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Five ways to become a Better Leader

As leaders our personal growth and development never stop. In fact, it should continue through life. We can always sharpen our skills with learning new ways, or even by refreshing our training in areas that will enhance our abilities interacting with others. Leadership is not something that you just do, it is something you learn to do, something you train yourself to do. Training in leadership is continual and can be used in many areas of life. So, the big question is How can I improve my leadership qualities?

I have compiled five areas that if applied will give you the ability to help you become a better leader.

1. Lead with Passion

I love this definition that I found, "Passion is a feeling of intense enthusiasm towards or compelling desire for someone or something."

Of course, here at Noble 8 our Passion is our Mission. "Noble 8 is dedicated to giving 1 Billion Dollars to charitable causes around the world." Many of us have linked arms with this mission and our passion is driven by that focus. We need that passion to be used in leading others. Your "Why" of being involved will act to inspire others to become involved in what you do. Let them know what drives you, it's possible you may want to pay off your debts, to pay for college, to buy a new car or to go on an exotic vacation. It could be you have your own mission or business you want to raise money for...Whatever it is, USE IT.

Your enthusiasm will act as a catalyst to them becoming a member. So, your Commitment to Noble 8, your Passion for the mission and your enthusiasm for your "Why," will become the reason others will be inspired to get involved. Your inspiration will cast a vision for what the future will be for them, and this is powerful!

2. Communication

The way you communicate makes a difference. You want to be able to successfully convey your ideas or emotions without being pushy, rude or negative. People follow others who are genuine, who communicate with grace and power at the same time. They will follow someone who is Trust Worthy and Responsible. Basically, do what you say you will do.

A great leader is an edifier, building others up, complimenting them when they reach their goals. This way you celebrate their small achievements building confidence in them. Be quick with positive feedback and slow with criticism. Your ability to be supportive and motivational will gain more results than negativity will.

Create connections that are real, emotional and personal. Call them to talk to them. Learn more about them by asking a personal question. Learn who they are. Do you know what the number 1 thing that people like to talk about is? Well, it is themselves. Learn about them. Research has shown that Intriguing Conversation releases dopamine in the brain. Dopamine causes people to feel pleasure and they will feel more relaxed around you. All you need to do is ask a leading question to get them to talk. Like: "What is the best gift you ever received? Or What is your favorite sport?" Find a question that will work for each person as everyone is

different. Everyone has different like, different desires, different triggers. You will learn what these are when you let them tell you about themselves.

3. Be a Role Model

Demonstrate confidence. A role model is always positive, calm and confident in themselves.

Positivity is contagious and people who are positive command the room. Everyone wants to be around them and emulate what they do. People like a person who is happy with their achievements but continues to strive for bigger and better objectives.

Role Models are people who serve as an example. They serve as a mentor and can provide the blueprint for a work ethic you would be proud to follow.

4. Know your strengths

Some people are great at speaking, others are great at developing strategies. Whatever it is, knowing your strengths will help you to move forward in ways that are key for your success.

Knowing your strengths are a valuable tool that leaders spend a lot of time developing and applying to life. To know your strengths, you also need to know your weaknesses. These will hold you back from achieving many great things. Weaknesses are areas that you have the power to change through personal growth and development. Overcoming these weaknesses will open new doors for you. It will help you to gain new strength through change. Every weakness turned to a strength will bring you closer to becoming a great leader.

5. Be a Great Person

The keys to just being a great person are the keys to becoming a great leader.

Be happy and enthusiastic in life. We all know that person that has the cloud over their head, always negative, always talking about the worst things in life. Be the opposite of that mentality. Let your words that come out of your mouth edify and build up others, never tear anyone down. Help people to feel good about themselves and what they are doing. Don't speak ill of others and don't ever laugh at the expense of others.

Remember to be humble...share your stories about the good things and bad things that you have experienced. Doing this will make you real to others. Don't always be so serious. Life is short. Live it well.

The key is to Learn all you can about becoming the best leader you can be through your Personal Growth and Development. You always can find new ways to become better in your leadership qualities.

So, the takeaway I have for you is this...

Any of these 5 areas are good but personally number 4 is a great tool for me because in knowing my strengths and weaknesses it helps me to know what I should work on to be better and what I can use in the meantime to help mentor my people.

I hope that one of these five areas stuck out in your heart as something you can use that will push you to greater personal growth and development, making you a better leader in the process.