

“You are the PRESIDENT!”

Eight ways that you live out your call to serve in the leadership style of Jesus.

"I know God won't give me anything I can't handle. I just wish He didn't trust me so much."

#1. After being chosen, elected and installed as President of your Council, you begin your term of office knowing that you have the approval and acceptance of your pastor, your spiritual advisor and your membership!

You follow in the leadership style of Jesus and live out your Presidency as a true Servant Leader. You listen more than you speak and believe that you are “first among equals”---you do not consider yourself above anyone on your Board.

"The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway."

#2. Instantly, you realize that you are the face and the voice of the Council of Catholic Women in your corner of the world.

You became the “go to” person in your parish or diocese...every question about Council, every request for Council’s help or participation, every event and meeting day has your name as the contact person and your stamp of approval on it.

As a servant leader, you challenge yourself. You find new routines; you climb new mountains. You find new direction and new possibilities recognizing that the possibilities are boundless.

"I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things."

#3. You choose the women for your team (board) carefully, matching their gifts with the task at hand---setting them up for success. You share your vision and connect your chairmen with all levels of Council. You realize the importance of building strong relationships, and you believe that working together, everyone achieves more.

Servant leaders are team builders. You enhance the problem solving skills of others while teaching and cultivating, helping them to become leaders themselves. You promote teamwork rather than individual decision making. If the team makes the decision, you know that they will own it, and work towards fulfilling it---whatever it takes!

"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples."

#4. You share the message and mission of the Council of Catholic Women. Your pin, button, scarf are visible signs, your smile is always welcoming, and your message is clear. You are wealth of Council information just waiting to be asked or given the opportunity to share!

Servant leaders aren’t concerned with being popular, making a name for themselves or putting their ego first. Their ability to serve first and empower others into service has far reaching effects in our communities. Sometimes their actions and their consequences are felt far into the future.

"Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness: kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile."

#5. You invite and encourage all Catholic women to join Council: "everyone is welcome!" You are prepared to share the wonderful work your membership accomplishes as you understand well that good communication and PR is absolutely necessary for strengthening and growing your Council. You want women in the group to be recognized for their contributions and outreach. You keep your website, facebook page and newsletter current and interesting.

A servant leader involves others; you don't do it all yourself. You know that if you involve others, they will learn and grow. You develop peer relationships. You are committed to the growth of others and your Council.

"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless."

#6. You express your thanks and appreciation constantly. All members of your board are thanked and praised for their efforts. At every opportunity you remind them that we all stand on the shoulders of those who came before us. Your gratefulness is contagious and magnetic!

A servant leader is humble. You exhibit an attitude of gratitude in every way. You celebrate small victories and every accomplishment---recognizing that your success is never entirely your own.

"Joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls. A joyful heart is the inevitable result of a heart burning with love."

#7. You are a Council Cheerleader! You are a woman of passion---and compassion. You see the potential in women of your parish. You are driven by the sure knowledge that this is what Christ asks of us---and we work for Him.

You inspire others to serve and want to work for and with others. As a servant leader you are empathetic and very aware of what is going on around you. Everything you do strengthens your Council and all those you serve.

"We cannot do great things on this Earth, only small things with great love."

#8. You understand the need for regular, intentional "rest" to renew your spirit so that you can be the best you can be, as a person, as a Christian, as a leader, and as a Council President!

You have a mentor and a prayer partner. You know that your education never ends. You realize the value of rest and you take good care of yourself! Sometimes, you find a way to do it all at once-----like coming here to this beautiful seaside resort for a fabulous NCCW Convention with your Council sisters!!!

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Jane Carter, Mary Matheus, Pat Smuck

All [quotes](#) are from writings and speeches of Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

Servant Leadership material and so much more can be found in the [NCCW G&R Manual](#). Purchase: www.nccw.org