

No. 56 Whose Leadership Can You Trust?

NOTE: Help the audience to understand how Jesus actively leads God's people today, and encourage all to accept Jesus' leadership by becoming baptized disciples. Avoid being critical of specific human leaders or governments. This talk includes artwork and a video

WHY HUMAN LEADERSHIP HAS FAILED (3 min.)

Many today are disillusioned with human leaders

People have been disappointed by political, religious, and business leaders whom they no longer trust

The Bible identifies the reason why human leadership has failed **[Read Jeremiah 10:23]**

God did not create humans with the ability or the right to govern themselves (w12 5/1 6)

CHRIST JESUS IS A TRUSTWORTHY LEADER (6 min.)

The Bible directs our attention to a leader whom we can trust

God has appointed Jesus as "Messiah the Leader," or "the Christ" **[Read Daniel 7:13, 14]**
(Da 9:25; Mt 23:10)

Christ Jesus is the ideal leader (w09 1/15 3 ¶4-5)

Unlike human leaders, everything Jesus does is motivated by unselfish love (Joh 10:14, 15)

While on earth, Jesus proved his ability as a leader

He cared for crowds numbering into the thousands (Mr 6:39-44)

He compassionately helped the lowly (Mr 1:40-42)

In just three and a half years, he laid the foundation for a global preaching campaign (Ac 1:8)

CHRIST JESUS IS AN ACTIVE LEADER (7 min.)

Having been resurrected to heaven, Jesus continues to lead his followers (Mt 28:19, 20; Col 1:18)

[Optional: Use the artwork provided to illustrate the two points that follow]

He has appointed qualified men to care for the congregation (Mt 24:45; Eph 4:11, 12; j1 lesson 19)

He uses the angels and holy spirit to assist and guide his followers (Joh 16:13; Heb 1:13, 14)

Jesus is now the King of God's heavenly Kingdom **[Read Revelation 11:15]**

He will soon remove rival human rulership from the earth (Re 17:12-14)

WILL YOU ACCEPT JESUS' LEADERSHIP? (10 min.)

Jesus warmly invites each one of us to be his follower; have you accepted that invitation? (Mr 10:21; cf 5-6 ¶1-4)

Jehovah's Witnesses will be happy to help you learn how to follow Jesus [Invite newly interested ones to have a Bible study, and briefly explain how Bible studies are conducted]

How can you show that you have chosen to follow Jesus as your leader?

(1) Strive to imitate Jesus and apply his teachings in every aspect of your life (1Pe 2:21)
(w09 1/15 4 ¶6)

Put God's will first in your life, just as Jesus did (Mt 6:33; Joh 4:34)

(2) Dedicate yourself to Jehovah God and get baptized **[Read Matthew 16:24]** (Ac 8:12)

[Invite the audience to watch the three-minute video of those who got baptized after once hesitating to do so. After the video is shown, briefly highlight what helped them to overcome obstacles]

LET JESUS LEAD YOU TO EVERLASTING LIFE (4 min.)

By accepting Christ Jesus' leadership and "obeying him," you can receive "everlasting salvation" (Heb 5:9)

Jesus is ready to "complete his conquest" and bring an end to this wicked world (Re 6:2; Mt 24:29, 30)

He is now preparing his followers for survival (Re 7:9, 14)

Under Christ's leadership, you can be part of a new world free from injustice and suffering (2Pe 3:13)

Jesus will lead his followers to perfection and everlasting life

[Adhere closely to the outlined material, and observe the indicated timing of each section.

Not all cited texts need to be read or commented on. See *Ministry School* book, pages 52-55, 166-169]