you are missing any of the recommended items on your checklist, here are some suggested resources to help you obtain what you need.

#### Personal Mission Statement

Halftime: Moving from Success to Significance by Bob Buford Living on Purpose: Finding God's Best for Your Life by Christine and Tom Sine

The Path: Creating Your Mission Statement for Work and for Life by Laurie Beth Jones

The Purpose Driven Life: What on Earth Am I Here For? by Rick Warren

Situational Self Leadership by Ken Blanchard, Laurence Hawkins, and Susan Fowler

Personal Definition of Success That Keeps God in Mind
Breathe: Creating Space for God in a Hectic Life by Keri Wyatt Kent
Experiencing God by Henry T. Blackaby and Claude V. King
Great Attitudes!: 10 Choices for Success in Life by Charles Swindoll
In His Steps by Charles M. Sheldon
It Takes Less Than One Minute to Suit Up for the Lord by Ken
Blanchard

- Ordering Your Private World by Gordon MacDonald
- The Search for Significance: Seeing Your True Worth Through God's Eyes by Robert S. McGee
- The Servant Leader: Transforming Your Heart, Head, Hands & Habits by Ken Blanchard and Phil Hodges
- The 12 Essentials of Godly Success: Biblical Steps to a Life Well Lived by Tommy Nelson
- A Set of Rank-Ordered Personal Operating Values
  - The Heart of Business by Matt Hayes and Jeff Stevens
  - Managing by Values: How to Put Your Values into Action for Extraordinary Results by Ken Blanchard and Michael O'Connor
  - The Power of Ethical Management by Ken Blanchard and Norman Vincent Peale
  - Spiritual Leadership: Moving People on to God's Agenda by Henry T. Blackaby and Richard Blackaby
  - Transforming Leadership: Jesus' Way of Creating Vision, Shaping Values and Empowering Change by Leighton Ford
- Truth Tellers to Keep You Headed in the Right Direction
  As Iron Sharpens Iron: Building Character in a Mentoring
  - Relationship by Howard Hendricks and William Hendricks
  - Brothers! Calling Men into Vital Relationships by Geoff Gorsuch with Dan Schaffer
  - The Heart of Mentoring: Ten Proven Principles for Developing People to Their Fullest Potential by David Stoddard with Robert J. Tamasy
  - Woman to Woman: Preparing Yourself to Mentor by Edna Ellison and Tricia Scribner
  - Women Mentoring Women: Ways to Start, Maintain, and

Expand a Biblical Women's Ministry by Vickie Kraft and Gwynne Johnson

#### Well-Used Instruction Manuals for Daily Living

Lead Like Jesus devotions (Visit www.leadlikejesus.com to sign up.)

Let Go by Francois Fenelon

Life of the Beloved: Spiritual Living in a Secular World by Henri Nouwen

Living Beyond the Daily Grind by Charles Swindoll

My Utmost for His Highest by Oswald Chambers

*NIV Leadership Bible: Leading by the Book* (Zondervan)

One Solitary Life by James A. Francis and Ken Blanchard

The Prayer of Jabez: Breaking Through to the Blessed Life by Bruce Wilkinson

Small Changes for a Better Life: Daily Steps to Living God's Plan for You by Elizabeth George

Streams in the Desert by L. B. Cowman

#### Practice the Being Habits

- Accept and Abide in God's Love
- Experience Solitude
- Practice Prayer
- Know and Apply Scripture
- Maintain Supportive Relationships

#### Practice the Doing Habits

- Obey God and Express His Love
- Grace
- Forgiveness
- Encouragement
- Community

#### A Memorized Set of Emergency Numbers to Call When You Are in Trouble

Thought Conditioners: Forty Powerful Spiritual Phrases That
Can Change the Quality of Your Life by Norman Vincent
Peale and C. S. Moore

Philippians 4:6–7	Fear	
Psalm 23	Fear	
Psalm 55:22	Anxiety	
Matthew 6:25	Worry	
1 Corinthians 10:13	Temptation	
Romans 12:3	Pride	
Proverbs 13:10	Pride	
Jeremiah 9:23-24	Values	
1 John 1:9	Repentance	
Proverbs 3:5-6	Guidance	
Psalm 143:10	Guidance	

