

# Servants And Friends A Biblical Theology Of Leadership

Biblical LeadershipDeveloping a Theology of LeadershipServants of the ServantA Pauline Theology of Church LeadershipServants and FoolsBiblical Theology for Ethical LeadershipBiblical LeadershipHopeful InfluenceMissional LeadershipOrganizational LeadershipLeadership, God’s Agency, and DisruptionsRelational LeadershipServants and FriendsReligious LeadershipSpiritual LeadershipMen and Women in the ChurchChurches, Cultures, and LeadershipRooted LeadershipBible Teaching about Christian LeadershipLeadership or Servanthood? Benjamin K. Forrest Don N. Howell Jr. Andrew D. Clarke Arthur Boers Aaron Perry Benjamin Forrest Jude Padfield Nelus Niemandt Jack Burns Mark Lau Branson Walter C. Wright, Jr. Skip Bell Sharon Henderson Callahan David Spencer Huffstutler Sarah Sumner Mark Lau Branson John Johnson Willis C. Newman Hwa Yung

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biblical leadership takes the best of evangelical scholarship to make the leadership lessons of scripture tangible for today s readers all contributors are biblical scholars who not only think seriously about the texts covered in their individual chapters but have committed their lives to teaching and living the truths therein this volume walks through the sections of the bible gleanng insights from each biblical writer every chapter analyzes the original setting of the writing extrapolates the leadership principles in the text and provides advice on applying that theology of leadership presented in everyday language understandable to both professionals and practitioners these lessons will equip current and upcoming leaders to make a christlike impact

leadership is a subject that has gained impressive visibility in the past two decades the number of books monographs and articles as well as seminars devoted to the development of one s leadership skills has been almost exponential growth this study is an attempt to forge a full orb ed theology of christian leadership grounded in the teaching of scripture what emerges from tracing the theme of leadership through the biblical record is a servanthood pattern one that is wholly distinct from prevailing secular models our exposition begins with the biblical language of the servant the term of choice for those great leaders used of god to further his saving purposes in the world eleven old testament and five new testament leaders are profiled the portrait of jesus christ focuses on three motifs that governed his training of the twelve for kingdom ministry the pauline letters are mined for those convictions that governed paul s practice of

leadership both of his mission team and of the faith communities that emerged from that mission the treatment of each leader from joseph to paul begins with a series of preliminary questions and concludes with a mini profile that correlates the biblical data with these questions the final chapter offers a summary profile of the servant leader one whose character motives and agenda align with the divine purposes though designed as a textbook for upper level college and seminary courses on leadership the book s readable format is ideal for churches and parachurch organizations in their leadership training programs the author s prayer is that this work will serve as a catalyst to call god s people back to scripture and thereby raise up a whole new generation of authentic servant leaders

scholarly studies consider paul s views on leadership tend to fall into one of three camps 1 the historical development view which in large measure identifies developments in church practice with developments in pauline and deuteropauline ecclesiology 2 the synchronic historical reconstruction typically making use of graeco roman social context sources or social scientific modelling focusing on a single congregation and sometimes distinguishing between the situation to which paul was responding and the pattern he sought to impose and 3 the theological hermeneutical analysis identifying paul s particular approach to power and authority often independently of any detailed reconstruction of the situations to which paul was responding andrew clarke has explored in an earlier work serve the community of the church eerdmans 2000 the distinctive local and historical situations in the various pauline communities and concluded that there is no evidence that they organised themselves according to a common set of governmental structures which clearly developed with the passage of time rather each community was influenced by its own localized social and cultural context the present project builds on this and necessarily focuses on leadership style rather than church order it seeks to recover from paul s critical responses his generic ethos of church leadership including the ideal qualities characteristics and task of leaders and the nature of appropriate interaction and engagement with church members in the light of current theoretical discussions about power and gender the study focuses particularly on paul s attitude towards hierarchy egalitarianism authority responsibility and privilege

