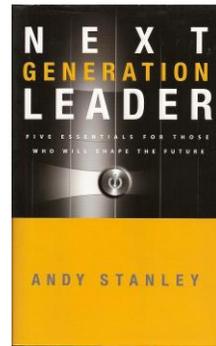


Next Generation Leader by Andy Stanley

Book review by Jack Bickel



This little gem of a book should be on everyone's "must read." Andy's insights are helpful in the marketplace as well as in work for God's Kingdom. Following is a list of topics and key ideas in the book.

Competence: do less, accomplish more

- Put your energies into areas where you are most likely to excel

Courage- courage establishes leadership

- Courage to initiate change, to set things in motion
- Develop a mental picture of a preferred state
- True leaders are often not the first to see the opportunity, but often are the first to seize that opportunity
- Careful not careless
- Courage to attempt what others feel is impossible
- Courage to say no
- Courage to face the current reality
- Courage to dream

Clarity: uncertain times require clear direction

- Not to eradicate uncertainty, but to navigate it
- Vision: taking people on a journey
- "Pencil in your plans; write your vision in ink"
- Direction must be clear to hold people accountable
- People will follow a leader even if he/she is wrong; will not follow you if you are unclear
- Clarity increases influence
- Uncertainty exposes lack of knowledge
- Pretending exposes a lack of character
- Clear vision pushes us through uncertainty

Coaching- enables a leader to go farther, faster

- "Without a coach, you'll never be as good as you could be"
- Great leaders are great listeners
- Being coached: be observed, get feedback
- Coaches: observe, instruct, inspire in a trusting relationship
- Coach instills a mental image of what you could be as a leader
- Feedback: seek specific feedback so you know what people are already thinking

Character- the moral authority to bring people and resources together to further the enterprise.

- Character determines the leader's legacy
- Honesty/integrity the most sought-after trait
- Character: the will to do what's right even when it's hard
- Character: a series of pre-decisions that are non-negotiable
- Willingness to say "no"

- Doing the right thing because it's the right thing to do
- Moral authority: the invisible badge every leader wears
- Moral authority: inspires followers to "lend you their hearts"
- Lead through influence
- People must buy the leader before buying the vision
- Be a leader "worth following"
- Give time and attention to the "inner man"
- Gifts open doors; character determines your actions
- Character: who you are and how you treat others around you
- Character is always personal but never private