A Recalibration Tool to Help Keep Your Path Straight Chapter 32 of this book: "EGOs Anonymous: Taking the First Step Toward Exalting God Only"

#### DISCUSSION GUIDE

To help enrich your understanding and enable your application of the leadership principles discussed in this book, we have prepared a summary of key concepts contained in *Lead Like Jesus Revisited*. Each key concept is followed by one or more discussion questions. In addition to reviewing the key lessons in each section, this interactive guide will stimulate thought and conversation about how to apply these concepts to each participant's own leadership style.

We encourage you to proceed through the discussion guide at your own pace. It is useful for individual study, but it is designed primarily for use in a group setting—which we highly recommend—after everyone in the group has read the book. We hope by reading *Lead Like Jesus Revisited* and sharing this learning experience with others that you will not only acquire a deeper understanding of what leading like Jesus is all about but also be inspired to incorporate the principles into your daily leadership opportunities.

Before you get into your discussions, picture yourself and your Lead Like Jesus group going on a relaxing walk with Jesus. You feel loved and secure, free to stop along the way to ask questions and listen carefully to the Lord's answers. Listen, too, as He calls your name and says to you once more: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and

you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28–30).

Blessings to you as you continue your journey.

#### PART I: A BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE ON LEADERSHIP

The formula Everything - Love = Nothing is not of our making. It is the irrefutable law of the kingdom of God, perfectly fulfilled by Jesus. It is also the defining characteristic of the leadership model of Jesus: leading like Jesus means loving like Jesus.

#### Key Concept 1

Leadership is an influence process. Anytime you seek to influence the thinking, behavior, or development of someone in your personal or professional life, you are taking on the role of a leader.

- 1. Think of two situations in which you currently act in a leadership role: one as an organizational leader and one in a life role leadership situation. In what ways are these leadership roles different from each other? In what ways are these roles alike?
- 2. What basic question do you have to ask yourself and answer honestly if you are going to seek to lead like Jesus in both situations?
- 3. What about each of these leadership roles makes it difficult for you to follow through on seeking to serve rather than to be served?

#### Key Concept 2

"Jesus called [his disciples] together and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. *Not so with you*. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—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'" (Matthew 20:25–28).

- 1. Jesus called His followers to an approach to leadership that was radically different from what they saw in the world around them. As a modern-day follower of Jesus, describe the general pattern of leadership you have observed and experienced in today's society.
- 2. Is the leadership Jesus expected from His followers any more or any less radical today than it was in the first century? Explain your answer.
- 3. Given the complexity and potential impact of leadership decisions in a global economy, what modifications do you think Jesus would make in His instructions to modern leaders?
- 4. Name three specific ways Jesus would approach your leadership responsibilities differently than you approach them.

#### Key Concept 3

Learning to lead like Jesus is a transformational journey (illustrated in the spheres of influence diagram found in this PDF) that begins with self-examination. Then you move on to leading another person in a one-on-one relationship, then to leading others, and finally to leading an organization or community.

- 1. Whose are you? Who are you? What impact can knowing the answers to those questions have on your leadership?
- 2. Name three ways you nurture trust in your one-on-one relationships at work and at home.
- 3. Discuss a time when you lost trust in a leader and the impact that experience had on your relationship.
- 4. What words would people in your family use to describe your leadership in the following situations:
  - a time of crisis
  - · a time of failure
  - a time of victory
  - a time of plenty
  - a time of want
- 5. What is most likely to occur when leaders try to drive change at the organizational level without first addressing the issue of their own credibility at the personal, one-on-one, and team leadership levels?

#### Key Concept 4

Leading like Jesus involves the alignment of four leadership domains: *heart*, *head*, *hands*, and *habits*. The internal domains—the motivation of your *heart* and the leadership perspective of your *head*—are hidden or even disguised if it suits your purpose. The external domains—your *hands*, or your public leadership behavior, and your *habits* as experienced by others—influence greatly whether people will follow you.

