



# LEADERS FOLLOW JESUS

## **Mentor Process Guide**

**Version 1.6**



[www.mentorlink.org](http://www.mentorlink.org)

DEAR MENTOR,

Welcome to LEADERS FOLLOW JESUS. As a fellow Mentor, I trust this will be a life-changing experience as you grow to be more like Jesus in the way you serve. It is part of a process to take you and the others in your Mentor Group into the heart of what Jesus wants from those who lead in His Kingdom.

Our heart really is to serve you and to assist you to succeed in facilitating your Mentor Group. We are doing our best to make this a mentoring process that will make a difference in your life and mentoring of leaders to lead like Jesus.

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# OVERVIEW: Leaders Follow Jesus

In This Module You And Your Mentor Group Will . . .

1. Explore the virtues that mark true Christian leadership
2. Exchange insights from your personal experiences
3. Evaluate the expression of these virtues in your own ministry

Responsibilities . . .

1. Complete session assignments before you meet together
2. Meet with your Mentor Group weekly
3. Pray for each other daily

SESSIONS . . .

1. Marks of Effective Christian Leadership
2. Commitment to Building God's Kingdom
3. Commitment to a Grace Environment
4. Commitment to Servant Leadership
5. Commitment to Partnership and Community
6. Commitment to Intentionally Mentoring Leaders

# SESSION GOALS

## 1. Marks of Effective Christian Leadership

The goal of this session is to help each member of your Mentor Group begin to evaluate his or her experiences with Christian leaders and begin to realize that Christ himself sets the standard for effective Christ-centered leadership.

## 2. Commitment to Building God's Kingdom

The goal of this session is to help each member of your Mentor Group evaluate whether they are focused on building God's Kingdom or unintentionally focused on building their own personal kingdom.

## 3. Commitment to a Grace Environment

The goal of this session is to understand that Christ-centered leaders operate in a grace environment of acceptance and loving accountability rather than an environment marked by control and performance.

## 4. Commitment to Servant Leadership

The goal of this session is to evaluate critical differences between secular and Christ-centered leadership leading to a personal commitment to minister as a servant – as Jesus did.

## 5. Commitment to Partnership and Community

The goal of this session is to help each member of your Mentor Group recognize his or her need for teamwork and the giftedness of others to fulfill God's Kingdom goals and to empower others as Christ-centered leaders.

## 6. Commitment to Intentionally Mentoring Leaders

The goal of this session is to help each member of your Mentor Group commit to a priority of intentionally developing the next generation of Christ-centered leaders.

# LEADERS FOLLOW JESUS

[Mentor]

## USING THE Leaders Follow Jesus MODULE

- 1** This module is intended for Christians operating in church, para-church ministries, Christian organizations, and in the marketplace. Its intent is to help leaders evaluate the style of leadership exercised in their organization and bring it into harmony with the New Testament pattern. In this module, participants come to understand both the foundational concepts and the learning process which underlies MentorLink training.
- 2** Other MentorLink modules focus on biblical principles and skills required for effective servant leadership.

## STUDY MATERIALS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- 3** It is essential that each participant, including yourself, read and complete assignments **before** you meet together.

This module has two aspects: (1) assignments which you and your mentees complete before group meetings, and (2) group meetings at which all share experiences and insights.

## FACILITATING THE GROUP

- 4** This Mentor Process Guide provides suggestions that will help you facilitate the group sessions. As a Mentor, it is important that you view yourself as a co-learner with your mentees, that you also complete the assignments before group meetings, and that you set an example of open and honest sharing.
- 5** Significant sharing takes time. For this reason, the suggested meeting length is a minimum of 1½ hours.

The process followed during each meeting typically involves five stages:

- Check up      Brief reports of what's happening in each person's life
- Content      A discussion of the topic studied in preparation for your meeting
- Impact      Personal sharing designed to explore the impact of the truth on each of your lives and ministries
- Challenge      An action each person can take to implement the truth studied
- Prayer      Prayer for each others' growth and any special needs

# SESSION 1: MARKS OF EFFECTIVE CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP

The goal of this session is to help each member of your Mentor Group begin to evaluate his or her experiences with Christian leaders and begin to realize that Christ himself sets the standard for effective Christ-centered leadership.

