**Godly Leadership Workshop Make Up**

There are 2 parts to this workshop. Each is formatted as a conversation to have between your student and a parent or adult family member. Both should sign the bottom of each conversation when they are completed and the forms should be turned in to Kelsey by May 31st.

**Part 1 - Leaders are Servants**

* What makes someone a leader? Traits/characteristics? Actions?
* What’s the difference between a bad leader and a great leader?
* Where do you see yourself as a leader? (Home, sports, school, scouts, etc.)
* Read the following together:
  + **There are two kinds of leaders: those who lead because they want servants and those who lead because they want to be servants.** The first type delegates all the work to their team and does nothing to help or equip them for success. They’re the managers at work who go home early while their employees stay late for a deadline. They’re the class presidents who dictate and team captains that assign sprints they don’t run themselves. They’re the drill instructors who watch from the shade while everyone else stands in formation, sweating in the hot sun.
  + Where do these selfish leaders come from? Only a few years ago, they were right where their followers are. **They had a bad leader who slacked off while their team did the hard work, and now that they’re in charge, it’s their turn to relax.** They see leadership as their reward for years of hard work. They say things like, “I had to suffer when I was new. Why should you get off easy?” Or “I put in my time and earned this spot.” This kind of leadership may sound fair, but it’s not what’s best for the team.
  + **The second kind of leader looks for every opportunity to serve their teams.** They listen to their team’s feedback and find ways to equip them. If the goal is excellence, which team is better: ill-equipped, bitter workers or well-prepared, cared-for workers? The only difference between these two groups is the leadership. Servant leaders put the team first. They communicate with their teams, give their teams credit when it’s due, and make sure their teams have everything they need to do their jobs well
* Have you known any leaders who took advantage of their position instead of using it to serve their team? Describe that experience.
* How has a leader used their position to serve you?
* What are some ways your team (or the people you influence) needs to be served?
* When are you tempted to take advantage of your current leadership position instead of serving your team?
* Read the following together:
  + **David had a tough road to become king**. Even after God’s prophet, Samuel, anointed David as the new king, he didn’t have it easy. David had to defeat the Philistine giant, Goliath, to save the Israelite army. He then became an army commander and fought many battles to gain prestige among the people. Saul, the king before David, grew jealous and tried to kill him on multiple occasions. This forced David to spend years on the run, hiding in the wilderness from Saul and his soldiers. Only after Saul and his son died could David finally become the king of Israel as he’d been promised.
  + For the most part, David was a great king. **But eventually he started embracing the perks of kingship instead of ruling as a servant leader**. As you’ll read in the following passage, he stopped leading his army into battle—after all, he’d been a commander for years! Hadn’t he earned the right to relax in his palace while his men fought and died? He also took many wives (even though God’s law told him not to), but that wasn’t enough for him. When he saw the wife of Uriah, one of his best soldiers fighting his war, he wanted her for himself.
  + **Uriah, on the other hand, doesn’t see his position as an opportunity to be comfortable while his men are still fighting**. As you read this passage, compare the leadership of David and Uriah. Who shows the better leadership?
* **Read 2 Samuel 11:1-11**
  + Why do you think David made such terrible leadership decisions after his long road to the throne?
  + How did Uriah’s response to David show that he was a servant leader?
  + Why do you think being a servant so important to God?
  + What can you do this week to better serve the people you lead? How can you avoid taking advantage of your leadership position?
    - **Be specific:**
      * What are you going to do?
      * When are you going to do it?
      * Is there someone who can keep you accountable?

**PARENT NOTE:** Uriah wasn’t just an average soldier in David’s army. He was one of David’s “mighty warriors,” 37 of his best soldiers who fought side-by-side with him in many battles (2 Sam. 23:39). This means Uriah was probably one of the top leaders in David’s army. But Uriah’s good leadership doesn’t exactly end well for him. When Uriah’s good leadership keeps David from covering up his adultery, David has him killed on the front lines. With Uriah out of the way, David thought he was in the clear! But God saw what David had done. Because of David’s actions, God told him, “Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity on you,” and “the son born to you will die” (2 Sam. 12:11, 14). David’s bad leadership was emulated by his children, and his own sons tried to steal the kingdom from him, dying in the process.

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**Part 2 - Leaders Take Risks**

* What are the last five risks you took? List them out.
* Was it hard to think of five? Why or why not?
* Read the following together:
  + Joshua had to decide whether or not to follow God into enemy territory, full of violent armies and with tens of thousands of people following his lead.
  + Can you imagine the pressure? The knot in his stomach and the sleepless nights? Even Moses wasn’t allowed to lead God’s people where Joshua was about to take them. That would be like subbing in for Lebron James after an injury. This moment would define Joshua’s story and legacy. Would he be the kind of leader who took the necessary risk, or would he analyze the odds, play it safe, and go back to wandering around in the desert until someone else took the lead. You can probably guess which path Joshua chose—there’s a reason parents still name their kids after him.
  + Leadership changes things, and behind every great change, a great risk was taken. You would be hard pressed to name any important change in the world that didn’t start when a leader took a risk. That doesn’t mean you should take ridiculous, selfish, or unnecessary risks. But risks that are selfless, necessary, and obedient to God can create great changes. That’s the type of risk Joshua faced.
* **Read Joshua 1:1-9**
  + What is God trying to teach Joshua? Why?
  + What risks does God ask us to take as Christ-followers? Make a list. Try to include risks that you should take on a daily basis.
  + How did Joshua know this risk was worth taking?
  + What other risks did Joshua take before he got to this one?

**PARENT’S NOTE:** Joshua started taking risks at a young age. He and Caleb were sent with a group of scouts into the Promised Land. When the group returned, they were the only two who believed the nation of Israel could live there. After that he began a pretty intense mentor relationship with Moses, faithfully obeying in the daily grind of following God and leading people. In the passage your students just read, Joshua faced his greatest great risk after years of obediently risking for God in small(er) ways. Many of your students don’t obey God in their daily risks and challenges because they’re only willing to take risks with huge (and often selfish) rewards. That’s like a gymnast refusing to stick a landing in practice until she had to do it in the Olympics. But it’s practically impossible to succeed in those crucial moments without past discipline. God asks us to risk a lot when we follow him. Jesus tells each of us to “take up your cross.” But if we shy away from the daily risks, we’ll never be ready for the bigger risks.

* What holds you back from taking risks?
* What leadership risks do you need to take over the next month? (Your answers don’t have to be limited to a formal leadership position; they could be from any area in your life where you have influence.)
* As a leader, how can you decide if a risk is worth taking?
* What kinds of risks do you need to take in the coming weeks as a leader?

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