- 1. Briefly describe in your own words what is meant by the terms *heart*, *head*, *hands*, and *habits* of leadership.
- 2. What thought from this section was most striking, convicting, or significant? How will you implement it? By when?

#### PART II: THE HEART OF A GREAT LEADER

A changed heart means a changed leader.

#### Key Concept 1

What does your heart have to do with leadership? *Everything*! In the heart is our *why*.

1. Have you ever experienced a challenge so big that you had to go back to the core of what you believed about God and review the basics? Those beliefs are stored in your heart, and they shape you and every relationship in your life.

Answer these fundamental questions:

- Is God good?
- Do you believe He has a plan and purpose for your life?
- Do you believe anyone or anything can change God's plan for you?
- Do you believe God loves you?
- Do you believe God will use everything in your life for His glory and your good as He promised?
- Can you trust Him with all of the details of your life?
- 2. The core of leading like Jesus is love. In which of your relationships do you find it a challenge to lead and love like Jesus?
- 3. What one step will you take today to strengthen one of those relationships?

#### Key Concept 2

If you want to follow the mandate Jesus gave us—to serve rather than be served—know that every day your good intentions will be challenged. Our adversary consistently tries to get us to serve our-

selves. To better resist that temptation to be drawn off course, we must understand the dynamics of our self-serving EGO that Edges God Out.

- 1. List three things other than God that people worship and look to for either security or a sense of identity. Why do we human beings trust these things even though we know they are neither stable nor trustworthy?
- 2. Invite God to guide your thinking about the last time pride got in the way of your leadership. Briefly describe the circumstances. What triggered your pride? When you realized you wanted a do-over, how did you feel? What was the reaction of others to your handling of the situation? What was the result of your mishandling the situation? Do you need to apologize to anyone? What has God shown you—and what does He want you to do?
- 3. When you face a difficult and uncomfortable decision, which of the following fears are most likely to prevent you from following through on your good intentions and instead prompt a "fight or flight" response?
  - fear of rejection
  - fear of inadequacy
  - fear of death
  - fear of success
  - fear of loneliness
  - fear of loss of control
  - fear of losing
  - fear of humiliation
  - fear of public speaking

- · fear of failure
- fear of intimacy
- fear of the future
- fear of want
- fear of pain
- · fear of ridicule
- · fear of conflict
- fear of tests

What truth from God's Word speaks to these fears? Write the Scripture references here and a helpful verse on an index card you can carry with you or put on the dashboard of your car.

- 4. Describe a time when emotions overpowered reason and you acted according to your fears rather than your good intentions. What was the result?
- 5. Listen for the I factor in your conversations. Note your words and your thoughts that reveal *less than* (fearful) or *more than* (prideful) thinking. Also notice how often you turn a conversation back to yourself or interrupt someone's story to tell your own. Are your conversations laced with *I, my,* or *me*? And what do your observations and answers tell you about yourself: Are you more others-focused or more self-focused? If the latter, could you be on the path to Edging God Out?

#### Key Concept 3

A life intentionally lived with a focus on Jesus and a deep commitment to Him will help you move from Edging God Out to Exalting God Only.

- Imagine your pride and fear being replaced by genuine humility and confidence grounded in God. What impact would that exchange have in your leadership roles and in your relationships?
- 2. What about your current concept of God might be keeping you from receiving His unconditional love and accepting His promises as the source of your security and self-worth?
- 3. Imagine you are sitting down with Jesus today just before He sends you off to represent His kingdom where you work and

in all your personal relationships. Answer these questions Jesus might ask.

- Do you love Me?
- Do you trust Me?
- Will you serve Me by serving others?
- Do you believe I will always love you regardless of your performance or other people's opinions?
- Are you willing to set aside recognition, power, and instant gratification to honor Me by doing the right thing?
   The more times you answered yes, the more ready you are.
- 4. What thought from this section did you find most significant? What will you do to implement it in your life—and by when will you do so?

#### PART III: THE BEING HABITS

Adopting the Being Habits is essential for those who choose Jesus as their role model for leadership. He led with five key Being Habits—and if we want to lead like Jesus, we will too.

