



EASY TO FOLLOW

5 CHARACTERISTICS OF EMPOWERING LEADERS

THEY ARE HUMBLE. Only a selfless leader would consider developing those around them to such a degree that one day they may surpass that leader. In John 14:12, Jesus encourages his disciples by saying that one day they will do greater works than him.

THEY ARE AVAILABLE. It takes time and lots of conversations to truly empower others. Jesus was with his disciples almost nonstop for three years. An empowering leader is available for the critical questions and conversations that grow others.

THEY ARE TRANSPARENT. An empowering leader must be willing to become vulnerable and real with their followers. For a person to become truly skilled, they must understand not only what to do but also the cost and commitment required. Jesus showed his disciples his strength in the miracles he performed, but he also showed his hurts and his disappointments. His disciples knew the work that was ahead of them because Jesus was transparent as he trained them.

THEY ARE PATIENT. Developing skills in others can be a time-intensive, sometimes frustrating process. Jesus often had to explain parables or bring additional clarity to his teaching. He did this with empathy and grace. Even in his restoration of Peter, one of Jesus' closest friends, we see Jesus teaching, refining, and preparing him for the empowerment that was about to come.

THEY ARE COURAGEOUS. The risk of failure is always present when a leader trusts others through the act of empowerment. In my own leadership journey, I often have to challenge my own fear of failure, reminding myself that the leaders who shaped me trusted me, even if my initial results were subpar. Courageous leaders trust the process but also trust that God will walk alongside those they empower.