

The Watford Word

www.watfordchurchofchrist.org

What's on

Wednesday 15 October: 8-9 PM -
"Leadership in the New Testament church"



Sunday 19 October: 10:30 AM.
 Announcing our annual gift for HOPE Worldwide.
 Malcolm speaking.

Saturday 25 October: Helping Hands Club Day.
<https://forms.office.com/e/dx85By8NNv>

Sunday 26 October: 10:30 AM. John Slater speaking
 (from the North London ICOC).

Sunday 02 November: 10:30 AM. Malcolm speaking.
 Start of the new sermon series, "Heart of a Child".

Thursday 06 November: 8-9 PM - "Heart of a Child - Humility" follow-up discussion and prayer

Sunday 09 November: 10:30 AM. "Heart of a Child" series - part 2. Remembrance Sunday.

Thursday 13 November: 8-9 PM - "Heart of a Child - Awe & Wonder" follow-up discussion and prayer

Sunday 16 Nov: 10:30 AM. "Heart of a Child" series - part 3. Danny speaks

Thursday 20 November: 8-9 PM - "Heart of a Child - Not-Knowing Stance" follow-up discussion and prayer

Sunday 23 Nov: 10:30 AM. "Heart of a Child" Part 4. 'Safeguarding Sunday'

Thursday 27 November: 8-9 PM - "Heart of a Child - Playfulness" follow-up discussion and prayer

Sunday 30 November: 10:30 AM.. "Heart of a Child" series - part 5. Stefan speaking.

Thursday 04 December: 8-9 PM - "Heart of a Child - Timelessness" follow-up discussion and prayer

Sunday 21 December: 10:30 AM. Carol service

Leadership Refresh

The recording of the first session (Leadership according to Jesus) is online here: <https://watford.podbean.com/e/leadership-according-to-jesus-malcolm-cox-01-october-2025/>, <https://youtu.be/qiAoH7MDmKA>.

Class 2: Leadership in the NT, 15 Oct

<https://zoom.us/j/94896941293?pwd=dLrXmChcHcuU6mwm8qLtYzyEeSQb7i.1>

Meeting ID: 948 9694 1293. Passcode: 200488

Leadership or Servanthood? (Part 2)

The Way of the Cross in Leadership

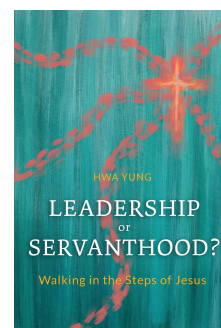
Introduction

Last week, I brought us some thoughts on leadership from Hwa Yung's book, Leadership or Servanthood? The key point - greatness in God's kingdom comes through service. This week, we continue by looking at what that means for our life together in Watford.

If leadership flows from servanthood, how do we live this out? Yung suggests we need fewer "servant leaders" and more "leading servants"—whose faithful service may sometimes lead.

Confidence

John 13:3 tells us that before Jesus washed his disciples' feet, he knew "that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God." Confident



in his Father's love, he was free to take the lowest place. Yung notes, "Living in the security of his Father's love and protection, he did not need to entertain doubts about his ultimate destiny."

Shared

Biblical leadership is shared. Paul tells Titus to appoint elders—plural—(Titus 1:5). Yung reminds us, "Outside of missionary situations where new churches were being founded, leadership as practised in the New Testament was consistently team leadership in which no single person had sole, undisputed authority."

Character

Character matters far more than competence. Paul served "with great humility and with tears" (Acts 20:19). The qualifications in 1 Timothy 3 focus on integrity and faithfulness, not charisma. Yung warns, "Until and unless the principle of servanthood has been internalised in our lives, any talk about leadership development invariably encourages self-seeking ambition."

Slow

God often forms leaders slowly. Moses spent 40 years in the wilderness. Paul spent more than a decade in obscurity before his missionary journeys. As Yung recalls, "God took two days to get Moses out of Egypt, but forty years to get Egypt out of Moses!"

Faithfulness

The church's calling is not efficiency but faithfulness. "If the church is not a hospital for the poor and broken, the wounded and lame, and the suicidal and hopeless, what in the name of Christ is it?" Yung asks. Our role is to embody a "faithful presence" that points to Christ.

Summary

Ultimately, Christian leadership is not about striving to rise but surrendering to serve. Yung

concludes: "Leadership in the cause of Christ does not come from our striving to be leaders but is the by-product of a life of humble service to him and others."

Reflection Questions

1. What does it mean for you to find your security in the Father's love, like Jesus did?
2. How could the New Testament emphasis on shared leadership work in Watford?
3. In what ways might God be using seasons of hiddenness in your life to form you for future service?

Closing Thought

If we learn to be servants, leadership will follow naturally in God's time. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, who came not to be served but to serve, and let us walk together in his way of the cross.

Your brother, Malcolm

"Heart of a Child" Series

Zoom sessions information (dates above):

[https://zoom.us/j/97808472409?](https://zoom.us/j/97808472409?pwd=Fd8Znkbc6gmpabDUcgmisRL4wD2jqf.1)

[pwd=Fd8Znkbc6gmpabDUcgmisRL4wD2jqf.1](https://zoom.us/j/97808472409?pwd=Fd8Znkbc6gmpabDUcgmisRL4wD2jqf.1)

Meeting agenda: <https://docs.zoom.us/agenda/doc/fb5dfbcb-5e97-4428-ab30-402136e7dc77>

Meeting ID: 978 0847 2409. Passcode: 251402

Watford Contribution Details

Church bank account: Three Counties churches of Christ HSBC

Sort Code: 401915

Account Number: 04759613

Watford Media

