

THE LEADERSHIP STYLE OF JESUS CHRIST IN THE NEW TESTAMENT AND ITS RELEVANCE FOR AFRICA

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ABSTRACT

The world today needs leaders who meet the physical, spiritual, economic and political needs of the people. This kind of leadership was practiced by Jesus Christ. The New Testament records the life, teachings and service of Jesus Christ the founder of Christianity. His teachings on leadership served as guiding principles to His disciples and even the present-day leaders in the church. Christ's leadership style was characterized by compassion, love and servant-hood. In this paper it is established that an analysis of African leadership styles reveals elements of Christ's leadership style. With the coming of Christianity to Africa, it was easy for Africans to adopt the Christian teachings of servant leadership because that form of leadership was already being practiced. The paper discusses the leadership of Christ, its similarities with African traditional leadership and how relevant that style of leadership is highly needed in Africa today.

KEYWORDS: New Testament Records, African Leadership Styles, McAlphine (1982:6)