

LEADERSHIP: DIFFERENT & SERVANT-LIKE

Reader Reviews



In reading this book I was reminded of a saying about golf. Golf is an easy game....It's just hard to play. I think the same could be said about leadership. While it seems like an easy concept....it sure is hard to execute on. Verna and Bruce have taken a very practical approach to helping us with the difficult challenge of executing a leadership model that challenges our traditional paradigms of what works best. While Servant-leadership may feel “unnatural”, there is lots of evidence to suggest it yields more effective results. Highly provocative and worth the read!

Nick DiRenzo, FCPA, FCA, ICD.D

The world today has a plethora of very talented and well-educated individuals who exemplify poor-at best and destructive-at worst-leadership. Bruce and Verna have written on leadership from a “practitioner” basis. Usually this means slapping together a few verses on commonly held leadership principles-absolutely not so in this work! Their call for genuine Servant-leadership is the antidote for what is often delaying or destroying the Kingdom mission we are called to pursue. Practical to the core but piercingly direct in speaking to the centre of leadership: our heart.

Jeff Anderson, DMIN. Former President Evangelical Covenant Church of Canada

“Here is perceptive insight into why there is a general disillusionment and distrust with much of present day leadership. But beyond just exposing the misuse of power and the abysmal failure of many in leadership today, this book also gives the reader hope by presenting an alternative style of leadership, using great examples from the annals of history and through the lens of Scripture. Refreshingly clear concepts - that could revolutionize leadership today.

Barb Hauser. Victoria BC

“If you want to read and study a motivational and encouraging leadership book with lessons from scripture and practical and personal applications, this is a book to include in your library. A well diagramed framework illustrates and contrasts the two leader types as identified by Jesus. Experienced leaders and leaders who are beginning to lead, or feeling led to lead, will be guided by the real-life experiences of Bruce and Verna.

Dr. Henry Schorr. Sr. Pastor, Centre Street Church. Calgary, Alberta. Canada.

Excellent! Insightful and practical. A MUST read for all. Regardless of whether you are paid to lead or volunteer and lead, this book is for you.

Wendy L. Calgary

The authors bring a lifetime of high-level education and experience in the corporate (C-suite), entrepreneurial initiative and, Christian leadership worlds to this much-needed subject. The “different” they identify is not just optics or wordsmithing – it is fundamental, compelling, and speaks to the core. The effect is radical – 180 degrees out of phase with assumptions of power and authority in the real world.

Dr. Ed Kroeger, PhD. Chair, CHSRF. University of Manitoba

We live in a world where most of us are enamoured and puzzled by the topic of leadership. Enamoured because of its appeal and popularity but puzzled by the seeming absence of what we would call wise and authentic leadership.

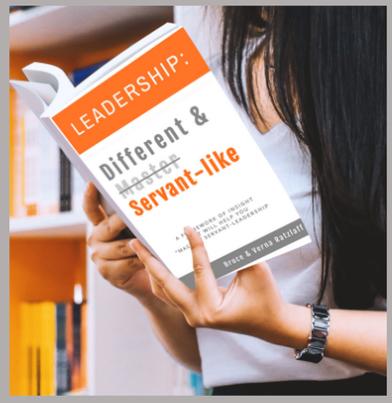
LEADERSHIP: Different and Master Servant-like is a shaft of light on a way of being and doing in the realworld leadership that is rooted in the greatest source literature on leadership in the world: the sacred scriptures. Bruce and Verna have done well to honour the sacred text while also inviting us into a practical adventure of answering the call to lead both different and servant-like.

Terry C. Young, PhD. Associate Professor and Chair of Master of Arts in Leadership, Ambrose University. Calgary, Alberta.

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I absolutely LOVED this book. It resonated with me in so many ways on a personal and professional level. It TRULY spoke to my HEART. I have no doubt that this content will be valuable to many people. As I read through your book, I could relate to so many things about me, my leadership, my career, my family, my spirituality, and more. Thank you for allowing God to speak through you to me!

Ginger R. Business Leader, Consultant.

“Bruce and Verna Ratzlaff are mature believers who have served at the highest levels of Christian leadership. From their lifetime of serving the church, they have gained great discernment about what separates Servant-leaders from others. The Lord Jesus led as a servant while obeying the mission from His Father. He made the biggest sacrifices, took the biggest risks, and accepted the scars of serving in leadership. This book is a clear call to follow Christ’s example. I am thankful for this book and recommend it to you highly.

Dr. Kevin Schular. Executive Director, Baptist General Conference of Canada, President, Canadian Baptist Seminary.

As someone who felt he had to force himself to become a top-down, lording over leader, I want to emphasize that this book has been healing for me to read. I felt that those leaders were always more valuable in getting things done. I have carried that feeling for years, and it’s wonderful to know the Bible basis for leadership emphasized and placed front and centre. It’s a healing book for me. Glad you shared it with me.

Jeremy B. Non-profit chief exec.

It was an absolute pleasure reading this book. It’s so applicable to everyone, even myself. I left my former corporate job because my boss was the textbook definition of a Master-leader, and in turn I found myself being pressured by her to enact the same style of leadership. In the end, I had to leave because I couldn’t be the leader/employee I wanted to be while working under her. There was SO much relevant information in this book that made me really stop to think. It also gave me good advice for approaching those types of situations in the future. So, thank you for this real, relevant, practical approach to leadership.

Kyla S. Marketing Specialist, Business Leader, Editor, Consultant

The two leader types as described by Jesus and the way you develop this biblical narrative with many references is obviously the heart of your book. All I can say on this is GREAT! The connection you make between the concept and role of a servant and the existence of a Master is helpful and thoughtful. In my experience of reading about and studying Servant-leadership, I am not sure that I have ever seen this treated and developed so clearly. You are on to a very important concept here and one which, I suspect, many have not considered carefully.

Gerald F. PhD, Former Seminary Professor, Pastor

I just finished your book and want you to know I could not put it down. I very much enjoyed it. It was food for my soul. This makes so much sense and I am excited to put these concepts more fully into practice in the “leadership roles” I have been entrusted with. This book is not another namby-pamby discussion about why we as Christians should be submissive to those we are leading and do all that we can to help them be successful. Instead, it is a biblically based and backed up book, that takes examples of bold leaders who led the people around them AND, how "serving" really works. I have read a lot of books in my life. LEADERSHIP: Different and Servant-like is as good or better than the majority of non-fiction books I have ever read.

Alex L. Professional Engineer-designer, Sr. Business Leader

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