#### Key Concept 1

Accepting and abiding in God's love requires the foundational belief that His love for you is possible. Believing that it is possible for God to love you will lead you to Him—and He enables us to believe He loves us by His Son's death on the cross and His Holy Spirit's work in our hearts.

1. Think of a time when you felt loved by God. What were the circumstances? What steps could you take to feel His

love now? One step is simply to ask your heavenly Father to reveal His love to you.

#### Key Concept 2

*Solitude* is by far the most elusive habit in our modern world of noise, busyness, and 24/7 communications. Solitude is truly countercultural and therefore a challenging behavior to adopt.

- 1. When did you last spend a significant amount of time with God in solitude—and that means without a to-do or prayer list? When was the last time you sat quietly in God's presence, listening for His still small voice?
- 2. What keeps you from being alone with God more often? What are the biggest barriers to such solitude that you face—and what has worked for you, enabling you to overcome them?

#### Key Concept 3

*Prayer* is an essential act of the will that demonstrates whether we are really serious about living and leading like Jesus. Without prayer, we will never be able to connect our plans and leadership efforts to God's plan for His kingdom.

- 1. Describe your prayer life in terms of when, what, where, how, and why. What are the richest aspects of prayer for you? Which aspects of your prayer life need improvement?
- 2. You probably pray *about* people and situations, and that's important. But imagine that the next time you face an important challenge or temptation, you first pray *for* the people involved. What impact might that have on how you approach and interact with those people?

3. What is your prayer strategy for each person, situation, and leadership opportunity in your life? If you don't have one, create one now. Maybe start with some of the when, what, where, how, and why questions. Also, to whom can you go for counsel about a prayer strategy and a strong prayer life?

#### Key Concept 4

In *Scripture* you discover that God loves you, He has great plans for you, and He created you perfectly to accomplish a specific purpose. Scripture also teaches us how to treat one another, how to love as we have been loved, and how to lead like Jesus.

- Describe a time when you faced a decision and your knowledge of Scripture made a difference in your choice. What was the result?
- 2. Are you actively seeking God's guidance by spending time reading, studying, and meditating on Scripture? What is He currently saying to you?
- 3. Share your favorite verse with your group and talk about why it is your favorite.

#### Key Concept 5

Leadership can be a lonely business filled with great amounts of soul-draining human interaction but little soul-filling intimacy. Without some *safe-harbor relationships* where we leaders can relax in confidential and unguarded conversation, we become vulnerable to two debilitating frames of mind and spirit: the victim and the martyr.

1. Name the special people in your life who love you enough to tell you what you need to hear. What are you doing to strengthen these special relationships? What people in your

- life need you to hold them accountable? Do you love them enough to tell them what they need to know?
- List three things you do to make it easy for your truth tellers to help you—and then list three things you do that make it difficult for your truth tellers to tell you what you probably don't want to hear.
- 3. Who in your life is looking to you to be their truth teller? What do you understand that role to look like? Be specific. Describe your partnership with Jesus in this role.
- 4. What thought from this section did you find most significant? What will you do to implement it in your life—and what deadline will you set for yourself?

#### PART IV: THE HEAD OF A GREAT LEADER

When we realize that God is our primary authority and audience and that we are here to please Him alone, our good intentions travel to our *heads*.

#### Key Concept 1

Your compelling vision will be important in guiding and aligning the efforts of those who are to follow you, or their whole relationship with you is built on a false foundation of who you are.

- 1. If you are successful in your life purpose and relationships, what would your ideal future look like? Be specific.
- 2. Imagine your ten-year-old daughter asking you, "What are the four most important values in our family?" What are they?

3. Remember that assessing your life purpose, your picture of the future, your values, and your goals is an ongoing process. In what specific way(s) can your compelling vision be used for your greater good and the greater good of those you lead? And what can you do to glorify God as you seek to fulfill that vision?

#### Key Concept 2

Jesus stayed focused on what He was sent to accomplish during His season of leadership on earth. In total obedience and commitment, Jesus stayed on task. He did not seek to take on other projects or the agenda others hoped He would fulfill.

- 1. As a leader, list three things that are most likely to pull you off course from your purpose. What impact would your changing course or direction have on the morale of the people you lead?
- 2. Think of a time in your life when a leader stayed strong and on task despite tremendous pressure to give up or give in.

