

Leadership Sayings

The leadership instinct you are born with is the backbone. You develop the funny bone and the wishbone that go with it.

-Walter Lippmann

The best executive is the one who has sense enough to pick good men to do what he wants done, and self-restraint to keep from meddling with them while they do it.

-Theodore Roosevelt

Vision comes alive when everyone sees where his or her contribution makes a difference.

-Ken Blanchard

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed people can change the world; indeed it's the only thing that ever has

-Margaret Meade

Leadership is NOT about changing the mindset of the individual or group, but in the cultivation of an environment that brings out the best (inspires) the individuals in that group...

-Arthur F. Carmazzi

To work in the world lovingly means that we are defining what we will be for, rather than reacting to what we are against.

-Christina Baldwin

Leadership is not magnetic personality—that can just as well be a glib tongue. It is not "making friends and influencing people"—that is flattery. Leadership is lifting a person's vision to higher sights, the raising of a person's performance to a higher standard, the building of a personality beyond its normal limitations.

-Peter F. Drucker

Be gentle and you can be bold; be frugal and you can be liberal; avoid putting yourself before others and you can become a leader among men.

-Lao Tzu

Leadership is action, not position.

-Donald H. McGannon

Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other.

-John F. Kennedy

The first step to leadership is servanthood.

-John Maxwell

If the blind lead the blind, both shall fall in the ditch.

-Jesus Christ

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

I think leadership comes from integrity - that you do whatever you ask others to do. I think there are non-obvious ways to lead. Just by providing a good example as a parent, a friend, a neighbor makes it possible for other people to see better ways to do things. Leadership does not need to be a dramatic, fist in the air and trumpets blaring, activity.

-Scott Berkun

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

— Jack Welch

The difference between perseverance and obstinacy is that one often comes from a strong will, and the other from a strong won't.

- Henry Ward Beecher

The day soldiers stop bringing you their problems is the day you have stopped leading them.

- General Colin Powell

You can have brilliant ideas, but if you can't get them across, your ideas won't get you anywhere.

- Lee Iacocca

Great spirits have always found violent opposition from mediocrities. The latter cannot understand it when a man does not thoughtlessly submit to hereditary prejudices but honestly and courageously uses his intelligence.

-Albert Einstein



If I have seen farther than others, it is because I was standing on the shoulder of giants.

-Isaac Newton

Time is neutral and does not change things. With courage and initiative, leaders change things.

-Jesse Jackson

Systems thinking is a discipline for seeing wholes. It is a framework for seeing interrelationships rather than things, for seeing patterns of change rather than static "snapshots." It is a set of general principles -- distilled over the course of the twentieth century, spanning fields as diverse as the physical and social sciences, engineering, and management... During the last thirty years, these tools have been applied to understand a wide range of corporate, urban, regional, economic, political, ecological, and even psychological systems. And systems thinking is a sensibility -- for the subtle interconnectedness that gives living systems their unique character.

-Peter Senge

Cautious, careful people, always casting about to preserve their reputation and social standing, never can bring about a reform. Those who are really in earnest must be willing to be anything or nothing in the world's estimation, and publicly and privately, in season and out, avow their sympathy with despised and persecuted ideas and their advocates, and bear the consequences.

-Susan B. Anthony

The price of greatness is responsibility.

-Winston Churchill

Both optimists and pessimists contribute to our society. The optimist invents the airplane and the pessimist the parachute.

~ G. B. Stern