## Check up

Invite all group members to share their name and a bit about their current role in their organization, identifying both the very best and very worst thing about that role.

## Content

Have participants share the five words each chose to describe his or her "most effective Christian leader." What concept of "effective Christian leadership" do these words suggest?

Ask each to describe his or her relationship with that "most effective" Christian leader. When each has shared, raise the question, "How high a priority did your 'most effective' Christian leader place on mentoring you?"

## Impact

Discuss the "story" of Satan's reaction to Jesus' initial actions as Christ prepared to fulfill his mission in the world. What does Satan seem to assume about selecting and developing leaders to accomplish an important task? What does Christ seem to assume about selecting and developing leaders?

NOTE: In the story Satan assumes one selects future leaders from "significant" people. Jesus selected ordinary people who were willing to follow Him. Jesus then acted as if developing these men involved building significant personal relationships with them. These two elements are stressed in Mark 12:13-19, which will be studied more closely in a future session.

## Challenge

Discuss together: What has been the impact of the way your "most effective" leader either viewed or failed to view his personal relationship with you as a priority?

## Prayer

Pray that each participant will continue to grow as a godly and effective Christian leader.

# SESSION 2: COMMITMENT TO BUILDING GOD'S KINGDOM

The goal of this session is to help each member of your Mentor Group evaluate whether they are focused on building God's Kingdom or unintentionally focused on building their own personal kingdom.

## Check up

Invite your mentees to share any impact that the first session of this study had on their actions this past week. Did any priorities change?

## Content

Talk through the "legacy" answers your group members gave [#2 on page 12] and the strategy answers [#3 on page 12]. Then discuss reactions to the two statements [#4 on page 13].

## Impact

Actual values are best revealed through actions. Sometimes those with an honest desire to serve God confuse building their own kingdom with building God's Kingdom. Talk about the contrasting actions [#5 on page 13]. Which is the most significant indicator one is focusing on their own kingdom or God's Kingdom?

Discuss together: Thinking back, whose kingdom was the person you identified as your "most effective" Christian leader most effective at building? His or God's?

## Challenge

Share together: Consider your own ministry – are you most effective at building your own kingdom or God's Kingdom? What would it take to become more effective at building God's Kingdom?

## Prayer

Ask each group member to pray for another group member – that he or she will become more effective at building God's Kingdom.

# SESSION 3: COMMITMENT TO A GRACE ENVIRONMENT

The goal of this session is to understand that Christ-centered leaders operate in a grace environment of acceptance and loving accountability rather than an environment marked by control and performance.

## Check up

Each share ways he or she has sought this past week to build God's Kingdom rather than his or her own kingdom.

## Content

Have each share the five words that described his or her father. Let the others predict whether each person grew up in a control or a grace environment. Have each respond to the predictions, and tell something about his or her home environment.

Then share how the family environment has affected him or her in his present leadership role.

## Impact

Talk about the contrasts in the chart on page 15. Which have most impact on the environment in which they minister? Then have each group member tell the Bible story he or she thought of and explain how Jesus illustrates grace.

## Challenge

During this coming week picture yourself as a vineyard worker. Who do you feel most like in your ministry: the workers who complained, or the workers who experienced the vineyard owner's commitment to grace? What can you do in your organization to foster a grace environment?

## Prayer

Pray for wisdom to know how to foster an environment of grace among those who work for and with each group member.

# SESSION 4: COMMITMENT TO SERVANT LEADERSHIP

The goal of this session is to evaluate critical differences between secular and Christ-centered leadership, leading to a personal commitment to minister as a servant – as Jesus did.

## Check up

Share what each of you did this past week to make his or her ministry setting more of a grace environment.

Ask, “when have you been controlling people when you should be releasing them?”

## Content

Talk over what each of you drew from Matthew 20:25-28. What are contrasts between servant and “rulers of the Gentiles” style leadership? What are contrasts between these styles – in treatment of others, in motivating others, in outcomes?

