

Module 2

LEADERSHIP UNLOCKED

“DISCOVER THE LEADER IN YOU OR DIE A FOLLOWER”

INTRODUCTION TO LEADERSHIP

One of the biggest lies that has kept people from reaching their full potential states that leadership is a privilege reserved for an exclusive group of people.

From as early as the 18th century, leadership theories have been the source of numerous studies. Many philosophers, researchers and professors have studied this subject and attempted to define what allows authentic leaders to stand out from the masses.

The Trait leadership theory believes that people are born with certain qualities that will make them excel in leadership roles. Qualities such as intelligence, sense of responsibility and/or creativity will earmark them for leadership, while the rest of the people will follow.

What does God say about leadership?

Genesis 1:26-28 “Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

It is clear from the above verse that the human race was created in God’s image to have dominion and to subdue the earth. Every person has been born to have dominion and subdue, and therefore possesses leadership potential. This leadership potential is specific to an area of gifting and this gift will attract people.

Every human has the instinct and desire for leadership, but few have the courage and will to develop it. Leadership is an inherent part of our design and is fundamental to our origins.

This module has been set out to introduce you to the hidden leader within you. To bring a shift from merely being a follower to developing into a true leader.

Leadership defined:

Leadership is the capacity to bring change by inspiration. The heart of leadership is passion. This passion should be routed in a vision and set alight by purpose.

LEADERSHIP FUNDAMENTALS

Proverbs 23:7 “For as he thinks in his heart, so is he.”

Leadership comes down to two fundamentals: Who you are and how you think about who you are.

Many of us live under a veil of obscured identity. Life events such as loss, tragedy and disappointments have disrupted our belief systems and the way we think about ourselves. You will always stay within the confines that others have placed you in or that you have made for yourself. We live our lives based on who we think we are.

If you believe in your heart that you are a follower, you will never be able to develop into someone who inspires and influences others within your inherent domain.

YOUR ATTITUDE DETERMINES YOUR ALTITUDE

True leadership is not a technique but an attitude. Attitude by definition is a mindset or belief that determines decisions, behaviour and response. Attitude is born out of a belief system. It is a result of our thoughts – what we believe about ourselves. Beliefs are born from ideas, and ideas must come from a source.

Attitude dictates your response to the present and determines the quality of your future.

It is also important to understand that attitude is a product of the integration of our self-worth, self-concepts, self-esteem, and sense of value. In essence, your attitude is the manifestation of who you think you are. Leaders think differently about themselves, and this sets them apart from followers.

“THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A LEADER AND A FOLLOWER IS ATTITUDE.”

A person that is well balanced has the following 3 attributes:

- Self-concept;
- Self-worth;
- Self-esteem.

Notice the word “self” in all three of the above words. Some people base their identity on the validation and acceptance from others. Leadership and the key to life is all about discovering yourself. The self-discovery of your inherent leadership potential and an understanding of who you are and what you are meant to be are the keys to fulfilling your purpose for existence as a leader.

ATTITUDE VS. APTITUDE

Your attitude or what you believe is more powerful than your aptitude or education. Some people have a PhD but still, think like a slave. Education is not the same as revelation.

A good education might give you a good opportunity in life but will not have the ability to influence. You cannot lead until you can influence people. Influence comes from people respecting a gift that you have.

One of life's mysteries is that most people that own businesses these days, have dropped out of school or didn't finish their degrees. Why is that?

They have ideas that have the potential to change the world. Their attitude is more powerful than their aptitude and that is what leadership is all about. All the education in the world cannot develop the leader in you. Your leadership development is determined by your perceptions of who you are and why you exist—in other words, your sense of significance to life.

LEADERSHIP CONSISTS OF MANIFESTATION AND MOVEMENT

Manifestation has to do with self-discovery. Leadership has to do with people being introduced to their true self. Most of us have never met ourselves. The real self is the one that they have taught you to suppress.

As a child, you might have dreamt of travelling around the world. As soon as you voiced this dream, adults brought you right back to the hard reality and made it clear that you should be more realistic. Unfortunately, this has killed the real you over a period of time and as a result, we have become a product of others.

Leadership introduces you to the dream you had when you were a child. A leader is born the moment that you discover who you are and decide to become that person. It is from here that you begin to see the vision for your life.

