**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

Lead Like Jesus – Small Group Discussion Guide

**Opening Prayer**

Lord Jesus, you are our Teacher, our Leader, and the Bread of Life. Shape us into your likeness as we learn from your way of servant leadership. Open our hearts to see where you are calling us to lead like you. Amen.

**Icebreaker**

Who is someone in your life—famous or personal—whose leadership style you admire? What makes their leadership stand out?

**Sermon Recap**

This week’s sermon began our Lead Like Jesus series. We were reminded that everyone influences someone—whether at home, work, school, or church. Jesus flips the world’s leadership model upside down. Instead of ruling with power, he leads with service, humility, and love. He washed his disciples’ feet to show what true leadership looks like. As our “Breadkeeper”, Jesus provides abundantly for us and invites us to mirror his way in how we lead others.

**Key Bible Verses**

* John 13:14–15 – “If I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet.”
* 1 Corinthians 11:1 – “Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.”
* John 14:12 – “The one who believes in me will also do the works that I do—and greater works than these.”

**Key Points**

* We are always leading and being led. The question is what kind of leader will we be?
* Jesus flipped leadership upside down. His example was service, not control.
* Leadership is hard and countercultural. It brings life and love but may face resistance.
* Jesus transforms leaders. Peter, Thomas, and Paul were all reshaped by his way of leadership.

**Key Quotes (from the sermon)**

* “The question in life is not if we are a leader. The question is what kind of leader we want to be.”
* “Jesus never used his leadership to subjugate. He used it only to unite, encourage, welcome, heal, love, and serve.”
* “It is really challenging to lead like Jesus...there will be pushback.”
* “Paul used to rely on his own credentials...but after Jesus, his main message was: ‘Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.’”
* “Jesus, the bread of life, is the kind of Lord and leader who doesn’t hoard what he has, but gives it away lavishly.”

**Discussion Questions**

* How do you see yourself influencing others—at home, at work, or in the world?
* What makes Jesus’ model of leadership different from the world’s?
* Which qualities of Jesus’ leadership do you find most challenging to emulate?
* How has Jesus transformed your own leadership, big or small?
* What would change in your community if leaders truly lived as “Breadkeepers”?

**What’s Next?**

* Reflect this week: Where is God calling me to practice the leadership of Jesus this week?
* Practice one intentional act of servant leadership—washing “feet” in a modern sense.
* Pay attention to leaders in your life (personally or in the world). What characteristics or value-sets to you notice? How are these similar or different to Jesus’ leadership?

**Closing Prayer**

Jesus, Bread of Life and true Leader, thank you for showing us a better way. Teach us to lead like you—with humility, courage, and love. May our lives reflect your leadership for the sake of the world. Amen.