LEADERSHIP LESSON #9 - SERVANTHOOD

LESSON

When we think of the word "Servanthood," we typically envision it as an activity performed by relatively low-skilled people at the bottom of the totem pole; someone of low prestige, low respect and low honor. Most people are not attracted to such a low-value role. But, this is the wrong impression. Servanthood is not about position or skill. It is about attitude.

"A servant-leader makes sure that other people's highest priority needs are being served. A servant-leader focuses primarily on the growth and well-being of people and the communities to which they belong." (Robert K. Greenleaf)

Nine Qualities of the Servant Leader (Skip Prichard)

- Values diverse opinions
- Cultivates a culture of trust
- Develops other leaders
- Helps people with life issues
- Encourages
- Sells instead of tells
- Thinks you, not me
- Thinks long-term
- Acts with humilit

EXPLANATION

- Put others ahead of your own agenda. Be intentionally aware of other people's needs, and be available to help them
- Possess the confidence to serve. Don't think of yourself as too important to serve. This shows insecurity. How we treat others is really a reflection of how we think about ourselves
- Initiate service to others. See the need, seize the opportunity and serve without expecting anything in return
- Don't be position-conscious. Don't focus on rank or position

APPLICATION

If you want to lead on the highest level, be willing to serve on the lowest. True leadership is servanthood – putting the interests of others at the center of your decisions. As Robert Townsend said, "A leader is not an administrator who loves to run others, but someone who carries water for his people so they can get on with their jobs"

DIRECTION

"Serve one another in love" (Galatians 5:13)