

## 10 CHARACTERISTICS OF GOOD LEADERSHIP

Here are 10 characteristics of good leadership:

### 1. RECOGNIZES THE VALUE IN OTHER PEOPLE, SO CONTINUALLY INVESTS IN OTHERS

Good leaders see a large part of their role as developing other leaders. Leadership development takes place in an organization as good leaders begin to share their experiences, good and bad, with others.

### 2. SHARES INFORMATION WITH THOSE IN THE ORGANIZATION

There is a tendency of some leaders to hold information, because information is power, but a good leader knows that the more information the team has that collectively the team is better, which directly benefits the leader.

### 3. HAS ABOVE AVERAGE CHARACTER

There are no perfect people, but for a leader to be considered good, they must have a character that is unquestioned within the organization. Leadership always draws criticism from someone, so a leader may not be able to get everyone to believe in him or her, but the people who know the leader best should trust the leader's character.

### 4. USES THEIR INFLUENCE FOR THE GOOD OF OTHERS

Good leaders are as interested in making a positive difference in people's lives as they are in creating a healthy profit margin. This doesn't mean that balance sheets and income statements aren't important. In fact, they are vital for the success of an organization (even nonprofits), but a good leader doesn't separate a desire for helping others from the desire for financial success. Good leaders find ways to leverage financial health to strengthen the well-being of others.

### 5. IS SKILLFUL AND COMPETENT

Good leaders can be depended on for their professionalism and follow-through. You don't question whether a good leader is going to be able to complete a task. If they don't know how to do something, they will find someone who does, but they will ensure that a job is done the best way it can be done.

### 6. NOT AFRAID FOR OTHERS TO SUCCEED (even greater than their own success)

Good leaders realize that some followers will outgrow the leader's ability to develop them any further. Good leaders, however, aren't threatened by another's success. They are willing to celebrate as those around them succeed.

### 7. SERVES OTHERS EXPECTING NOTHING IN RETURN

Good leaders have a heart of service. They truly love and value people and want to help others for the good of the one being helped, not necessarily for personal gain.

## **8. CONTINUES TO LEARN**

Good leaders are always learning and implementing those learning into the betterment of the organization. That could be through reading, conferences, web-based learning or through other leaders, but also through people who report to the leader.

## **9. REMAINS ACCESSIBLE, APPROACHABLE AND ACCOUNTABLE TO OTHERS**

Good leaders don't isolate themselves from people regardless of the amount of responsibility or power he or she attains. Good leaders willingly seek the input of other people into their professional and personal lives.

## **10. IS VISIONARY — THINKS FOR THE ORGANIZATION BEYOND TODAY**

Good leaders are always thinking beyond today. **“What's next?”** is a common question asked by good leaders, knowing that someone must continually encourage change, growth and strategic thinking for an organization to remain healthy.

**SOURCE — Ron Edmondson**