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Key Leadership Lessons

Essence of Leadership

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by

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“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.”

- Martin Luther King, Jr

You do not lead by hitting people over
the head - that's assault, not leadership.
- D. Eisenhower

Leadership is the art of getting someone else to do something you want done because he wants to do it.

-Dwight Eisenhower

Management is doing things right;
leadership is doing the right things.

- Peter F. Drucker

-To lead people, walk beside them ... As for the best leaders, the people do not notice their existence. The next best, the people honor and praise. The next, the people fear; and the next, the people hate ... When the best leader's work is done the people say, 'We did it ourselves!

-Lao-Tsu

The price of greatness is responsibility.
-Winston Churchill

Leadership and learning are
indispensable to each other.

-John F. Kennedy

The key to successful leadership today
is influence, not authority.

-Kenneth Blanchard

The leaders who work most effectively, it seems to me, never say “I.” And that’s not because they have trained themselves not to say “I.” They don’t think “I.” They think “we”; they think “team.” They understand their job to be to make the team function. They accept responsibility and don’t sidestep it, but “we” gets the credit.... This is what creates trust, what enables you to get the task done.

-Peter Drucker

Innovation distinguishes between a leader and a follower.

-Steve Jobs

As we look ahead into the next century,
leaders will be those who empower
others.

-Bill Gates

The task of the leader is to get his people from where they are to where they have not been.

-Henry Kissinger

The task of leadership is not to put greatness into people, but to elicit it, for the greatness is there already."

-John Buchan

Leadership must be based on goodwill. Goodwill does not mean posturing and, least of all, pandering to the mob. It means obvious and wholehearted commitment to helping followers. We are tired of leaders we fear, tired of leaders we love, and of tired of leaders who let us take liberties with them. What we need for leaders are men of the heart who are so helpful that they, in effect, do away with the need of their jobs. But leaders like that are never out of a job, never out of followers. Strange as it sounds, great leaders gain authority by giving it away.

-Admiral James B. Stockdale

Great leaders are almost always great simplifiers, who can cut through argument, debate, and doubt to offer a solution everybody can understand."

-General Colin Powell

Four rules of leadership in a free legislative body:

First, no matter how hard-fought the issue, never get personal. Don't say or do anything that may come back to haunt you on another issue, another day....

Second, do your homework. You can't lead without knowing what you're talking about....

Third, the American legislative process is one of give and take. Use your power as a leader to persuade, not intimidate....

Fourth, be considerate of the needs of your colleagues, even if they're at the bottom of the totem pole....“

-George Bush

Management is efficiency in climbing the ladder of success; leadership determines whether the ladder is leaning against the right wall.

-Stephen R. Covey

Before you are a leader, success is all about growing yourself. When you become a leader, success is all about growing others."

-Jack Welch

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