

A Rider's Helping Hand

During the American Revolution, a man in civilian clothes rode past a group of soldiers repairing a small defensive barrier.

Their leader was shouting instructions, but making no attempt to help them.

Asked why by the rider, he retorted with great dignity, "Sir, I am a corporal!"

The stranger apologized, dismounted and proceeded to help the exhausted soldiers. The job done, he turned to the corporal and said, "Corporal, next time you have a job like this and not enough men to do it, go to your commander-in-chief, and I will come and help you again."

With that, George Washington got back on his horse and rode off.

Where did Washington learn such leadership skills? Doubtless, he had read the words of Jesus: "Whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant" (Matthew 20:26 NKJV).

The young corporal had these words modeled to him from the man at the top.

Jesus' example and His teachings are important for us to understand and follow. When we do, our actions have a powerful impact on people, like ...

A room-service waiter at a Marriott hotel learned that the sister of a guest had just died. The waiter, named Charles, bought a sympathy card, had hotel staff members sign it, and gave it to the distraught guest with a piece of hot apple pie.

"Mr. Marriott," the guest later wrote to the president of Marriott Hotels, "I'll never meet you. And I don't need to meet you. Because I met Charles, I know what you stand for ... I want to assure you that as long as I live, I will stay at your hotels. And I will tell my friends to stay at your hotels."



These stories are among the reasons that Life Care teaches servant leadership in its Journey classes and other training programs.

But the main reasons are: (1) our Lord commissioned us to do so, and (2) consequently, it's the right thing to do.