## Impact

Discuss what practical differences each would expect to see in his or her own ministry if every leader was committed to true servant leadership? What would the person to whom he or she reports do differently? What would he or she do differently regarding to the people who report to him/her?

## Challenge

Be prepared with a water basin and towels. Take turns washing each other’s feet. Then discuss: How did each of you feel when one of the others was washing your feet? How did you feel when you were washing the others’ feet?

Why is this experience so emotional? Uncomfortable? What would it take to make others in your organization feel at work the way you felt as your feet were being washed?

If you have a distance group talk about how you might feel if this had been done to you today.

## Prayer

Pray that God would give your group servants’ hearts and teach you how to lead as a true servant of Jesus Christ.

# SESSION 5: COMMITMENT TO PARTNERSHIP AND COMMUNITY

The goal of this session is to help each member of your Mentor Group recognize his or her need for teamwork and the giftedness of others to fulfill God's Kingdom goals and to empower others as Christ-centered leaders.

## Check up

Share one way in which you sought to be a servant leader this past week. How did it go?

## Content

Briefly share personal strengths and weaknesses identified by listing responsibilities. What thoughts did you have while writing down the names of coworkers who shared your strengths or who had strengths where you were weak?

## Impact

What did you learn about yourself and/or your leadership by completing the personal assessment exercise [#5 on page 26]?

## Challenge

Share the most compelling reasons for partnership in your ministry, as well as the greatest difficulties in moving toward partnership. What specifically do you plan to do?

## Prayer

Ask God to guide each decision group members will make this week in their ministries and relationships.

# SESSION 6: COMMITMENT TO INTENTIONALLY MENTORING LEADERS

The goal of this session is to help each member of your Mentor Group commit to a priority of intentionally developing the next generation of Christ-centered leaders.

## Check up

Invite each participant to share how his view of himself as a leader has changed during your time together.

## Content

Discuss the implication of the triangle analysis of Jesus' ministry for Christian ministry today. Have each participant show and discuss his own charting of constituencies and individuals. What does each see as implications for his or her own ministry as a Christian leader?

## Impact

Discuss together: How competent do each of you feel that you are equipped not only to be an effective Christian leader but also to mentor others in becoming the next generation of Christian leaders?

## Challenge

Raise the possibility of continuing to grow together in understanding and practicing transformative Christian leadership, and/or the possibility of some or all of your group establishing their own mentoring group. Look over the resources available through MentorLink, and decide on next steps.

## Prayer

Ask God's leading in bringing together new mentoring groups, and for your own growth in Christ-centered leadership.

# In Closing

*Dear Fellow Worker in the Kingdom,*

*Thank you for facilitating your Mentor Group. Around the world there is a need for people just like you. We praise Him that you answered His call. We also know that around the world emerging leaders are crying out for people just like you. For those in your Mentor Group, we thank you as well. You were there to make a difference in their lives and hearts.*

*Our heart is to continue to serve you as you continue your existing Mentor Group or start additional Mentor Groups. Let us know what your needs are and what resources you might need.*

*Could you also send (email: [info@MentorLink.org](mailto:info@MentorLink.org)) us a few sentences or paragraphs and share with us what God is doing in your life and leadership as a result of your experience through the **LEADERS FOLLOW JESUS** Module?*

*Dr. Stacy Rinehart for the MentorLink Institute*



What is your vision for “passing it on”?

You are now a steward of the heart issues in LEADERS FOLLOW JESUS. To whom will you pass this on? We encourage you to form another Mentor Group and facilitate others through what you have just finished, or perhaps facilitating this group through another MentorLink module.

“Passing it on” is not about mastering content, being an expert or a teacher. It is about being available to guide others through the mentoring experience. Will you continue to pass it on?

For additional help in “passing it on,” go to <http://www.mentorlink.org/index.php/resources/passing-it-on/>

Want to facilitate another module?

There are two options – bring together your own local group, or simply sign up to mentor a group. We have a Mentor Orientation for new mentors. Go to the MentorLink website for links.

