



From *Jackie Waters-Dewhurst*, Diocesan Director of Education –

Mark 9:35

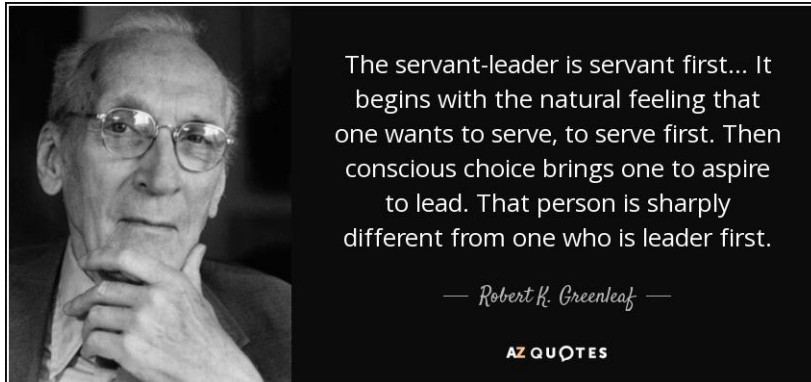
Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, “Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the **servant** of all.”

Well a week changes everything – or at least some pretty major things! Following all of the news on the American election I was called again and again to think about leadership and leadership roles and qualities.

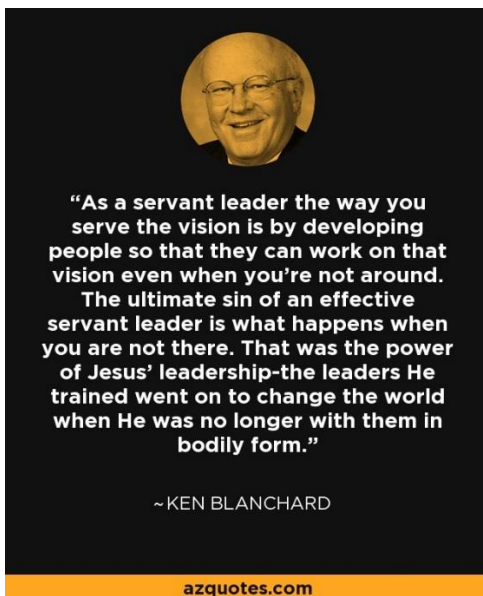
- What qualities do we need to be good leaders?
- What is our responsibility to be positive role models within our communities?
- What are the consequences of poor leadership models?
- How do we counteract such models?
- Do our children and our communities see the values and visions that are on our walls and in our documents in our own leadership?
- Do we demand enough of our own leaders – in our schools, our politics both local and national?

There are libraries full of books on effective leadership – many of them on our own bookshelves and we can get lost in management theories and 10 step programmes to successful leadership. I won't add to that here.

Just to say that the Christian message on a good leader is all about using Jesus's example and following that. Servant leadership is now held up as another theory (which according Robert Greenleaf has been around since the 60s. Greenleaf first presented the theory in a 1970 essay, "The Servant as Leader.")



We know however that the theory of servant leader has been around a whole lot longer than that – it is a biblical theory lived out in the New Testament by Jesus. It means leading for the purpose of benefitting others – it means an emphasis on serving. It meets needs and empowers others. It is generous and forgiving but keeps at its heart the job that needs doing. It builds legacies that enable the work to continue even when the leader is not there (think of our children who carry on with the values that we have taught them even when they have left us, or the staff that move on to other schools with the sure foundations we have provided them with).



Leadership in schools is tough at the moment – sometimes unbearably so – but I know that those who lead our church schools – you – can rest on the knowledge that you are changing the world – child by child – that your leadership, based as it is on those Christian values at the heart of all our schools –

will mean that another generation of children and young people will know what it is to be part of a community of justice and love and equality and will be able to replicate that in their future communities.

I also know that you are not alone in this – not only do you have the support of the diocesan education team and the local authority but you have a God that you can turn to, who knows your difficulties and your delights and who cares for both you and for those you lead.

Thank you for all that you do – as ever you are in our prayers.

God bless,

Jackie

Resources/News from the Team

Reflection

Our EDO Lynsey Norris continues her series of reflections – these can be found [here](#), and attached to this email.

Prayer & Reflection Videos

We continue our series of prayer videos – with an instalment from the Revd Matt Rodgers, curate from St Swithins, Lincoln.

These can be found [here](#).

Case Studies for Remote Learning

Please find attached to this email – a file of case studies regarding remote learning compiled by Paul Thompson, our Deputy Diocesan Director of Education.

The Google links within – these require that you have and are signed into a Google account to access them. Any difficulties – please email Ellen at ellen.cross@lincoln.anglican.org