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True Leadership: The Power of Leading from the Back

I have been reflecting on how people should lead and whether it is from the back or the front. Many believe that a leader must always be at the front. However, true leadership often means leading from the back. This style allows leaders to empower their teams, encourage teamwork, and create an environment where everyone can succeed.

When leaders rush to the front, they may overshadow the talents of their team members. This can create a culture where only the leader's ideas are heard, stifling creativity and disempowering others.

Leading from the back has many advantages. First, it empowers team members by allowing them to take charge of projects and initiatives. When people feel they have ownership, they are more likely to invest their energy and creativity. Second, it encourages collaboration and open communication. Team members are more likely to share their ideas when they don't feel overshadowed. Third, this approach builds trust. When leaders show they believe in their team, it strengthens relationships and fosters respect. Finally, it allows leaders to focus on developing their team by mentoring and providing feedback.

Throughout history, many great leaders have led from the back. They prioritized teamwork and encouraged others to take the lead, fostering unity through leading by example and inspiring collective action rather than seeking personal glory. They focused on uplifting others, demonstrating that true leadership is about service and support.

Leaders who want to adopt this style can take several steps. First, they should listen actively and encourage open dialogue. Second, they can delegate authority and trust their team with responsibilities. Third, it's important to celebrate team members' contributions publicly. Lastly, leaders should provide support and guidance while allowing their team to solve problems independently.

In conclusion, true leadership is not about being the loudest voice or taking all the credit. It's about creating an environment where everyone can contribute and grow. By leading from the back, leaders cultivate a culture of empowerment, collaboration, and trust, which can drive their teams to greater success.

Allow me to conclude with a quote by Nelson Mandela: "A leader... is like a shepherd. He stays behind the flock, letting the most nimble go out ahead, whereupon the others follow, not realizing that all along they are being directed from behind."

Please let us know about your thoughts.

#Leadership #Empowerment #ADU

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