<http://www.mentorlink.org/index.php/resources/global-mentoring-project/mentorlink-institute/>

## Acknowledgement

We are indebted to Dr. Larry Richards for writing this LEADERS FOLLOW JESUS Mentor Process Guide. We are also indebted to Christine Weddle for her work in page layout and graphics.



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# MentorLink Modules

NOTE: THERE ARE MENTOR PROCESS GUIDES AVAILABLE FOR EACH MODULE



## LEAD LIKE JESUS

The model of leadership in the world is clear. But Jesus calls His followers to a different model of leadership for the Kingdom. This module will assist you and your group in discovering this reality and in beginning to apply its implications to your lives, leadership, and mentoring.



## LEAD IN LIGHT OF ETERNITY

Jesus had much to say about how He will evaluate leaders who serve Him. He also had many harsh words for false leaders. Jesus promises to reward those who serve Him faithfully. This module will provide understanding regarding the leader's personal advantage to having this eternal perspective.



## BUILD HIS KINGDOM

Jesus came preaching the Kingdom. His Kingdom is the ultimate reality in this life and the life to come. However, many build their own empires, thinking they are building the Kingdom, while their very means and motives are actually at odds with His Kingdom. This module will assist you and your group in seeing the difference between building for the Kingdom and a leader building for his own empire. This module also will assist you in mentoring others regarding this awareness.



## BUILD GRACE ENVIRONMENTS

How we mentor and treat people flows from our understanding of what Christ has done and is doing in us. This module will assist you and your group in a deeper understanding of the depth and riches of the Gospel of grace and its applications in your leadership and mentoring.



## COLLABORATE AS LEADERS

Jesus mentored those he chose and was with them. Paul was always with someone who co-labored with him, mentoring him in the process. This module will assist you and your group in developing a practice of leading and mentoring in the context of partnership and community.



## LEADERS FOLLOW JESUS

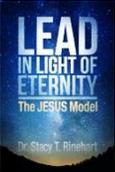
This module is intended for Christians operating in church, para-church ministries, Christian organizations, and the marketplace. Its intent is to help leaders evaluate the style of leadership exercised in their organization and bring it into harmony with the New Testament pattern. In this module, participants come to understand both the foundational concepts and the learning process which underlies MentorLink training.



## LEADERS ABIDE IN JESUS

Some of the last words of Jesus to His Disciples were, "Abide in Me". The Apostle John reflects the importance of this, "whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked." This module opens the door for mentors and mentees to look at their own walk with Jesus. It is from this "center" that we fellowship with the Son and with one another. It is also from this center that we bear fruit for His Kingdom.

# ADDITIONAL MENTORLINK RESOURCES

-  **LEADER'S COVENANT**  
A simple, yet profound description of true spiritual leadership in ten aspirational statements with Scripture passages.
-  **DAYS WITH JESUS**  
Journey with Jesus to draw closer to His heart and discover how He wants us to live, lead and influence people. This video-based discipling tool uses The JESUS Film and thought-provoking questions for reflection and discussion.
-  **PASSING IT ON**  
This seminar and manual are used for training groups in transformational mentoring. It will transform how leaders develop leaders.
-  **MENTORLINK INSTITUTE**  
Learn to lead like Jesus and mentor others while participating in mentor groups. The MentorLink Institute is a tested and proven strategy that works through a network of partners and mentors.
-  **LEAD IN LIGHT OF ETERNITY**  
This book by Dr. Stacy Rinehart is about Jesus and leading in His kingdom. *Lead in Light of Eternity: The JESUS Model* is for anyone who aspires to live and lead like Jesus in the workplace, the church, the mission field, or the world.
-  **TRANSFORMATIONAL VALUES**  
Jesus' ways are to be our ways. The focus is on changing leaders from the inside-out and on the leader's character and heart. Five values shifts needed for leaders who want to move away from leading in the way of the flesh to leading more like Jesus.
-  **BLOGS AND BOOKS**  
Check out blogs and books focused on the heart and development of servant leaders. Find practical mentoring tips, personal stories and solid biblical advice.

All resources can be found at [www.mentorlink.org/index.php/resources/](http://www.mentorlink.org/index.php/resources/)