

# THE MIND OF A SERVANT-LEADER | Pastor Mark Bofill | 9/9/2023 (Class)

I. Requires Consideration | II. Requires Submission | III. Requires Transformation | IV. Requires Examination | V. Requires Vision

**INTRO:** Our first lesson addressed the **Heart of a Servant Leader....it all starts in the Heart!** – And **what begins in the Heart must be also in our Heads!** – This morning we endeavor upon the second aspect of our servant leadership course: The \_\_\_\_\_ of a Servant Leader.

**Throughout my years in ministry,** I have seen many people “volunteer” in church. I've seen enough to distinguish between **heart-felt service** and **lip-service!** Those with the right heart grew to have the right mindset in ministry and are greatly used by God. But those who offered lip-service seemed to “**fall short of any notable growth**” as believers. (*But that's not us, right? We're here become we want to become MORE LIKE JESUS, right?*)

*The Mind of a Servant Leader Requires...*

**I. \_\_\_\_\_ (MARK 10:45)** – This entire series is based on this verse “**For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.**”

- **Throughout His entire ministry Jesus was laser-focused on His mission.** He came to serve the vision that His Father gave Him.
- **If we desire to be ALL-IN as JESUS was,** then maybe we should study His life... so that we can become better at Servant Leadership.

**A. OUR \_\_\_\_\_ (Phil 2:5-6)** Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus, who who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God. – In order to serve Jesus, **we need HIS MINDSET to be “In Us!”**

**B. OUR MINDSET** – We are not born-again to pursue our own will or self-interest. On the contrary, Christianity exhorts us to set aside our own will and self-interest. We are called to set aside our pride, arrogance, and ego in order to serve GOD in humility and simplicity. **This is what Jesus was passionate about!** “**No organization will rise above the PASSION of its leader.**”

*The Mind of a Servant Leader Requires...*

**II. \_\_\_\_\_ (Rom 12:1)** – **PRESENTING OUR BODIES** – We should **present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God!**

- A. DIE TO SELF** - This speaks of Absolute Surrender, which **must be settled in the mind 1st!**
- B. GIVE YOURSELF** - Completely to Him **because what He did for you!** (Rom 6:19) “*For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so **NOW present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness!***”

**1. Failing to Present Yourself** will make your Christianity ineffective

**2. Fully Presenting Yourself** is only the beginning of a life of victory! (*What's holding you back!*)

II. \_\_\_\_\_ (Rom 12:2) – *By the renewing of your mind!* The mind is a great tool that God has given us but has been affected by original sin. **It needs to be reprogrammed!** The *Spirit of God desires to transform our lives by renewing our minds*. When He has full access to our minds and bodies, He can now use us for His glory!

A. **WORLDY MENTALITY** – Because we live in this world we are easily affected by the thoughts and trends of this world, which naturally causes us to conform to it. A **‘Servant Leader’ must not let this happen!** – J.B. Phillips translation of this text paraphrases it like this: *“Don’t let the world around you squeeze you into its own mold, but let God remold your minds from within.”*

B. **GODLY MENTALITY** – A Christian literally must be **brainwashed** to think different! The word **Transform** is an interesting one (Grk. *metamorphoo*), which denotes a total change in a person’s life. **In order to be Effective in our Servant Leadership, our minds need to be** \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_!

IV. \_\_\_\_\_ (Rom 12:3), OF OUR THOUGHTS – **PRIDE** is one of the areas where Christians stumble most! In this verse, Paul encourages believers to exercise Humility and Self-examination as they mature in their faith. **Two things here:**

A. \_\_\_\_\_ **THINKING:** *“not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think...”* – Paul warns of the danger of assuming that they were of a greater value than others, because they had demonstrated **certain spiritual gifts**. Spiritual giftedness does not equal spiritual maturity; just because a person has substantial spiritual gifts does not mean that they are necessarily spiritually mature! (1 Cor 4:7 NLT)

B. \_\_\_\_\_ **THINKING** – The Greek means: *not to be drunk, but to be in control of one’s thought process; not in danger of irrational thinking*; but to be **sober-minded, to be well composed in mind**. – When we evaluate ourselves and see ourselves as we really are, it is difficult to be given over to pride. Again, it is only by grace that we even receive these gifts, and they are for God and others, not us!

**Closing Thought: A clear head is \_\_\_\_\_ for a servant leader!** If your mind is unclear, then you are probably loaded with random thoughts, and it is difficult to hear from God (Isa 26:3).

- A **Servant Leader** must have a **CLEAR PURPOSE** and **MISSION** from which you can provide **CLEAR** \_\_\_\_\_.

IV. \_\_\_\_\_ (PROV 29:18a) declares, “Where there is no vision people perish...”

A. **Communicate a Vision – As Jesus did (Matt 28:18-20) ...Go therefore and make disciples!**  
Our Mission as Servant Leaders is really a \_\_\_\_\_ from our Lord Jesus Christ!

B. **Make the Vision CLEAR** – A Servant Leader must learn to **tell others around him what is in his head.** (Hab 2:2) Says, “Write the Vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it.” – Writing it down makes less confusion for everybody involved (1 Cor 14:33a) Says, “For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace...”

1. **Have a vision that will \_\_\_\_\_ people** – If everybody does not understand your purpose or is not excited and passionate about it, it’s effect will be minimalized!
2. **Very Important** – A Servant Leader must let the people know what is expected of them so that they can \_\_\_\_\_ – J.O. Sanders says the following: **A VISION without a task makes a visionary, A TASK without a vision makes it drudgery, A VISION with a TASK makes a MISSIONARY!**

IV. \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Cor 4:7-15) As a Servant Leader you will soon find that a **strong mind is needed** as you face many difficulties in the ministry. (Ministry involves people!)

A. **Discouragement, Depression** – (Ps 42: 5) says, *Why are you cast down O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me?* One of the greatest areas of attack will be in your mind! You need to Guard it well! – *The simplest comment from another can send your mind racing into depression. Hardship also (cf. 2 Cor 4:7-15)*

B. **You’re a Target for Attack from Satan** – Because you have stepped up to the plate to be a Servant leader, Satan will also launch a greater campaign against you. As a result, the Servant Leader must know his adversaries tactics and not be ignorant of them (2 Cor 2:11b)

C. **Complaints Against You** – In (Ex 16:2) and many other places in the be we read of people complaining against the leaders. **This can really effect you in a serious way, but you have to keep your mind focused on the Lord at all times.**

D. **Pride** – It is rooted in the heart, but when it manifests in the mind it will cause the Servant Leader to fall-short every time.

E. **Desire to give-up/Quit** – (Luke 9:62) *No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back if fit for the kingdom of God.*

**CLOSING THOUGHTS:** All of these things can mess with the mind of a servant leader. **This is why the servant leader must be well-balanced in mind.** Combined with self-restraint... you’ll do well!

- (1 Pet 1:13) *Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*