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Personal Leadership Theory

Good leaders must: 1) Serve their associates; 2) Include others in their decisions; and 3) Have high expectations.

This leadership theory is based on several assumptions or truths. First, people look up to those who sincerely care about them. When a leader serves his associates, it demonstrates that the leader cares. When the leader is looked up to, he will be trusted and obeyed; therefore, respected. This respect will translate into team unity and successful results.

Second, including others in decisions is also essential. A leader may not always know best in every situation, and he won't be able to think of as many good ideas as a whole roomful of good thinkers. Just as important as listening to and considering the opinions of others, is including God in the decision. No moral boundaries must be crossed. God knows best about everything, so when everyone has spoken their opinion, a good leader will take the hard questions to Him for answers.

Third, a leader must expect a lot from his team. High expectations, when made known unto the associates, should translate into successful effort and good results. A leader cannot let people get away with the easy minimum. He must be enthusiastic for success, and this enthusiasm must be contagious – if it is, then everyone will be involved and want to do the best job that they can.