leadership is a much discussed topic what does it actually mean for us as christians does christian leadership have its own distinctive shape and character in servants and fools a biblical theology of leadership arthur boers examines jesus s pattern of leadership boers shows how this pattern is rooted in service and sacrifice is cautious about power and hierarchies and prioritizes the vulnerable in other words it often reverses what we expect of leadership and is different from what we read in most leadership literature servants and fools is a unique resource for students and practitioners across denominations it offers a foundational perspective on leadership and guidance for practical application in the reader s daily life and ministry arthur boers has at last written the book we have sorely needed a book that is destined to become the main text in my seminary courses in church leadership a book that is sure to be enthusiastically received by thousands of contemporary christian leaders boers energetically underscores the joyful peculiarity of specifically christian leadership his book is unique a biblically based christologically grounded defense of leadership in the name of christ will willimon professor of the practice of christian ministry duke divinity school united methodist bishop retired and author of pastor the theology and practice of ordained leadership servants and fools is a brilliant and essential contribution to any serious study of leadership robust faithful insightful biblical teaching a judicious knowledgeable harvest of the best contributions from leadership theorists and practitioners plus humor in the trenches experiences and practical applications i cannot imagine ever teaching another class on leadership without assigning and discussing arthur boers s book david w gill mockler phillips professor of workplace theology ethics gordon conwell theological seminary in servants and fools a biblical theology of leadership arthur boers deconstructs the contemporary cult of leadership and serves up a refreshingly biblical alternative it is a great cautionary tale for today s churches seminaries and christian non profits at the same time it offers great insight for secular organizations and leaders as well john suk author former editor of the banner and pastor of lawrence park community church toronto canada one of

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this book argues that ethical leadership without a theological foundation is lacking a firm foundation it begins with a critical assessment of ethical leadership as a leadership theory showing how ethics and theology became separated creating the space for ethical leadership outside of theology nevertheless the author argues that ethical leadership without a biblical basis is weak though one need not be religious to embrace the leadership principles of biblical theology unfolding christology anthropology eschatology and contextualized leadership as four key aspects of biblical theology for ethical leadership this book will appeal to those studying leadership business innovation and entrepreneurship

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the church by its very nature is called to be hope filled and future orientated it exists as a sign instrument and foretaste of the coming kingdom of god christian leadership therefore is at heart all about eschatological influence engaging with the work of influential theological voices such as lesslie newbigin tom wright and martyn percy hopeful influence argues that it is in the process of helping others to see participate in or experience the world to come that christian leadership becomes manifest with contributions from influential leaders in different spheres of life including dr eve poole stephen timms mp along with theologian and activist selina stone jude padfield explores how this eschatatologically fuelled vision might lead us towards a new manifesto for future leadership in the church in politics in business and the third sector and in the home with foreword from paul bayes bishop of liverpool

the purpose and aim of this book is to develop an appropriate leadership model for missional churches this implies a positioning of this book within the broader theology of mission and a consensus on the theology of the missio dei originating at the 1952 conference of the international missionary council in willingen germany in this approach to the theology of mission mission is understood as the work of the trinitarian god and the church is privileged to participate in god s mission it is against this background that the growing consensus on missional ecclesiology challenges leadership models developed for a different time and a different kind of church with less or no emphasis on the missional character of the church the aim is to reflect theologically on the role of leadership in the missional church what kind of ideas about power authority and leadership are appropriate for a missional church new missional challenges demand new ideas about missional leadership church organisation and leadership reflects a theological position there is a strong relation between ecclesiology and church organisation the nature of the church provides the framework to understand the character of the church what the church is determines what the church does the church organises what it does and agrees on rules that regulate ministries and organisation issues such as the way the church organises and governs what it does and thus church leadership need to be answered against this background and understanding church polity and organisation as well as leadership must reflect the identity calling life and order of the church this book therefore addresses life in the trinity participation in the missio dei and contours of the missional church as the point of entry to develop leadership insights it contributes towards the development of an appropriate

model of leadership for missional churches because although recent developments in the theology of mission comprehensively addressed the area of missional ecclesiology there is a gap in the development of a leadership model based on the concept of authority in the missional church

this comprehensive text for christians on organizational leadership provides theological foundations while tracing the historic roots of management organization and leadership theories all of this leads to five essential challenges and practices communication negotiation decision making financial stewardship and personal development

