

**Victoria Fellowship Church**  
**International & Interdenominational**  
**Bible Study Worksheet – January 8, 2023**

**Theme: Servant Leadership    Topic: Servant Leadership Starts With Me**

**Main Texts: Isaiah 6:1-9a; Luke 9:1-6; 10-17**

**Key verse: Isaiah 6:8** – *‘Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: “Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”’* (NKJV)

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**INTRODUCTION:** Last week, we used the working definition of a servant as one who performs duties for others. And we saw Jesus Christ as the perfect example of servant leader. In the corporate world, and academia, there are several definitions of servant leadership. One interesting definition of a servant leader says that **servant leaders are “servants” first and leaders second**. Because of their innate desire to serve, serving comes naturally to them even when they step into a leadership role. But when we look at ourselves, in relation to today’s topic: **‘Servant Leadership Starts With Me,’** we realize, like prophet Isaiah, that we fall far short of the description of being servants at heart and that the people we are called to serve or seek to serve are no saints either (Isaiah 6:5)

1. **(a) Read Matthew 20:26-28. How did Jesus define servant leadership and how do we compare with His definition of servant leadership? (b) Read Isaiah 6:5-8. What happened to turn the prophet from feeling completely unqualified to serve to boldly volunteering to be sent? (c) How can your answer in (1b) be applied to changing us from innately self-centered individuals to persons who are servants first?**

One of the reasons why servant leadership is difficult for most of us is probably our view of leadership and of ourselves. Whether at home, school, work, and even the Church, our typical notion of leadership is almost always that of position, power, glory, privileges. Prophet Isaiah must have thought highly of himself, until his life-changing encounter with God. Similarly, when Jesus was sending out His disciples, *“He gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, and He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.”* (Luke 9:1-2 NIV). But then commanded them not to take any of the usual gears for travelling. The disciples were to rely completely on the generosity and hospitality of their unknown hosts! Just like the seraphims who served before God’s throne with covered faces and feet, the disciples were to be ‘nobodies’ - no vain-glory, no ambition, and pride done away with, so that the only One in view is Christ in His glory.

2. **Read Isaiah 6:2-9; Luke 9:3-5; Philippians 2:5-7 (a) What credentials did the actors in these passages bring to their servant role? (b) Is there any common attitude or attribute, worthy of note and emulation with these actors? (c) Let one or two participants share an instance where the identified attitude or attribute can help us in our being servant leaders in the home or office.**

After such heavenly encounter, Isaiah was sent to a people who were likely not going to pay attention. Likewise, the disciples were given so much power but sent to a people who might reject them and their message. Yet, all were to Go! And they went. And in Matthew 20:28, Jesus sums up servant leadership when He declared that *“the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve...”* (NIV). In this way, He reminded us that servant leadership is all about following and executing God’s agenda.

3. **(a) What is the principal focus and purpose of the various leadership roles identified in Ephesians 4:11-13? (b) What will our leadership look like in the home, office, Church, if we had this focus and purpose? (c) What needs to change for us to be this servant leaders in our various spheres of influence?**

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**Prayer:** *Lord Jesus, thank You for the numerous opportunities to lead at home, work, and even in Your Body. Please help me to be readily available to serve those You called me to lead so that Your purpose may be fully accomplished in those situations. Amen.*