



RCCG OCEANIA

Leadership & Service

Leadership Principles from History and Scripture

At a Glance

BIG IDEA

Explore the essence of true leadership through the lens of historical figures and biblical teachings. Understand how self-discovery and principled living form the foundation of effective leadership. Learn from the successes and failures of leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and the Roman Empire to cultivate a leadership style that is both impactful and ethical.

PRIMARY PASSAGES

John 8:32

Key Takeaways

- True leadership is about serving others, not exerting control.
- Self-discovery is a crucial step in becoming an effective leader.
- Leadership without principles can lead to destruction.
- Historical examples, like the Roman Empire, show the consequences of moral decay.
- Figures like Mahatma Gandhi exemplify leadership through service and principle.

Introduction

Leadership is a timeless concept that transcends cultures and eras. By examining historical figures and teachings, we can uncover the foundational principles of effective leadership. This study explores how service, self-discovery, and principled living are essential to leading with integrity and impact.

Scripture Reading

- **John 8:32** — This passage emphasizes the importance of truth in leadership, as knowing the truth leads to freedom and effective service.

Key Points

1. **Leadership Through Service** — True leadership is defined by service to others rather than control. Leaders prioritize the needs of their people over personal gain. Leadership through service involves humility, empathy, and a commitment to the well-being of others. This approach fosters trust and loyalty, creating a positive and productive environment.
 - Identify ways to serve others in your current leadership role.
 - Reflect on how you can prioritize the needs of your team or community.
 - Practice humility by valuing the contributions of others.
 - Develop empathy by actively listening to those you lead.

Scripture: Matthew 20:26-28

Key Points (cont.)

2. **The Role of Self-Discovery** — Effective leadership stems from a deep understanding of oneself. Self-discovery allows leaders to harness their strengths and address their weaknesses. By engaging in self-reflection, leaders can develop a clearer vision and make informed decisions. This process involves acknowledging personal biases and striving for continuous growth.
 - Engage in regular self-reflection to understand your strengths and weaknesses.
 - Seek feedback from others to gain new perspectives.
 - Set personal development goals to enhance your leadership skills.
 - Be open to change and willing to adapt your leadership style.

Scripture: Proverbs 4:7 Psalm 139:23-24

Key Points (cont.)

3. **Principles Over Politics** — Leadership must be grounded in principles to avoid the destructive nature of politics without ethics. The decline of empires serves as a historical example of the consequences of neglecting ethical principles. Leaders must prioritize integrity and ethical decision-making to maintain stability and trust.
 - Define your core values and ensure they guide your decisions.
 - Evaluate the ethical implications of your leadership actions.
 - Promote transparency and accountability within your team.
 - Resist the temptation to compromise principles for short-term gains.

Scripture: Proverbs 11:3 1 Timothy 3:2

Key Points (cont.)

4. **Lessons from History** — The moral decay of past empires serves as a warning of the consequences when leadership lacks ethical grounding. By studying historical examples, leaders can learn from past mistakes and avoid similar downfalls. This involves recognizing the signs of moral decay and taking proactive steps to uphold ethical standards.
 - Study historical examples of leadership to identify patterns of success and failure.
 - Discuss the importance of ethics in leadership with your team.
 - Implement measures to prevent moral decay in your organization.
 - Encourage a culture of integrity and ethical behavior.

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 10:11 Romans 15:4

Key Points (cont.)

5. **Empowerment and Vision** — True leaders focus on empowering others and having a clear vision. They inspire change and demonstrate the power of leading by example. This model emphasizes the importance of aligning actions with values and maintaining a focus on the greater good.
 - Empower others by recognizing and developing their potential.
 - Lead by example by aligning your actions with your values.
 - Focus on the greater good rather than personal gain.
 - Inspire others through your commitment to ethical leadership.

Scripture: Matthew 5:9 Romans 12:18

Group Discussion

Tip: Use these questions to guide the group from seeing → understanding → applying.

Observation

- What are some examples of leadership through service in history?
- How does self-discovery contribute to effective leadership?
- What are the consequences of leadership without principles?
- What lessons can be learned from historical examples of leadership?

Interpretation

- Why is service an essential component of true leadership?
- In what ways can self-discovery enhance a leader's effectiveness?
- How do principles guide ethical decision-making in leadership?
- What lessons can we learn from the decline of past empires?

Application

- How can you incorporate service into your leadership style?
- What steps can you take to engage in self-discovery as a leader?
- How can you ensure that your leadership is grounded in principles?
- What measures can you implement to prevent moral decay in your organization?

Prayer Focus

- Pray for humility and a servant's heart in leadership roles.
- Seek guidance for self-discovery and personal growth as a leader.
- Ask for wisdom to uphold ethical principles in decision-making.

Next Step

Reflect on historical examples of leadership and identify ways to incorporate service and ethical principles into your leadership style.

Conclusion

Leadership is a journey that requires a commitment to service, self-discovery, and principled living. By learning from historical examples and teachings, we can cultivate a leadership style that is both impactful and ethical. Embrace these principles to lead with integrity and inspire positive change in the world.