

Leadership According to Jesus - Handout

This week, we are exploring leadership in general, with a focus on Jesus. We must start with Jesus — the *only* perfect leader! Next time - church leadership as seen in the NT.

What is leadership?

Influence. It can be used for good or ill. How do you know if you are a leader? Look behind you. Is anyone following? If so, you have the gift of leadership: Romans 12.8. However, you may have the gift, but not be equipped. Others may see it in you as a latent quality that you have not noticed.

- **God doesn't call the equipped; he equips those he calls**
 - Moses protested that he wasn't a good speaker ([Exodus 4.10](#)), but God gave him Aaron and promised His presence.
 - Gideon thought of himself as the least in his family ([Judges 6.15](#)), yet God used him to deliver Israel.
 - Jeremiah said he was too young to speak ([Jeremiah 1.6–7](#)), but God reassured him that He would put words in his mouth.
 - The apostles were mostly unimpressive people ([Acts 4.13](#)), but they were empowered by the Spirit to proclaim the gospel.
- "But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong" ([1 Corinthians 1.27](#)).
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How many kinds of leaders are there?

Some leadership styles or approaches are more suitable in certain contexts than others.

The question for us: What does Watford need, now?

- **The Six Leadership Styles - Daniel Goleman**

Styles that tend to create dissonance - but can be useful:

 - [Commanding leadership style](#)
 - [Pacesetting leadership style](#)

Styles that tend to create resonance:

- [Visionary leadership style](#)
- [Democratic leadership style](#)
- [Coaching leadership style](#)
- [Affiliative leadership style](#)

You may have benefited from these styles used in the proper context or way, and you may have been harmed. It is essential to be self-aware so that we do not dismiss something potentially helpful because of past personal or congregational hurts. Today, we are not focusing on style or approach, but rather on the principles and values of Christ-like leadership, as exemplified by Jesus. i.e. Character issues.

How did Jesus lead?

1. God dependent, [John 5.19](#). Prayer - [Mark 1.35](#). Loved the Word - [Luke 2.46](#). Not seeking 'power' - [John 18.37](#). Faith-**full**.
 2. Servant heart. Loved people God brought into his life in a practical way - [Matthew 14.16](#). Interruptible, noticing the Spirit at work - [Mark 5.22](#). Available to all, but not a doormat. More interested in people than programmes. Culture, not rules.
 3. Courageous faith and trust in God. Obedient to God. His Father's agenda was his agenda. The way of the cross. [Matthew 16.21](#), [John 4.34](#).
 4. Integrity - had no favourites. "Whom neither force nor fawning can unpinne." ([George Herbert](#), [Constancie](#)) [John 2.23-25](#), [Luke 13.31-32](#). Tough skin, soft heart. WYSIWYG.
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Conclusion

Jesus led with authority—not as an authoritarian—and not because of talent, personality, or force. He led because He fully embodied the four qualities listed above. In Watford, we're asking God to raise up people who, while never able to embody these qualities as completely as Jesus, are not living in contradiction to them and who genuinely desire to grow in them.

Next: Leadership in the NT, 15 Oct, 8pm. Meeting ID: 948 9694 1293. Passcode: 200488, <https://zoom.us/j/94896941293?pwd=dLrXmChcHcuU6mwm8qLtYzyEeSQb7i.1>.