



## KINGDOM LEADERSHIP

### 3.2

Each member is actively practicing Kingdom Leader, Kingdom Style, and Kingdom Culture principles within the company.

**Matthew 22:37-40** And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. (38) This is the great and first commandment. (39) And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. (40) On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

### WHAT IS A KINGDOM LEADER, ANYWAY?

Since the word “Kingdom” refers to Christ’s kingdom and not our own, we have to look to the King to learn what this means. As a Kingdom leader, Jesus Christ is your inspiration, your example, and your empowerment for leadership. Kingdom leaders are being conformed into the likeness of Christ and reflect His leadership themselves. So, what does Christ’s leadership look like?

**Read Matthew 20:25-28. Please leave this passage open for reference.**

**Q. What is Jesus saying to you as a leader?**

### SO THEN, WHAT IS A KINGDOM STYLE?

If our leadership is to be modelled after Jesus’ leadership, it should look different than if we would model it after worldly leadership. Our heart needs to be turned toward the things that God’s heart is turned toward, and our activity of leadership has to reflect that heart.

**Read John 13:1-16.**

**Q. What does this have to do with a Kingdom Style of leadership?**

When we look at both the Matthew and John passages, we start to get a picture of what Jesus' leadership was centered on - SERVANTHOOD. This service is **of God, to God, and then to others**. He even makes a point in Matthew to differentiate His leadership (and ours) from the leadership they could see in the world. Then, He takes it even further and washes his followers' feet. This is really an astonishing model. Consider this commentary on the passage found in John 13:

*"Our language cannot bring out the intensely vivid contrast between the 'Thou' and the 'my,' which, by bringing them together, the original expresses, for it is not good English to say, 'Lord, Thou my feet dost wash?' But every word of this question is emphatic. Thus far, and in the question itself, there was nothing but the most profound and beautiful astonishment at a condescension to him quite incomprehensible. Accordingly, though there can be no doubt that already Peter's heart rebelled against it as a thing not to be tolerated, Jesus ministers no rebuke as yet, but only bids him wait a little, and he should understand it all." (Robert Jamieson, A. R. Fausset, and David Brown, Commentary Critical and Explanatory on the Whole Bible, vol. 2 (Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1997), 153.)*

We are astonished because this is so unworldly. As we see it, this is not leadership; it doesn't even seem to make sense. But this is the heart of God, so He sacrifices Himself for whom He loves. This is servant leadership and what a Kingdom Leader embodies.

In addition to servanthood, we also see another model in the Bible when we talk about Kingdom leadership. It is the model of a shepherd. Shepherds care for and protect the flock, they nurture it and lead it to nourishment. Take a look at these three passages and note the shepherd model of leadership being passed on in scripture. God is identified as the shepherd, Peter is called to take on this role, and then Peter calls us to take it on as well:

**Psalm 23:1-4** You, LORD, are my shepherd. I will never be in need. (2) You let me rest in fields of green grass. You lead me to streams of peaceful water, (3) and you refresh my life. You are true to your name, and you lead me along the right paths. (4) I may walk through valleys as dark as death, but I won't be afraid. You are with me, and your shepherd's rod makes me feel safe.

**John 21:15-17** When Jesus and his disciples had finished eating, he asked, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than the others do?" Simon Peter answered, "Yes, Lord, you know I do!" "Then feed my lambs," Jesus said. (16) Jesus asked a second time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter answered, "Yes, Lord, you know I love you!" "Then take care of my sheep," Jesus told him. (17) Jesus asked a third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus had asked him three times if he loved him. So he told Jesus, "Lord, you know everything. You know I love you." Jesus replied, "Feed my sheep."

**1 Peter 5:2-4** Just as shepherds watch over their sheep, you must watch over everyone God has placed in your care. Do it willingly in order to please God, and not simply because you think you must. Let it be something you want to do, instead of something you do merely to make money. (3) Don't be bossy to those people who are in your care, but set an example for them. (4) Then when Christ the Chief Shepherd returns, you will be given a crown that will never lose its glory.

Your Kingdom Style of leadership is about serving and caring for the sheep under your care, through a sustainable business you've been called to lead.

## FINALLY, WHAT IS A KINGDOM CULTURE?

What is a culture? Let's start with this description: A culture is the observable result of the attitudes, behaviors and customs of any social group.

As a leader, you are responsible for the culture in your organization and in your family. There are two ways you do this, intentionally or unintentionally.

1. You develop a culture by what you create.  
and
2. You develop a culture by what you allow.

Your organization already has a culture; all organizations do. As a Kingdom leader, it becomes your role and responsibility to evaluate the culture you have, identify the values it is based on, and make the changes necessary to move it toward a Kingdom culture.

In order to intentionally create a culture based on the leadership model of Jesus Christ, we have to start with the Godly values we believe we need to implement. Then we can lean on these to help us create and keep the culture God wants for the people in our care.

## CREATING A VALUES-BASED CULTURE

**Q. Have you identified or created core values you've stated for your company? List them here. (Remember, these are values you can see in your employees and systems. They've been either created or simply allowed to exist.)**

**Q. Are there any values you need to change, delete, or add to your culture to move it toward becoming more of a Kingdom culture? (A leadership team may be very helpful in identifying these things.)**

## SUMMARY

- When a Kingdom Leader engages in a Kingdom Style, a Kingdom Culture emerges.
- A Kingdom Leader is one whose leadership is influenced, exemplified, and empowered by Christ
- A Kingdom Style places others at the forefront. The focus is on the flourishing of the people under the shepherding of the leader.
- A Kingdom Culture is an environment based on Christ's values, created and managed to bring about the flourishing of others.

## LEADERSHIP CONNECTION

As an ambassador, we know our leadership is an extension of God's leadership. We know and can articulate what it means to be a Kingdom Leader. We regularly reflect on how we are presenting God's Kingdom through our leadership and work to create new or better ways to live it out. We have developed a Kingdom Style; we use our leadership to care for our employees, vendors, customers, and partners. We work to create a values-based Kingdom Culture within our company, using our business platform and values to help others flourish, thus helping them grow into healthy invigorated people.

## RESOURCES FOR NEXT STEPS

- **RightNow Media@Work**  
Cultivate a Culture of Care  
<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/interactive-content/528940/details>
- **Read**  
Every Good Endeavor: Connecting Your Work to God's Work by Tim Keller  
[https://www.amazon.com/Every-Good-Endeavor-Connecting-Your/dp/1594632820/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?crid=2FMFJ9IGC6ZBG&keywords=tim+keller+books+work&qid=1702925727&srefix=tim+keller+books+work%2Caps%2C157&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.com/Every-Good-Endeavor-Connecting-Your/dp/1594632820/ref=sr_1_1?crid=2FMFJ9IGC6ZBG&keywords=tim+keller+books+work&qid=1702925727&srefix=tim+keller+books+work%2Caps%2C157&sr=8-1)
- **Watch**  
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