Notes From Melba W. Benson, Ph.D. Volume II • November 2005

What kind of leader are you? What kind of leader do you try to follow?

I don't know about you, but I'm finding lots of people today who have interesting definitions of leadership.

Some of the definitions come as a result of the generation you were born in, some come from where you are on the organizational chart, and some come from a variety of other sources.

This month, the quotes, articles, and Leadership Evaluation explain leadership far better than I would ever be able to.

Hopefully, two things will happen to those who read this e-newsletter:

- 1. The leaders will be willing to evaluate themselves and allow their followers to provide honest, direct feedback without fear.
- 2. The followers will evaluate their leaders, try to understand the constraints their leaders operate under, and do everything possible to assist their leaders in achieving what just about everyone would like to see in a leader.

This e-newsletter and the articles at http://www.melbabenson.com/articles.php are dedicated to all those true leaders of all ages, both genders, all races, all job categories, and all types who have attempted to make me and will continue to try to make me the type of leader I aspire to be.

"Servant Leadership" "Excerpts From Steps For Ethical Leadership"

"Leadership Evaluation" "Things A Janitor Can Teach You **About Leadership**"

"A true leader is not the one you look up to because they are the best. A true leader is one that draws out the best in you."

- Anne Warfield

"When supervisors take it out on their people, it is many times their own frustration with their inability to accomplish goals and a desperate attempt to bolster their self-esteem."

Unknown

"You do not lead by hitting people over the head. That's assault, not leadership."

- Dwight D. Eisenhower

"A good leader is a person who takes a little more than his/her share of the blame and a little less than his/her share of the credit."

- Unknown

"True leaders have the confidence to stand alone, the courage to make tough decisions, and the compassion to listen to the needs of others. They do not set out to be a leader, but become one by the quality of their actions and the integrity of their intent. In the end, leaders are much like eagles. They don't flock, you find them one at a time."

- Unknown

"Successful leaders don't just spoon feed information. When working with managers, they "lead them out" in the true Socratic method by asking them to find their own answers, and then they empower their people by letting them be, giving them the autonomy to find their own effective management style."

> — Leadership Strategies Early to Rise December 14, 2004

"To be effective, a leader must learn how to be ridden by that particular rider. If one tries to go too far too fast, it's easy to get thrown off. One has to build relationships by understanding what people are trying to accomplish and moving that agenda forward. Leadership is situational. What works in one organization doesn't necessarily work in another."

- Don W. Blair NIKE Vice President and CEO

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