  What was the long-range impact on your desire to follow and trust that leader?

#### Key Concept 3

People skeptical about our approach to great leadership contend that the words *servant* and *leader* don't go together. How can a person both lead *and* serve? People who think that way don't understand the two parts to the great leadership Jesus exemplified: The visionary role—setting the course and the destination—is the *leadership* aspect of great leadership. The implementation role—doing things the right way with a focus on serving—is the *servant* aspect of great leadership.

1. Describe in your own words the two parts of leadership—vision and implementation—and the role of the leader in

- creating an environment where people get excited about both where they are headed and how they are going to get there.
- 2. Think for a moment about how well you serve those around you. What do you do to help those you lead live according to the organization's vision? What do you do to help family members live according to the family's vision? Leadership is not about power. Leadership is not about control. It's about helping people live according to the organization's or family's vision and, ultimately, God's vision.
- 3. What thought from this section did you find most significant? What will you do to implement it in your life—and what deadline will you set for yourself?

#### PART V: THE HANDS OF A GREAT LEADER

Hands provide a powerful symbol of the *doing* aspect of leading like Jesus. With His hands, Jesus rescued the fearful, reassured the doubting, restored the fallen, and beckoned the already occupied to a higher calling and a special personal relationship with Him.

#### Key Concept 1

Jesus was the preeminent performance coach, and He changed His leadership style appropriately as His disciples developed individually and as a group. Jesus also empowered His followers to carry on the work of sharing the salvation message after He was gone. Through His *hands*—through His effectiveness as a servant leader—Jesus was able to communicate to His disciples what was in His *heart* and His *head* about servant leadership.

- Describe a time when you were involved in a failure of communication that resulted in a vast difference between what was expected and what was delivered. Recall the frustration and wasted energy that could have been avoided by initially testing for understanding.
- 2. Only with day-to-day coaching can a leader ensure that the dual goals of positive results and healthy relationships will be reached. List three things that happen when a leader delegates responsibility but fails to provide help and guidance along the way.

#### Key Concept 2

For individuals to advance from novice to master/teacher, they need leadership partners who can give them whatever direction and support they need to progress to the next stage of learning.

- 1. Describe a time when you were an untrained novice facing a new task or role. In order to get started, what did you need most from someone? Did you get what you needed? If not, what was the result?
- 2. Describe a time when you were learning something new and needed someone to push you beyond a failure or an easy early success so that you could get to a higher level of understanding and performance. Think of a time when you quit because nobody was around to help you step up to the next level. What are you doing as a leader to determine who among those you lead needs to be helped or pushed? What signs of being ready to quit do you watch for?
- 3. Can you remember a time when you felt underappreciated for a job well done? What if your leader had come alongside

- you with some small sign of appreciation? What effect would that kindness have had on you?
- 4. Describe a time when you were given the opportunity to teach and guide others in what you yourself had recently learned. In what ways did your being prepared as a follower affect how you led others?

#### Key Concept 3

The true test of great leadership comes when the EGO of the leader and the EGO of the follower engage one another. How well they recognize and overcome the pride and fear in their relationship will determine whether they move toward the mutual satisfaction of commonly held goals—or share in frustrations of their own making.

- 1. The ideal relationship between a leader and a follower is characterized by mutual service and trust. Describe a time when you, as either a leader or a follower, experienced this type of working relationship. What behaviors helped produce this positive experience and effective partnership?
- 2. In what ways do you help your people become high performers? Be specific. What can you do to make your relationship with your people a true partnership? Identify the first step you want to take and decide when you will implement it.
- 3. What thought from this section did you find most significant? What will you do to implement it in your life—and what deadline will you set for yourself?

#### PART VI: THE DOING HABITS

We will not lead differently until we become different people through the transformation that results from our relationship with Jesus. We can't lead like Jesus without following Jesus.

#### Key Concept 1

Grace is believing that people are doing the best they can, given their level of awareness. It is up to us to make sure grace is extended; we lead in the way of grace.

