

Curriculum



SAMPLE

Leadership by the Good Book: A study of the scriptures

Serve
Love
Imagine
Invest
Risk
Trust
Share
Values
Grow
Stewardship

A sample lesson from the volume begins on the following page.



LEARN: Overview

Biblical Business Training (“BBT”) equips people to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ and empowers leaders in a small-group Bible study setting to apply Biblical principles at work. Our mission is [Faith for Work](#) – and our vision is [Leadership for Life!](#)

To find out more, visit www.B-B-T.org.



Curriculum: The BBT 1-2-3™ Format

BBT curriculum is rooted in Scripture and applicable the day you study it. The *BBT 1-2-3™* format enables the group to have a consistent Biblical basis for discussion.



Agenda – Introduces applicable Biblical principles



Group Leader Guide – Facilitates discussion and allows for shared leadership



Recap – Encourages community and application



LIVE: Sample of Leadership by the Good Book: A study of the scriptures

This [BBT](#) volume of curriculum, inspired by David L. Steward and Brandon K. Mann’s book, *Leadership by the Good Book*, is designed to inspire, equip, and empower you to have an eternal impact.

1. **Serve**
2. **Love**
3. **Imagine**
4. **Invest**
5. **Risk**
6. **Trust**
7. **Share**
8. **Values**
9. **Grow**
10. **Stewardship**

While the book is not necessary to use with the study, we encourage BBT users to purchase the book [here](#).



LEAD: Start a small-group Bible study

Start leading today! [Learn more.](#)



PRAYERS



LEARN

Source

He sat there in the dark with his head in his hands. He could hear the wind and the rain echoing outside while the voices of his friends and family echoed in his head. “Leadership is lonely, and you don’t have any experience.” “Business is hard, and nobody will be looking over your shoulder to approve or disapprove your decisions.” “David, why would you walk away from a high-paying job?” “You don’t know anything about leading others?” Then the phone rang, startling him out of his darkness. David was expecting it to be a bill collector but instead, the sweet voice on the other end reminded him of [Psalm 91](#) – that God’s power deep inside of him would guide him to overcome. David realized that putting God first defined his purpose as well as his mission and gave him a different perspective. He understood that his relationship with God determined how he would lead others – with a servant’s heart.

Serving others wasn’t just a business strategy David adopted; it was a fundamental principle of human relationships and a command from his creator (See [Matthew 22:36-40](#)). He didn’t want to be the kind of leader that compromised his integrity, compartmentalizing life, and forgetting to implement during the week what he claimed to believe on Sunday.

Pyramid Flip

Leadership fueled by serving those around you gets better long-term results, produces greater success for more people, and offers a less stressful work environment. There is a certain level of trust that comes with serving others well, and it also brings great joy as we live out the words of Jesus, who said, “Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant.” ([Matthew 20:26](#) and [Mark 10:43](#))



LIVE

Discussion questions: Read the text and scriptures below, and prepare to answer the questions.

1. Read [Mark 10:43-45](#). How is this a different perspective than what you do or see at work?
2. Read [Hebrews 11:1](#) and [Proverbs 29:18](#). What is the foundation upon which you make decisions?
3. Read [1 Peter 5:1-3](#). Are you naturally leading by serving those around you?
4. Read [Hebrews 13:15-16](#). When have you sacrificed something for someone with whom you work, and what did you notice?
5. Read [1 Peter 4:10](#). What gifts do you utilize to serve others?

Application Question: How will you remind yourself this week to truly see the needs of others around you and intentionally invest in serving them?



PRAYERS

Prayer Requests & Closing Prayer



PRAYERS

Opening Prayer & Prayer Requests



LEARN

Before you begin, read the AGENDA LEARN introduction together and review the APPLICATION QUESTION from the previous meeting's RECAP.



LIVE

Discussion Questions: Have someone read each Bible verse aloud and then ask the corresponding question. Be sure everyone has enough time to find the Scripture before the verse is read.

1) Read [Mark 10:43-45](#). How is this a different perspective than what you do or see at work?



When you serve the eternal, not the urgent, your purpose, as well as your mission, motivation, and management of others, is different than the world's.



