

# A LEADER

I went on a search to become a leader.

I searched high and low. I spoke with authority. People listened. But alas, there was one who was wiser than I, and they followed that individual.

I sought to inspire confidence, but the crowd responded, “Why should I trust you?”

I postured, and I assumed the look of leadership with a countenance that flowed with confidence and pride. But many passed me by and never noticed my air of elegance.

I ran ahead of the others, pointed the way to new heights. I demonstrated that I knew the route to greatness. And then I looked back, and I was alone.

“What shall I do?” I queried. “I’ve tried hard and used all that I know.” And I sat down and pondered long.

And then, I listened to the voices around me. And I heard what the group was trying to accomplish. I rolled up my sleeves and joined in the work.

As we worked, I asked, “Are we all together in what we want to do and how to get the job done?”

And we thought together, and we fought together, and we struggled toward our goal.

I found myself encouraging the fainthearted. I sought the ideas of those too shy to speak out. I taught those who had little skill. I praised those who worked hard. When our task was completed, one of the group turned to me and said, “This would not have been done but for your leadership.”

At first, I said, “I didn’t lead. I just worked with the rest.” And then I understood, leadership is not a goal. It’s a way to reaching a goal.

I lead best when I help others to go where we’ve decided to go. I lead best when I help others to use themselves creatively. I lead best when I forget about myself as leader and focus on my group . . . their needs and their goals.

To lead is to serve . . . to give . . . to achieve together.

# QUALITIES/SKILLS OF A LEADER

1. Knowledge
2. Human relations
3. Health, vitality
4. Stability under pressure
5. Judgment
6. Dependability
7. Initiative
8. Decisiveness
9. Cooperation
10. Quality of work
11. Quantity of work
12. Cost-consciousness
13. Integrity
14. Flexibility

## Qualities Required of Attila's Chieftains

1. Loyalty
2. Courage
3. Desire
4. Emotional stamina
5. Physical stamina
6. Empathy
7. Decisiveness
8. Anticipation
9. Timing
10. Competitiveness
11. Self-Confidence
12. Accountability
13. Responsibility
14. Credibility
15. Tenacity
16. Dependability
17. Stewardship

from  
*Leadership Secrets of Attila the Hun*  
By Wess Roberts, Ph.D.

## Leadership Top 10

1. Personal ethics
2. High energy level
3. Good at working priorities
4. Courageous (risk-taker)
5. Committed and dedicated to hard work
6. Unorthodox and creative
7. Goal oriented
8. Inspired/contagious enthusiasm
9. Realistic and level-headed
10. Desire to help others grow and succeed.

from  
*Leadership When the Heat's On*  
by Danny Cox and John Hoover

## **The 21 Indispensable Qualities of a Leader**

- 1. Character**
- 2. Charisma**
- 3. Commitment**
- 4. Communication**
- 5. Competence**
- 6. Courage**
- 7. Discernment**
- 8. Focus**
- 9. Generosity**
- 10. Initiative**
- 11. Listening**
- 12. Passion**
- 13. Positive Attitude**
- 14. Problem Solving**
- 15. Relationships**
- 16. Responsibility**
- 17. Security**
- 18. Self-Discipline**
- 19. Servanthood**
- 20. Teachability**
- 21. Vision**

from  
*The 21 Indispensable Qualities of a Leader*  
by Robert C. Maxwell

## **Qualities of Leadership**

Successful organizations are led by  
individuals who:

- **Are willing to make trade-offs**
- **Work from set goals**
- **Are effective communicators**
- **Are perceptive and sensitive to the group and their needs**
- **Are good at integrating various interests and priorities**
- **Are creative and adaptable**
- **Provide a positive role model**
- **Acknowledge the efforts of all**
- **Tactfully allow for differences**
- **Demonstrate patience and professionalism**
- **Can move beyond their own biases**

from  
*Leadership Skills*  
by Emily Kittle Morrison