- Describe in your own words what it means for you as a leader to extend grace to someone under your authority or in your circle of influence.
- 2. Who in your family or workplace especially needs grace right now? Go now to be an agent of grace.

#### Key Concept 2

Out of the depth of your relationship with God, you can seek to be willing to forgive. It is in this place of being willing to forgive that you can find the ability to extend forgiveness to another.

- 1. Why is extending forgiveness an important aspect of leadership?
- 2. What price must be paid if true forgiveness is to have a positive impact on the future of a relationship?
- 3. Whom do you need to forgive in order to restore a productive relationship with this person who let you down?

#### Key Concept 3

Encouragement changes our perspectives in a moment. Jesus modeled encouragement during His season of leadership.

- 1. What are some phrases you wish you had heard more often when you were growing up? Spread some of those phrases to at least three people today—and don't forget your family.
- 2. List the names of some people who need an encouraging word or act from you. What specifically does each one need? When can you give it?

#### Key Concept 4

Living in community was God's idea, and He has given us instructions for how best to build community.

1. Do you have an accountability group? If not, think of ways you could strengthen your relationships with others by participating in this kind of Christian fellowship.

#### Key Concept 5

Foundational to leading like Jesus is embracing a life purpose of loving God and loving and serving people.

- 1. In 1 Corinthians 13 the apostle Paul wrote that love is patient, kind, generous, courteous, humble, unselfish, good tempered, guileless, and sincere. Ask yourself these questions about each trait of love:
  - When does my life reflect this aspect of love?
  - When do I especially struggle to live out this aspect of love?
- 2. Think of a time when doing the loving thing instead of the popular thing, the easiest thing, or the safest thing would

have restored or retained trust. What kept you from doing the loving thing? Remember this experience for future reference.

#### Key Concept 6

From a practical point of view, leading like Jesus accomplishes the dual objective of great leadership—results and relationships.

- 1. When your current season of influence ends, which of the following do you want to be your legacy? Why?
  - Improved service to your customers
  - Enhanced development of the talents and gifts of the people under your influence
  - Made a significant impact on the world around you
- 2. List two action steps toward the goal you chose that you will commit to taking in the next thirty days.
- 3. What thought from this section did you find most significant? What will you do to implement it in your life—and what deadline will you set for yourself?

#### PART VII: NEXT STEPS TO LEADING LIKE JESUS

#### Key Concept 1

Taking what you have learned about leading like Jesus and applying it in your daily life as a leader is not easy. One reason is that most people naturally resist change. That's why leading people through change requires a passionate sense of purpose, a compelling vision of the future, and constant reinforcement that the effort will be worthwhile.

1. Think about a change you were called to be involved in as a leader or a follower that was difficult for you. Reflect on the seven reasons why leading even positive change is hard. What could you have done differently as a leader or a follower to make that change easier and/or more successful?

#### Key Concept 2

We all want to be known as someone who is there for others, yet we know that everyone has to deal, on a daily basis, with the demons of false pride and fear. We need to be sure our EGO is Exalting God Only and not Edging God Out.

1. Think for a minute and come up with one instance at work and one outside of work where your EGO was an obstacle to your being an effective leader. What can you do to overcome pride and fear when you become aware that they are affecting your decisions or your performance as a leader?

#### Key Concept 3

Leading like Jesus is a one-step-at-a-time journey and day-by-day challenge, not a final destination. And leading like Jesus can be done only in the power of the Holy Spirit and with committed, supportive relationships, first with God and then with others. Staying the course in this journey means frequently checking where you are and where you are headed and making any necessary course corrections.

1. For each of the four leadership domains, list one action item you feel would be the hardest for you to continually improve without the help of the Holy Spirit.

Heart:
Head:
Hands:
Habits:

#### Key Concept 4

One unique resource for followers of Jesus is the active presence of the Holy Spirit as Counselor and Guide in our lives. Jesus promised in John 14:26, "The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you."

1. Using your own words, write out a prayer to God. Invite the Holy Spirit to take control of your heart, head, hands, and habits as you seek to gain victory over obstacles that stand in the way of your leading like Jesus. Repeat this process often—for the rest of your life. God bless.