

What Makes a Great Leader?

Small Group Guide

Warm-up Question: (Choose one, make up your own, or skip this part altogether, depending upon the nature of your group.)

1. If you could have dinner with any historical leader, past or present, who would it be and why?
2. Think of a time when someone influenced or led you in a small but impactful way. What did they do, and how did it affect you?

Read the following passage: Psalm 72

Leadership isn't about the title we hold but the position we choose to take. No matter where we are or what stage of life we're in, each of us has the capacity to lead others. As followers of Jesus, our ultimate goal in leadership should always be to point people toward Christ. Though the bar for leadership is high and we often fall short, we must rely on the power and presence of the Holy Spirit to guide us. When we submit to God's calling in our lives, He blesses our efforts and uses our leadership—not because of our own abilities, but because of our obedience. Even the smallest step of faith can have a lasting impact for God's Kingdom. Let's take time to reflect on how we are leading in our own lives.

Questions for Discussion (Choose several that are relevant for your group):

1. **Reflect on Psalm 72:** What does this passage teach us about God's heart for leadership, and how does it challenge your view of leadership today?
2. **Justice in Everyday Life:** Where do you see small or large injustices in your daily environment, and how can you take action as a leader to bring about justice?
3. **Leadership Without a Title:** Think of a time when you influenced others without holding an official title. How did that experience shape your understanding of leadership?
4. **Balancing Peace and Truth:** How can you bring peace into your relationships or environments without avoiding necessary hard conversations?
5. **Learning from Failure:** Consider a leadership mistake you've made in the past. How did that failure help you grow, and what would you do differently now?
6. **Leading in the Shadows:** How do you feel about leading from the second chair or being in a supportive role? What can you learn from the story about Billy's experience as a consigliere?
7. **The Power of Influence:** Who in your life is imitating or being influenced by you, whether you realize it or not? How can you better steward that influence?

8. Glorifying God as Leaders: In what ways are you tempted to seek recognition for your leadership? How can you make a conscious effort to point others to God instead of seeking your own glory?

Pray