

**Jaci's Leadership Portrait**  
**September 2016**

**Who are/were the influencers in my life and how did they impact me?**

- My parents
  - strong faith,
  - strong work ethic,
  - tenacity
- Coach and Teacher: Nancy VanErp & Blaine Novak:
  - caring adults see you as you are and push you toward your potential
  - adults can walk youth through struggles without telling you what to do (the power of reflection & questions)
  - goals can be reached despite set-backs when one believes that others believe in her
- My husband
  - love is an emotion and a choice (only through Christ can we choose love)
  - shared joy is double, shared pain binds two together
  - enjoy the adventure
- Taejon Christian International School Staff:
  - who you live on mission with is designed by God, so lean into them no matter your differences
  - God is not hindered by unfortunate, earthly circumstances
  - it is possible to mourn the loss of a geographical place and a span of time in your personal history → this earth is not our home

**What is my work/life purpose?**

- Maximum impact for the kingdom.
- Steward all the resources that God has entrusted me with: money, influence, education, family, friends, and unique life experiences.
- Submit to training my heart, mind, soul, and strength to the greatest commandments: Love the Lord my God. Love my neighbor as myself.

***My purpose is to steward the resources God has entrusted to me in order to make wise decision that maximize my life's impact on the kingdom of heaven by submitting to training my heart, mind, soul and strength to living out the greatest commandments: Love God. Love my neighbor (Mark 12:28-31).***

**What are my values:**

*& measured by*

- Faith → In all circumstances, believe that God is sovereign and I can trust he leads and directs my steps.
- Education/Learning → In humility, seek knowledge and wisdom on subjects and content in order to be understanding of others and confident in truth. Be excellent in educational methodology.



- Well-being → (Mostly through running), keep my body healthy, live an active life and enjoy the unique abilities and passions God has given me.
- Relationships → Seek to see all people as made in the image of Jesus, worthy of love, grace and forgiveness: know and appreciate individuals' uniquenesses and needs. Intentionally build into the lives of others.
- Conviction → Choose to pursue holiness over comfort believing that the greatest freedom in the world is to not be in bondage to anything.

#### **What are my beliefs about leading:**

- There are 4 components to healthy leadership: (Jenni Catron)
  - Heart (Relational Leadership) → Connecting with God. Connecting with others. Leading from the heart is about earning influence through relationships rather than authority. It is developing the art of emotional intelligence.
  - Soul (Spiritual Leadership) → Our soul is the center of our morality, integrity, humility and servanthood. Keeping my soul in tune with God's spirit will center me in a healthy place.
  - Mind (Managerial Leadership) → Continually and intentionally, deliberate, process, reflect, ponder, remember, strategize, make plans, seek clarity and wisdom in how to manage all that is given to me to lead.
  - Strength (Visionary Leadership) → Cast the vision, bring all involved into the vision, and hold everyone accountable to the vision (able to honestly and graciously provide both positive and constructive feedback).

#### **People can expect the following from me:**

- Relationship: genuine inquiries into the areas of their lives outside of work/ministry
- Service: resources and support. Value relationship over procedures.
- Respect: a listening ear, space and invitation to take ownership (involvement in decision making & review process), policies that promote balance and safety.
- Feedback: encouragement and affirmation (positive reinforcement)
- Prayer: intercede and ask for God to provide for their needs & dreams

#### **I expect the following from people:**

- Teamwork: we are not in competition with each other. We are all working together to meet the needs of kids and give away Jesus.
- Honest Feedback: Formally and informally on areas of effectiveness, and areas needing improvement
- Spiritual Growth: the fruits of the Spirit are evidenced and discussions lead back to topics of spiritual significance. Decisions stem from these fruits.
- Research based instructional methods: try out new ways of getting students engaged and also ways to assess learning/depth of understanding.
- Reflection: take time to self-assess on spiritual growth, areas of weakness and strength, and instructional methods/effectiveness.

**I will set an example by:**

- Habits of Self-Discipline: order my "Private World" (Gordon MacDonald) around Christ's calling on my life, rather than my own personal drivenness
- Being a Learner: research and keep up-to-date with youth culture, ways of understanding and learning technologies (and sharing knowledge with others via training and teaching)
- Invite Feedback: provide opportunities for others to assess my performance
- Intentional Inquiry: seek to make the most of every opportunity to ask pertinent questions that dig below the surface to personal, spiritual, or vocational significance

**What additional experiences have shaped me as an individual & leader:**

In the past two years I have faced one of the most challenging positions of leadership to date. I have, at different times, felt like Nehemiah (called to build a wall), Jonah (wanting to run from my mission), Joseph (unjustly trapped in a place) and Daniel (humble and bold). I have faced adversity, feeling misunderstood, confusion and being baffled at the circumstances that would come from out of nowhere and knock me off my feet. But also, even in times of my greatest anxiety, I had peace. And in it all I can see that God is guiding me in ways that, though frustrating, have allowed me to step back and not allow myself to tie my identity around my work, my accomplishments, or my leadership positions. This is necessary for me to be able to be able to allow him to lead me to his heart, so that I can lead from a place of humility and dependence on Christ: from a soul that truly believes God is sovereign and my identity and destiny are in his hands. I don't build it, he sets it all in place and asks me to steward it well. I am not powerful enough to mess up his plan, nor mighty enough to make myself great. Yet, by his grace and in His power, I am able to live a life of earthly influence and kingdom significance.

**In an ideal world, the perfect leader would be:**

- Graciously honest
- Accurately empathic
- Spiritually discerning
- Intrinsically motivated
- Focussed on eternal implications