leaders in congregations and christian organizations wrestle with an unraveling of the world in which they have little experience and training while they are offered unending resources by experts on leadership some with claims to biblical blueprints the challenges seem mismatched to those methods branson and roxburgh frame the situation as one in which modernity's wager the conviction that god is not necessary for life and wisdom and meaning has defined the western imagination because churches and leaders are colonized by this ethos even when god is named and beliefs are claimed approaches to leadership are blind to god's agency branson and roxburgh approach this challenge as a work in practical theology attending to our cultural context narratives of god's disruptive initiatives in scripture and a reshaping of leadership theories with a priority on god's agency with years of experience as teachers consultants and guides they name practices which lead to more faithful participation leadership god's agency and disruption is wide ranging in cultural and biblical scholarship challenging in its engagement with numerous leadership studies and practical with its focus toward the on the ground life of churches and organizations

walter c wright develops a biblical management model that fosters an environment of active participation in an organization's mission foreword by richard j mouw and eugene h peterson

this title tackles issues relevant to leadership in the realm of religion it explores such themes as the contexts in which religious leaders move leadership in communities of faith leadership as taught in theological education and training religious leadership impacting social change and social justice and more topics are examined from multiple perspectives traditions and faiths

how should we see the spirit at work in spiritual leaders today how did the spirit work through spiritual leaders in the bible while many books on spiritual leadership look at the culture around us and offer sound advice from biblical principles this study asks scripture first what the spirit did through spiritual leaders in the bible in order to figure out what the spirit should be doing through spiritual leaders today

evangelicals stand divided in their view of women in the church on one side stand complementarians arguing the full worth of women but assigning them to differing roles on the other side stand egalitarians arguing that the full worth of women demands their equal treatment and access to leadership roles is there a way to mend the breach and build consensus sarah sumner thinks there is avoiding the pitfalls of both radical feminism and reactionary conservatism she traces a new path through the issues biblical theological psychological and practical to establish and affirm common ground arguing that men and women are both equal and distinct sumner encourages us to find ways to honor and benefit from the leadership gifts of both men and women in the church is a book for all who want a fresh and hope filled look at a persistent problem

in a world that is more culturally diverse than ever pastors and lay leaders need skills and competencies to serve in multicultural contexts this rich blend of astute analysis and practical guidance offers a praxis of paying attention study and discernment that leads to genuine reconciliation and shared life empowered by the gospel

behind many of the challenges facing us today is a failure of leadership this is not a new problem yearning for wise guidance and effective authority is a perennial human longing we need leaders who are credible competent and committed but many leaders seem to be caught up even consumed with their own power and agendas some see the leadership crisis as an intellectual problem believing we lack a clear theory of leadership others view the breakdown of leadership as a result of increasing deficiency in moral character most leadership books today revolve around the concepts of motivation inspiration empowerment and teamwork helpful as these themes might be they miss something more fundamental leadership needs a theological foundation that will be useful for shaping the undergirding principles and evaluating current leadership theories and practices we need to view leadership from the vantage point of god in rooted leadership john e johnson explores how christian theology provides an overarching leadership framework and applies that theory to leadership practices spiritual reflection guided by scripture points us to the very center of leadership god and the purpose of leadership that we might display his glory all the best forms of leading take their cues from who god is his purposes and his ways of working with people that he has progressively revealed building on three decades of research study and experience as a global leader johnson surveys the landscape of contemporary leadership theory unpacks the assumptions and beliefs that underly current trends and responds by offering a robust approach to leadership founded on the character work and words of god

this sound and practical manual surveys the nature of christian leadership definitions are given plus biblical examples three areas are detailed the leader s character competence and commitment to their people over 50 pages with bibliography excellent primer for pastors administrators students parents anyone in any arena of leadership

the world is obsessed with leaders identifying them training them becoming them even in the church this preoccupation is all too apparent jesus however is not interested in developing leaders rather he is interested in the formation of servants in this powerful reflection on leadership and servanthood dr hwa yung addresses the overemphasis on leadership development within the church challenging a culture of hubris ambition and self seeking he reminds us that ministry is not a call to position and power but to service and obedience he draws us back to the example of christ who came as a servant of god and of his kingdom who lived in submission to the father and who rooted himself in his identity as the incarnate son of god linking spiritual authority to these three characteristics hwa yung offers examples from both scripture and church history to demonstrate that it is in fact the faithful practice of servanthood that leads to leadership impact

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