

March 26, 2017
Series: Thrones
Part 9: Caring for Those You Lead
Ted Cunningham

1. We sang “It Is Well.” What has Jesus made well in your heart? Or what is he in the process of making well?
2. What is the difference in **asserting** any authority you have or **leveraging** your authority? (**Asserting is about YOU; Leveraging is about OTHERS.**)
3. Who was the most caring teacher, coach or minister you’ve had in the past? How did that care manifest itself?
4. How do you communicate care for the various people in your life?
5. Paul says in Thessalonians 2:1-8 that he didn’t assert authority over the church, although he could have, instead he and those with him “proved to be gentle among you, as a nursing mother tenderly cares for her own children.”
*A nursing mother is a picture of tenderness. What other images display tenderness?
*Tell of a leader you’ve known who was harsh and in contrast one who was tender and communicated appreciation for you.
6. Think of an incident that angered or irritated you. How might you have felt differently or handled it differently if you had thought about the other instead of yourself?
7. Consider praying part of St. Francis’s prayer in times of conflict. How are these pleas both psychologically and spiritually sound?
“O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love.”
(You can make no one understand, console or love you, but you can do these things for others with the help of God’s Spirit. These things reflect the very heart of God.)
8. How do you feel when people talk primarily about themselves? How do you feel when someone wants to know about you?
9. What are three things Ted said people need from us? (**Resources, knowledge, time.**)
*Which of these is easiest for you to give?
*Tell about a time someone gave you one or all of these things.
*Besides a family member and on your own time rather than work hours, who have you given of your resources, knowledge, and/or time?
10. What has made you feel that **YOU** matter to God?