

The Art of Leadership

(adopted from Wilford A Peterson)

Simply and plainly defined, a leader is a person who has followers.

The leader deserves to have followers. One has earned recognition. Authority alone is no longer enough to command respect.

The leader is a great servant. The Master of Man expressed the ideal of leadership in a democracy when he said "And whosoever will be chief among you let him be your servant."

The leader does not say "Get Going!", but instead says "Let's Go !" and leads the way. The leader does not walk behind with a whip; the leader is out in front with a banner.

The leader assumes that the followers are on equal terms, that they are not subservient. The leader considers them partners in the work and sees to it they share in the rewards. The leader glorifies the team spirit.

The leader is a developer, a builder. The leader develops those individuals of the organization to grow and mature, because the leader realizes the strength of the organization is directly related to the strength of the individual members.

The leader does not hold people down, the leader lifts them up. The leader extends a hand to those and enables them to scale the peaks.

The leader has faith in people. The leader believes in them, trusts them and thus draws out the best in them. The leader has found that others will rise and meet higher expectations.

The leader uses the heart as well as the head. After the leader has examined the facts with the head, the leader lets one's heart take a look, too. The leader is not only a boss, the leader is also a friend.

The leader is a self-starter. The leader creates plans and sets them in motion. The leader is both a person of thought and a person of action: both the dreamer and the doer.

The leader has a sense of humor. The leader is not a stuffed-shirt, can laugh at one's self, and has a humble spirit.

The leader can be led. The leader is not interested in one's own way but in finding the best way. The leader has an open mind.

The leader keeps the focus on high goals. The leader strives to make the efforts of the followers and one's self contribute to the enrichment of personality, the achievement of more abundant living for all and the improvement of civilization.