

Leadership - Part 1

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I. Introduction.

A. Definitions.

1. Getting things done through other people. (J.C. Penny)
2. The activity of influencing people towards some goal which they come to find desirable or necessary.
3. Accomplishing your objectives through the efforts of others.

B. The simplest test to whether someone is a leader is whether he has any followers.

C. The stir was not caused by Christ alone, but his followers by implication. (Mark 6)

II. Types of Leadership: autocratic, democratic, and personal.

A. The first groupings.

1. Autocratic leadership.
 - a. The leader is not there by popular demand.
 - b. Obedience is demanded.
2. Democratic leadership - requires cooperation.
3. Personal leader - requires initiative.

B. The second groups.

1. Authoritarian leadership.
 - a. The US president is both an authoritarian and a personal leader.
 - b. His leadership will only last.
 - c. This is the exercise of power over people.
 - d. This type rarely becomes personal.
2. Personal leadership.
 - a. This is the use and creation of power with people.
 - b. It is known by the personalities that it enriches.

- c. The followers of a true leader secure the satisfaction and sense of the attainment of maturity of their hearts' desires.
- d. The proof of leadership is the qualitative growth of the led as individuals.
- e. This type inevitably becomes authoritarian.

C. Distinguishing real leadership.

- 1. Where the people go usually determines where the true leadership lies.
- 2. Why are administrators often not engaged in personal leadership? No organizational chart is perfect.

III. Qualities of a good leader.

A. A list.

- 1. Integrity.
- 2. Consideration of the follower's welfare.
- 3. Decisiveness.
- 4. The ability to make decisions.
- 5. A good follower.
- 6. An attractor of followers.
- 7. A desire to improve and learn.
- 8. Willingness to take suggestions.
- 9. Initiative.
- 10. Enthusiasm.

B. The previous list is a traditional list, but a man does not have to possess these to be a good leader even though they are desirable qualities.

C. Studies of successful leadership at West Point and the Air Force are determined by:

- 1. Whether the leader accomplished his mission. The example of General Paton who possessed few of the former qualities, but was a great leader.

2. Did he utilize all available resources? A man who uses all resources is in line to receive more resources. Successful leadership should not be accidental.

3. Personality characteristics were found by the West Point study to vary among different successful leaders. Leaders often differed from each other in a greater degree than from their followers. A leader's success depends upon the bent to which his action facilitates the obtainment of the group goals.

4. Different styles of leadership will be more effective in different kinds of circumstances.

5. Reason why some are ineffective leaders: an inability to analyze the situation that confronts him so that he is unable to arrive at the appropriate course of action

D. Good judgment requires distinction between two kinds of ideas we have about the world around us: observations and inferences. Both ideas are indispensable, but we cannot mix the two.

1. Why is this a problem? Expediency, social pressure or custom, legalism, moral principle/the Word of God.

2. Important qualities for leadership.

a. Maintenance of the objective.

b. Offensive action.

c. Security. The enemy can make no move unanticipated.

d. Economy of force.

e. Cooperation.

f. Mobility.

g. Surprise.

h. Pursuit.

i. Communications.

3. Moses' spies were divided as to their assessment of going into the land - they were not objective. Part of this responsibility falls on Moses' leadership.

Applications questions.

1. What are desired qualities for good leadership? What are the essential qualities of being an effective leader?

2. Why does one not have to have the desired qualities to be effective? Explain. Should you pursue the desired qualities then?

3. What are some of the pitfalls in leadership? How do you see these in your own life?
