
Winter 2025

DR. PATRICIA FELTON

BECAUSE YOU
ANSWERED THE
CALL



The Heart and Purpose of A Christian Leader

Opening Reflection: “Why You Lead”

Every Christian leader is called for a purpose far greater than position or power. Christian Leadership, at its core, is purpose wrapped in service. It's the divine assignment God entrusts to those willing to say, “Here I am, Lord, send me.” However, when I started my Leadership journey, I did not say, “Here I am, Lord, send me.” I really did not want to be a leader. All the examples of leadership I had experienced were negative behaviors. Those who were leaders were manipulative and liars. So, I said, “I can't be a leader because I am not a liar nor do I know how to manipulate people. Not, fully understanding the Holy Spirit... I heard a voice say “ you don't have to be like those leaders, just be yourself.” With that wisdom I accepted my first leadership role at 28 years old, managing three shifts and over thirty staff members, most older than I.

In The Heart of a Christian Leader, we explored how true leadership begins not with authority, but with humility and compassion. Today, we go one step deeper—discovering how purpose fuels the heart of every leader who serves. *“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve.”*

— *Mark 10:45*. Jesus understood His purpose. His ministry was not defined by applause, but by obedience. Likewise, your leadership journey isn't about reaching a title—it's about fulfilling the purpose God designed for you before you were even born.

Purpose and the Heart of Leadership

Purpose gives direction. Without purpose, leadership drifts. But when your heart is aligned with God's will, every act of service—no matter how small—carries eternal value.

Purpose refines motives.

When we lead from purpose, our focus shifts from what we want to what God wants through us. Servant leaders don't ask, "What do I get from this?" but "Who can I bless through this?" As a novice leader, I saw the impact that I could make on the people I lead by listening and learning from them. I learned that I was the one to speak up for them, when they could not. I was servicing them, so they could serve others.

Purpose sustains passion.

Challenges will come. But knowing your "why" keeps you grounded when storms rise. Like the bamboo in our podcast story, bending in humility allows you to stand strong after the storm.

Reflection Corner

This week, ask yourself:

1. How does your sense of purpose influence the way you lead?
2. Are you leading from a place of power—or from a place of calling?
3. What has God placed in your hands today that aligns with your divine purpose?

Take a few minutes to write a journal entry and pray over your answers. Remember, purpose isn't found in busyness; it's revealed through obedience.

Books to Read:

1. Warren, R. (2012). *The purpose driven life: What on earth am I here for?* Zondervan. (Original work published 2002).
2. Hyacinth, B. T. (2017). *Purpose driven leadership: Building and fostering effective teams.* MBA Caribbean Organization Ltd.

Prayer for the Week

"Father, thank You for giving me purpose beyond position. Teach me to lead with a heart that listens, serves, and reflects Your will. May I never lose sight of the reason You called me—to love, to serve, and to build Your kingdom. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Scripture Focus

Philippians 2:5 (NIV)

"In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus."

