

Ask For Wisdom

Leadership is a Privilege

What gives a person the right to lead? Is it rank, position, tenure, seniority, time on the team? No it is certain that the privilege of leadership is not gained or kept by vote, popularity, rank, time on the team or length of membership. Followers grant leadership after it has been earned. And it takes time to earn the privilege of leadership.

Once leadership has been granted only the leader can remove the privilege of leading. This is done through failing to grow in the areas that originally qualified them for leadership.

There are seven characteristics of every effective leader. These seven characteristics can be seen in those in the process of earning the privilege to lead and in those retaining the privilege. They will characterize the life of every effective leader.

THEY _____ EGO

Truly great leaders, lead for the benefit and success of others as well as their organization. They are not leading for personal gain. They see themselves as servants for the best of others. They recognize their giftedness is for the organization and the people they serve and less about their own advancement.

Lawrence D. Bell correctly stated, "Show me a person who can not bother themselves to do little things, and I'll show you a person that can not be trusted with big things."

EGO = **E**____ **G**__ **O**__ and becoming stranded to **E**____ **G**____
O_____

THEY ARE _____

Rare is the effective leader who has not first learned the art of following. They also continue to be loyal followers while leading.

THEY ARE SUCCESSFUL AT _____ THROUGH

People go along with people that they get along with. Leadership is influence, nothing more nothing less. Therefore successful leadership is relational at its core.

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THEY ARE CHARACTERIZED _____

No one follows mediocrity for long. Leaders are passionate and give themselves to their mission. They perform at their highest level of capacity. This is the very thing that equips them for greater success at their mission of purpose.

THEY RELY ON _____

It is true that from the outside looking in leadership looks easier than it is. But it is not during the easy or the good times that one earns or preserves the privilege to lead.

It is during the storms of unfair treatment, followers turning against you and your leadership, when you have no more energy to go on, when you do not want to lead that you are qualified to be granted the privilege to lead. It is during these times that you are equipped to continue to serve. Lead on purpose through a developing level of personal discipline rather than the diminishing energy of emotion.

THEY FOCUS ON _____ TO PEOPLE AND THEN THE

The most effective leaders are those that add value to the people and then the organizations they serve. They focus on helping people and organizations they serve reach their highest potential.

THEY SERVE THROUGH THEIR _____ ON PURPOSE

Effective leaders recognize they are meant to be rivers rather than reservoirs. They use the power of their influence to empower others to soar to their highest level of service.

To the degree of your ability to empower others to their highest capacity will be the degree of your influence to extend beyond your imagination and grasp.

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