

Followable Leadership

1 Peter 5:1-5: To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ's sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed: **2** Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; **3** not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. **4** And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

5 In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

Three probing questions for leaders:

1) Am I leading because _____ or because _____?

Verse 2; see also 1 Timothy 3:1

2) Am I leading because of what I can _____ or what I can _____?

Verse 2; see also 1 Timothy 3:3; Titus 1:7

3) Am I leading because I want to _____ or _____?

Verse 3; see also Mark 10:42-45; 1 Timothy 4:12; Titus 2:7

Transformed by the Truth

Questions for Reflection & Discussion

1. Is servant leadership valued where you work and where you worship? Is it practiced? In what ways do you see a gap between the ideal and the real?
2. Read Mark 10:42-45 and 1 Peter 5:1-3. In what part of your life would you consider yourself a leader? How do these passages encourage and/or challenge you?
3. Which of the three probing questions on your outline is most convicting to you? Why? How can you be more like Jesus in this aspect of your leadership?
4. Read 1 Peter 5:4. Do you think how we live on earth will matter in heaven? Why or why not? What Scriptures support your opinion?
5. Read 1 Peter 5:5. What leader(s) do you find most difficult to follow? Why? How does this verse instruct you to deal with that challenge?