2.2 Discussion:

INSTRUCTIONS

Servant Leadership

**Getting Started**

Competent leaders reflect often on the ways they were led—both the good and bad. They think about leadership approaches that worked to motivate them and also consider which tactics fell short. They then make intentional choices to lead in ways that value people and how they should be treated. They are willing to part ways with approaches that did not work well or devalued people. An effective leader creates his or her own leadership approach and is constantly trying to improve it based on how well it works and how it benefits those they lead.

In this discussion, you will explore the unconventional perspective of servant leadership and how it can be applied in the workplace. Servant leadership focuses primarily on the growth and well-being of the people in the organization and not the exercise of power and authority that is so characteristic of contemporary leadership. The servant-leader shares power with others and sees the needs of others in the organization as a priority. The servant-leader seeks to help the people in the organization develop their skills and perform at their highest level.

**Upon successful completion of this discussion, you will be able to:**

* Explain the characteristics and benefits a servant leadership style.

**Background Information**

Being a servant-leader implies that you not only give generously of your time and energy to those you lead but that you also *model* a servant attitude. This modeling includes the habits you practice, the way you make and invest money, your treatment of others, etc. Some of the specific qualities that characterize a servant-leader include the ability to listen well, the ability to empathize with others, self-awareness, and a commitment to invest in the growth of the people around you. A servant-leader is one who leads by example and believes that character is more important than achievement. Keep these qualities in mind as you approach the discussion this week.

**Instructions**

1. Review the rubric to make sure you understand the criteria for earning your grade.
2. Watch the video, [Ken Blanchard: Servant Leadership*(new tab)*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ctZHSa4Qhd4).

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1. Watch the video, [Alex Lyn: Servant Leadership*(new tab)*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XajxQOh3iqQ).

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1. Read the article: [Healing a Broken Spirit: Role of Servant Leadership*(new tab)*](https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&AuthType=sso&db=bth&AN=123856216&site=eds-live&custid=s8876267&profile=edsocls&scope=site).
2. Using APA format and in-text citations of workshop resources, navigate to the threaded discussion below write a one paragraph response to the following prompts.
	1. How would you describe the concept of servant leadership? Provide 2-3 ideas from the course materials above.
	2. What do you see as the primary difference between traditional leadership and servant leadership?
	3. In what ways is servant leadership an extension of a biblical model of Christ-like living? Be specific. From what you know of the example of Jesus, does being a servant leader always mean being “nice”? Why or why not?
3. Your initial post is due by the end of the fourth day of the workshop.