Movement is moving from the present to the future. Leadership is all about movement; going from where you are now, to a place where you have never been except in your mind.

Movement means to:

- Always create;
- Constantly moving;
- Developing;
- Disturbing comfort;
- Shaking up the familiar and
- Challenging barriers

“NEVER ACCEPT LIMITATION”

Leaders will always push a barrier until it breaks, and then they create a new one. If you stay in one place too long, life will bring a crisis to move you. Don't curse a crisis – study it!

IN WHAT ARE YOU ROOTED?

Leaders believe in themselves. This makes them dangerous. A person who believes in himself does not need encouragement from others.

Let's look at the parable of the Sower:

Matthew 13:1-9 “On the same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the sea. And great multitudes were gathered together to Him, so that He got into a boat and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore. Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying: “Behold, a sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell by the

wayside; and the birds came and devoured them. Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth. But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them. But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”

Matthew 13:18-21 “Therefore hear the parable of the sower: When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside. But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles.”

Jesus explains the parable and makes a profound statement. The reason that the word endured only for a while was because they did not have root in themselves. If you truly believe in yourself, when persecution comes, you will not stumble.

PURPOSE FOR LEADERSHIP

The purpose of true leadership is to produce leaders. If you do not produce leaders, you cannot move to the next place. The first act of a leader is to identify their replacement and start training them up to take their place. The goal of leadership is to move on. Leadership is all about reproducing leaders – not about maintaining followers.

A tree never eats its own fruit. You were born to serve others.

Mark 10:45 “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

Matthew 23:11 “But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant.”

True leadership is:

- Not finding something to live for, but something to die for;
- Finding a human cause worth sacrificing yourself for;
- Discovering the problem you were born to solve;
- Sacrificing self for a cause;
- Leadership is measured by how many people you serve;
- Leadership thinks of the next generation;
- Leadership is not about power but about empowering other people;
- Leadership is about pursuing purpose;
- Leadership is about becoming more than doing.

ELEMENTS OF LEADERS

- Belief in themselves. This makes them dangerous;
- Passion for their work. They are self-driven and self-motivated. They are not afraid of failure because their motivation is from the inside;
- They love people. If you do not like people, then don't bother leading them;

- Leaders find satisfaction from the success of others; Jesus said to His disciples that it is better for them that He should go to heaven and move out of the way so that they can do greater works than He.

EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP:

- Leaders create things out of nothing;
- Leaders are builders, and thus they create the culture that they want;
- Leaders maintain and sustain the atmosphere of excellence;
- Leaders are always involved in changing things;
- Leaders are developers and produce after their own kind.

Followers talk about what they go through. Leaders first go through it and afterwards tell you about it.

You were born to lead but you must first become a leader. Does a seed have a tree in it? Will life guarantee that the tree will come out of the seed? No, it must first go through the process.

No leader is made in a day. Leaders are products of failure, time, tests, challenges and frustration. A tree was always in the seed. As soon as the tree becomes a reality, it simply manifests what was always there. You do not look for leadership, you manifest it.

Leaders have high levels of perception and insight. They have extraordinary levels of motivation to handle change. They find emotional strength to manage the anxiety of change and learn new skills and have the ability to share power and control according to knowledge and skill.

Leadership brings change. It always improves and develops. It is progressive and ultimately results in success.

Leaders do not want exception but pursue conviction. The conviction is sometimes not accepted and that is why they become leaders. Leadership is not a right but a privilege.

UNLOCKING THE LEADER WITHIN YOU

True leadership is self-discovery. It has very little to do with what you do but is fundamentally a matter of becoming who you *already are*. It is the result of one's commitment to self-manifestation. Discovering yourself is the foundation of emotional intelligence. It will give you a clear and accurate image of your own strengths and weaknesses. To know where you shine and where you are weak. This will help to develop effective strategies for leaning into your strengths and compensating for your weaknesses.

“IT IS ABSURD THAT A MAN SHOULD RULE OTHERS, WHO CANNOT RULE HIMSELF.”

Unlocking the leader inside of you is going to take courage, but the reward will be much sweeter. Sir Winston Churchill said that fear is a reaction, but courage is a decision.

You are a leader, regardless of your feelings about your leadership ability and potential. When you discover this truth and become convinced of it, then you won't be content with just being a follower any longer. You will learn the secret to becoming a leader by unlocking the leader within you.