Do You Consider Yourself A Great Leader?

People follow leaders because they trust you and believe in you. They also have the confidence in you to take them to the next level. However, it only takes one incident to break the trust and have people looking for leadership in others and not in you.

Rate yourself in each area from 1 to 5. (5 being the best)

Leaders are expected to:

♦ Hire the best most qualified people. People want to work with other top performers on teams and in departments. A good leader has the ability to bring out the best in everyone.

♦ Not be controlling. Leaders of the ‘old’ school have a need to control everything. Today’s most effective leaders set the pace, vision, and direction and then get out of the way. They don’t stop the momentum or interfere with the positive things that are happening.

Why Is Taking The Consequences For Something Called "Facing The Music"?

This expression almost sounds like the name of a quiz show, but what it describes is hardly entertaining. When you face the music, either you've done something wrong and now have to "pay" for it, or you've made a tough decision that will result in some negative consequences for you. Either way, you're not headed for an evening of dining and dancing.

The phrase originates in a military tradition. You've probably seen a soldier in the movies "drummed out" of the service. He's done something dishonorable, so he's stripped of his rank and has to pass through columns of other soldiers who may look away from him while drum beats mark his passage through the ranks. The drums are the music he's facing and the source of the phrase.

Source: WHY YOU SAY IT by Webb Garrison

Three Steps to An Agreement

To reach agreement with other people about anything, try this 3-step "triangle" process:

1) YOU. First address the other person's interests
2) US. Then relate their interests to what you have in common with them.
3) ME. Then discuss how that relates to your needs. By starting with the other people's interests, they tend to be more open to hearing what you have to say, and this allows further things to develop.

Source: Kare Anderson, Getting What You Want: How to Resolve Conflict and Win Agreement Every Time
Performance –

If your company is using economics and cutbacks as an excuse for not rewarding employees who remain, the problem is a lack of imagination, not a lack of dollars. Here are some possibilities for recognition and rewards:

1) A picture of a winning department on a local billboard.
2) Free meals in the cafeteria for a month.
3) Lunch with the president or dinner with his or her family at home.
4) Tickets to a movie or ball game.
5) An hour of pampering at a local spa or health club.

Source: Todd Englander, writing in Incentive Magazine

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◆ Provide the direction. A great leader knows the value of creating a vision and direction that everyone understands and can follow. But, without communicating that vision and direction you are destined to fail. A great leader makes sure everyone in the organization knows, understands, and has a sense of what part they play in the overall vision and direction.

◆ Build a strong leadership team. Great leaders surround themselves with a strong team of leaders. A great leader does not have to know every aspect of a job or situation; they need to be able to find the right talent for every job, aspect, or situation. They have strong leaders around them with the strengths that they lack. Leaders of the “old” pick non-threatening people to serve as leaders. And their results have been seen over and over!

◆ Empower your people. Great leaders give their people the ability to make decisions, take risks (for the company’s sake) direct others, and feel they control their destiny. Even knowing they will sometimes fail, extraordinary leaders understand the benefits that come in the long run.

So, what is your overall score? Are you a great leader? Are you worth following? If your score is not as high as you would like, try implementing these leadership guidelines.

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