
Your Leadership Potential

How to Unleash All Your Leadership Potential

There is a steady flow of information in the form of books, articles, white papers, and training all in the context of "what is leadership" or "how to develop a leader?" In this article, I will avoid those two questions and write about two others that I believe might be on the minds of a lot of readers and they are:



Why does better leadership make a difference?

and

How does better leadership achieve those differences?

Leadership is a highly unique form of human behavior that requires the integration of character, knowledge, and experience. What can you do if you step up and unleash your leadership potential? Change the world.

Your journey to unleashing your leadership potential begins with a greater understanding of self. What are your attitudes about yourself and the people you should be leading? Studies have shown that attitudes, our inner feelings, contribute 85% of the success of a leader. If you find that there is a serious lack of communication amongst your people, and you also believe that they are the biggest jerks that ever walked the face of the earth, what is the likelihood that you will be able to solve the communication problem? How will you treat them? What message will your personality, the outer expression of your inner attitudes, send them? Discover your personality traits and how they relate to leadership. When we know ourselves, we can maximize our positive traits and become aware of our weaker areas, which helps us to achieve our full leadership potential.



Once you understand and know yourself, you must hone your communication skills. These are not limited to your public speaking skills either. This includes your writing style and your body language. Learn how to read and consciously control your body language. A great book to reference, if you can find it, is Nicolas Boothman's *"How to Get People To Like You in 90 Seconds or Less"*. It's all about recognizing communication cues in yourself and others. Your ability to communicate effectively enhances your ability to improve interpersonal relationships.

Another important skill is to learn how to learn. Examine different teaching methods and learning styles to identify how you and those you may lead learn best. This skill will greatly enhance your ability to make decisions and give clear instructions.

An exceptional leader recognizes the value of harnessing the skills and abilities of team members and leads them toward greater efficiency and effectiveness.

Leader is not a title, and leadership is not something you are born into. Leadership is something you develop.

This is what Dr. Ken Blanchard, had to say about good leaders in his book "The Heart of A Leader": "If you want to know why your people are not performing well, step up to the mirror and take a peek."

