

DEFINITIONS OF LEADERSHIP

Compiled by David B. Vasquez

- “A leader is a person who influences people to accomplish a purpose.” (Bruce Cook, Leadership Dynamics)
- “A leader is a person who has the ability to get others to do what they don't want to do, and like it.” (Harry S. Truman)
- “A leader is a person who knows what to do next, why it is important, and how to bring the appropriate resources to the need at hand.” (Bobb Biehl, MasterPlanning Group International)
- “A leader is a person who sees the consequences of his actions further into the future than those about him.” (Bill Gothard, Institute in Basic Youth Conflicts)
- “Leadership is influence: nothing more, nothing less.” (John Maxwell)
- “Leadership is selling an idea before it's time has come.”
- “Leadership is unlocking the potential of others.” (Carly Fiorina GLS2014)
- “Leaders move people from here to there.” (Bill Hybels)
- “Managers work IN the system; Leaders work ON the system.” (Stephen R. Covey)
- “A boss says, ‘Go!’ A leader says, ‘Let’s go!’”
- “Leaders manage power.” (Ivan Satyavrata GLS2014)
- “Leadership is the capacity and will to rally men and women to a common purpose, and the character which inspires confidence.” (Lord Montgomery, Military Leader)
- “Leadership may be defined as that quality in a leader that inspires sufficient confidence in his subordinates as to be willing to accept his views and carry out his commands.” (Fleet Admiral Nimitz)
- “There are only three kinds of people in the world—those that are immovable, those that are moveable, and those that move them!” (Li Hung Chang, Chinese Leader)
- “Recognizing loneliness as God's loving reminder of how He feels when we long for the fellowship of others more than His.” (Revelation 3:20) (Bill Gothard, Institute in Basic Youth Conflicts)
- “A leader is a man who knows the road, who can keep ahead, and who pulls others after him.” (John R. Mott)
- “It occurs to me that perhaps the best test of whether one is a qualified leader, is to find out whether anyone else is following him.” (D. E. Hoste, General Director, China Inland Mission)
- “Spirituality is not easy to define, but its presence or absence can easily be discerned. It has been called the diffused fragrance that has been assimilated in the garden of the Lord. It is the power to change the atmosphere by one's presence, the unconscious influence that makes Christ and spiritual things real to others.” (J. Oswald Sanders, Spiritual Leadership)
- “It is a general principle that we can influence and lead others only so far as we ourselves have gone. The person most likely to be successful is one who leads not merely by pointing the way but by having trodden it himself. We are leaders to the extent that we inspire others to follow us.” (J. Oswald Sanders, Spiritual Leadership)
- “Leaders should wear bifocals—they should be nearsighted enough to handle everyday problems, yet farsighted enough to see beyond them.”
- “Asking ‘Who ought to be boss?’ is like asking ‘Who ought to be the tenor of the quartet?’ Obviously, the man who can sing tenor.” (Henry Ford, My Life and Work)

- “In the simplest terms, a leader is one who knows where he wants to go and gets up and goes.” (John Erskine)
- “Leaders are not called by God to stand behind a program and push; they are called by God to go before their brothers and lead. They move others by example, not by the power of their office.” (Larry Richards, Youth Ministry)