SERVANT LEADERSHIP TOOLKIT

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Better Leaders. Better World.

What is servant leadership?

Rela defines servant leadership as a style in which the leader balances the interest of others and self while relentlessly pursuing a win for all stakeholders. These leaders seek to enrich lives, build better organizations and are inspired to care for each other

Is servant leadership a philosophy or a practice?

Both. Servant leadership requires a new way of thinking and being which translate into new ways of acting.

Isn't servant leadership for religious people?

No. Anyone can choose to adopt servant leadership in their life. The choice to apply religious or spiritual emphasis is an individual one. "The great leader is seen as servant first, and that simple fact is the key to such greatness."

Robert Greenleaf, Founder of Modern Servant Leadership Movement

I don't like the term servant leadership.

You're not alone! Servant leadership shows up everywhere just with different names. It matters less what you call it and more that you do it.

What are words that describe servant leadership?

PERSUASION Credibility Communication STEWARDSHIP S | O N Visibility & Appreciation of others VISION Visibility Trust MODELING S
PIONEERING S
ENCOURAGEMENT Teaching
Empowerment "Leadership is first a matter of the heart. Whenever we have an opportunity or responsibility to influence the thinking, behavior, or development of others, the first choice we are called to make is whether to see the moment through the eyes of self-interest or for the benefit of those we are leading."

Ken Blanchard, The Servant Leader

I'm afraid servant leadership will cause my profits to suffer.

Actually, according to FirmsofEndearment.com, companies who embrace the principles found in servant leadership, out perform the S&P 500 by 14 times!

What if my company doesn't embrace servant leadership?

You still have choices. Regardless of the leadership style of your company, boss or co-workers, you can make a choice to show up as a servant leader (and we can help you!) So, servant leadership means I have to meet everyone's wants and needs?

Not at all. A servant leader focuses on others but the purpose of this focus is the other person's best interest. David Foster Wallace puts it this way:

"In other words, a real leader is somebody who can help us overcome the limitations of our own individual laziness and selfishness and weakness and fear and get us to do better things than we can get ourselves to do on our own."

If I were to boil servant leadership down to one concept, what would it be?

Everybody wins. The servant leader makes decisions with all stakeholders in mind (including self) and works towards the greatest good for the greatest number of people whenever possible.



Rela is a nonprofit leadership development organization, working to create a better world through servant leadership.
We partner with individuals, teams and organizations to provide best-in-class servant leadership training and experiences.

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