



Bringing Christ to the Imprisoned

Name: _____

Date: _____

Christian Leadership

How to positively influence the attitudes and actions of others for Jesus Christ

Lesson 8: Part One

Lesson 8 (Part One): Active Leadership Mission (Week One) Doing for the Least of These

Your leadership is a way of life. You are to be conscious of your position in God’s Kingdom day by day. You are a leader in God’s army and are serving King Jesus.

"The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.' Matthew 25:40

Read Matthew 25:40. Your mission this week is to pray and ask Jesus for opportunities to serve him by helping others. After helping someone, look for ways to give Jesus the credit for your good work. For example, when someone thanks you for a particular action, you might respond like this: “Ordinarily, I wouldn’t be this kind (or name the deed you have done) but Jesus enables me to care for others.” Use your own way of saying things but give God the glory.

For the next seven days, whatever you do, pray silently “I do this for you, Jesus.” Keep the daily log below to write at least one of your daily actions for Jesus. If space allows, comment on both the joys and difficulties in serving the King through helping others. If your current position does not give you much contact with other people, consider writing a letter or calling *one of the least of these*. Be creative. The Holy Spirit will help you.

Day 1: _____

Day 2: _____

Lesson 8 Pt. 1

Day 3: _____

Day 4: _____

Day 5: _____

Day 6: _____

Day 7: _____

What was one response that you received from your loving answer in acknowledging Christ as the reason for your good deed? _____

Lesson 8 (Part One): Active Leadership Mission (Week Two) Every Thought Captive

But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man 'unclean.'
¹⁹ *For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.* Matthew 15:18-19

We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.^{NIV} 2 Corinthians 10:5

Lesson 8 Pt. 1

Read Matthew 15:18-19 and 2 Corinthians 10:5. Although we started with actions and deeds, the thoughts and attitudes of a Christian leader are of utmost importance. In exactly the same way that you do your good deeds for Jesus, you also need to have holy motives for your King.

For the next seven days offer your thoughts to Jesus. Each time you have a wrong desire or thought, make a decision to think good thoughts. Pray, "I think this for you, Jesus."

Hint: Thoughts are difficult to manage. Nevertheless, just like we learn to control our bodies at a young age, we can also learn to control our minds. In addition to making the decision to have pure thoughts, pray for help from the Holy Spirit. Read the Bible. Make index cards with Bible verses that you can carry in your pocket or purse. When you are struggling, pull out those cards and read the scripture verses. Filling your mind with God's promises or verses that are meaningful to you will help greatly.

Write in the daily log below how you were able to discipline your mind and take every thought obedient to Christ. If space, share joys and struggles of taming your mind.

Day 1: _____

Day 2: _____

Day 3: _____

Day 4: _____

Day 5: _____

Lesson 8 Pt. 1

Day 6: _____

Day 7: _____

How did your thinking change this week? _____

Next: Lesson 8 - Part Two: Active Leadership Mission