LEADERSHIP LESSON 8: O BROTHER, WHERE ART THOU?  
(CARING FOR FOLKS IN TIMES OF CELEBRATION AND CRISIS)  
OUTLINE BY STEVE LAYTON


By definition, Sunday School is the foundational strategy in a local church for leading people to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and for building on mission Christians. Throughout God’s Word we discover on mission Christians (believers) caring for (ministering to) one another.

I. Jesus is our model for ministry and He called the saved to serve. When one considers God’s call on all believers, one discovers…
   a. Calls from God are not issued at random, but each person is specifically chosen and called by God for His purpose
   b. God equips those who He calls
   c. In calling a person to service, God desires the person, not just what the person can do
   d. Before a person can do what God wants him to do, he must be what God wants him to be
   e. God has expectations of those He calls including faithfulness, obedience, sacrifice, service, influence, and commitment
   f. Consistent communication with God is critical to effectiveness in living out one’s calling from God

II. Jesus is our model for ministry and He demonstrated service (ministry) to others. From John 13:1-20 we learn that Christlike leaders…
   a. are motivated by love to serve others
   b. initiate servant ministry to others
   c. receive servant ministry from others
   d. teach servant ministry by their example
   e. live a blessed life by serving others
   f. understand that they are advancing the kingdom of God when they serve others

Question: When Jesus ministered to people, how did they respond? How do people respond when we minister to them personally? Do people respond differently when we minister to them as a small group?

III. Basic Caring (Ministry) Skills
   a. Be authentic (Genuine)
   b. Be available
   c. Be confidential
   d. Be calm
   e. Be impartial
   f. Manage your own feelings
   g. Avoid excessive advice
   h. Stick to specifics
   i. Listen noncritically
   j. Make the other person’s needs primary
Create a list of ministry opportunities to families in times of celebration and crisis. (Record on tear sheets)

Group up: Share with the group other specific ministry opportunities to families as practiced by your small group.

How is your small group organized for ministry?

Read Matthew 22:36-39
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I. Jesus is our model for ministry and He ______ the _______ to _______.
   When one considers God’s call on ____ believers, one discovers…
   a. Calls from God are not issued at random, but each person is ____________
      ______ and called by God for His purpose
   b. God ________ those who He calls
   c. In calling a person to service, God desires the person, not just what the person
      ______ ______
   d. Before a person can _____ what God wants him to do, he must _____ what
      God wants him to be
   e. God has ______________ of those He calls including faithfulness, obedience,
      sacrifice, service, influence, and commitment
   f. Consistent _____________ with God is critical to effectiveness in living out
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   b.
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