Jesus did not come to be served, but to serve. Servant leadership, like Jesus modeled, is transformational. Whether in the workplace or the marketplace, talking to a barista or the board of directors, when we seek to serve them, we are representing God. Flawed though we are, living out Biblical principles is still applicable today.



Facilitate a brief discussion. You might ask, "How might these verses inform and influence your daily work?"

Notes:

2) Read [Hebrews 11:1](#) and [Proverbs 29:18](#). What is the foundation upon which you make decisions?



Looking beyond the logical, the tangible, and the safe choices allows you to step out in faith.



The lens through which we see the world is influenced by our upbringing, culture, unique experiences, and those around us. It is important to see beyond the circumstances and realize that God has a plan for us (see more in [Jeremiah 29:11](#)). It is foundational to seek His wisdom and have faith in Him as the desires of our hearts are realized.



Facilitate a brief discussion. You might ask, "Share about a time when those close to you questioned a decision you made. In hindsight, what led you to the decision?"

Notes:



3) Read [1 Peter 5:1-3](#). Are you naturally leading by serving those around you?



Leadership is not about your job title, personality, or position. It is about your character.



Serving the person and not the product is how Christ modeled leadership. Even when circumstances try to fragment our lives and tempt us to compromise and compartmentalize our faith, He calls us to remain integrity-filled, keeping our character consistent with His. Christ was willing to serve us, knowing it would cost His life (see [John 10:11](#)).

Notes:

4) Read [Hebrews 13:15-16](#). When have you sacrificed something for someone with whom you work, and what did you notice?



When you serve the relationship, not the return, you will still gain from the investment, “for with such sacrifices God is pleased” (v. 16).



In our hectic, hustle-and-bustle world, we often don’t see the needs of others because we have become accustomed to ignoring them, focusing instead on our agendas. Investing in relationships requires intention. If we make an effort to build relationships, the workplace becomes a community of people who not only work together but care about one another’s lives outside of work.



Ask each person to think of one relationship at work into which they will intentionally invest without a motive for personal gain. Have them write the name of the person somewhere they will see it regularly. Check-in with each other and ask if the investment is making a difference in some way.

Notes:

5) Read [1 Peter 4:10](#). What gifts do you utilize to serve others?



Regardless of how busy you are in building your career, you should utilize your God-given skills to serve the needs of others.



Giving is something we can all do, regardless of our season of life or stage of our career. There are always opportunities to serve those in need – at work, in our neighborhoods, communities, churches, and schools. The contribution can be monetary if your gifts allow you abundance, but we can also give our time and talent.



Reflect on this, “From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.” [Luke 12:48b](#)

Notes:



Application Question: How will you remind yourself this week to truly see the needs of others around you and intentionally invest in serving them?



PRAYERS

Prayer Requests & Closing Prayer



LEAD

Ask Yourself: Where do I most lose sight of serving God and others – is it when I am focused on the urgent, the product, my agenda, or something else?



PRAYERS

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ROADMAP

This [BBT](#) volume of curriculum, inspired by David L. Steward and Brandon K. Mann's book, *Leadership by the Good Book*, is designed to inspire, equip, and empower you to have an eternal impact. This lesson reveals the nature of God's character and reveals ways you can be a servant leader.



LEARN

In Mark's Gospel, Jesus calls his followers to a different path of finding greatness through serving others. 1 Peter tells Christians to be like a shepherd, caring for others out of love rather than duty or gain. The author of Hebrews reminds his readers that God will be pleased not with how much they accumulate, but with how much they do for others.

Consider [Christ Plus Nothing, a study in Galatians](#) that reveals five lenses through which we distort the gospel of Jesus Christ, for our own sake.

Scripture References for this study: [Mark 10:43-45](#), [Hebrews 11:1](#), [Proverbs 29:18](#), [1 Peter 5:1-3](#), [Hebrews 13:15-16](#), [1 Peter 4:10](#), [Matthew 20:26](#), [Jeremiah 29:11](#), [John 10:11](#), and [Luke 12:48b](#)



LIVE

- Serve the eternal, not the urgent
- Serve the person, not the product
- Serve the relationship, not the ROI

Application Question: How will you remind yourself this week to truly see the needs of others around you and intentionally invest in serving them?



LEAD

Ask Yourself: Where do I most lose sight of serving God and others – is it when I am focused on the urgent, the product, my agenda, or something else?