

BE A ONE-WORD MENTOR/LEADER!

The way you define mentoring/leadership determines what you'll do, where you'll go, and how you'll get there. Without definitions you'll flounder. Understanding your role as a Mentor, the power you have to instill worth in the individuals you support, and the skills and strengths you possess to help positively shape their lives will ultimately lead to their edification, growth, and independence as individuals and your effectiveness as a Provider.

Three Definitions of Leadership:

- 1) Leaders take people where they could not go on their own.
- 2) Leaders **INSPIRE** others to want to do what must be done. Encouraging through example and support, not control and domination.
- 3) Leaders instigate forward-facing movement. You have to go somewhere to lead. You aren't just taking a walk.

YOU MUST DEFINE YOUR LEADERSHIP, so here are NINE more Definitions of Leadership:

- 1) "One who sees opportunity and takes the initiative to bring forth the idea for a greater cause." Harjas Dogra
- 2) "Getting people to exceed their own expectations." G.J. Hart
- 3) "Being perceptive to situations, seeking answers to problems you find, marshaling resources to solve them, and rolling up your sleeves and joining in." Kurt Young
- 4) "Leadership is the ability to see both the forest and the trees, connecting the vision of where we need to be travelling and finding a compelling story to get us there. It is about inspiring and developing, coaching and mentoring." Tom Varga
- 5) "Leadership is the act, or process, of helping others become, or do, more than they ever thought they could." Kevin Campbell
- 6) Leadership distilled down to one word, 'Influence.' John Maxwell
- 7) "Leadership is a matter of 'how to be', not how to do." Frances Hesselbein
- 8) "Leaders rally people toward a better future." Marcus Buckingham
- 9) "Leadership is a function of knowing yourself, having a vision that is well communicated, building trust among others, and taking effective action to realize your own leadership potential." Warren Bennis

Can discovering one powerful, inspiring word (meant just for you) really change your life?

To make a powerful impact with lasting results requires a narrow focus. Finding one word, OR, allowing one word to find you, is a point of clarity that guides and energizes.

Can you find one word for yourself that will:
Clarify and express purpose,
Defines success,
Guide decisions,
Evaluate progress, and build momentum?

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Ask yourself: What do I want to be true of the future?

Why should I care?

How will progress be measured?

Ask yourself: Can I create an environment where others bring their vision to life?

How can I help others grow?

It takes personal confidence to let yourself be seen. Authentic leaders are “seen” when they declare their beliefs, thoughts, motivations, and intentions.

Ask yourself: how do I need to change?

Where do I want different outcomes?

Consider multiple options and perspectives.

Act deliberately with intent not impulsively with emotion.

Ask yourself: do I value relationships and results?

How are you like all other people?

How are you like some other people?

How are you like no other person?

Can I learn to cultivate strong relationships and create a way to measure the effect of results?

Ask yourself: how do I define success?

How can I compensate for areas that are not my personal strengths?

Can I be successful without setting hard-line expectations?

What happens if I don't broaden my definition of success?

Ask yourself: what values do I have that drive my actions?

Values guide during good times, anchor during tough times, and create stability during change. VALUES make us predictable where it counts. Your values express your direction and future.

The ultimate question:

“Am I a serving mentoring leader or a self-serving mentoring leader?”

"The greatest among you will be your servant." Jesus

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Below are some ideas, questions, concepts and philosophies to contemplate while you define your distinct ONE-WORD:

PROFOUND EXPERIENCE: a life experience that changes your perspective on the world and your place in it.

It's going to be hard. But hard is not impossible.

Character is defined when no one is watching.

The first step to getting anywhere is deciding you're not willing to stay where you are.

Your bad days don't define you. Tomorrow is a new day.

A goal without a plan is just a wish.

Are there some walks you have to take alone?

Fear is part of life. But overcoming our fears is where the growth lies. So make moves forward in the face of fear. FEAR = False Evidence Appearing Real.

Can you say this to yourself? FUTURE...I am ready!

Strive for progress. Not perfection.

A person who pushes their boundaries ultimately finds them.

The invisible threads of community are everywhere.

Everything we do out of LOVE, lives forever.

Peace of mind is not the absence of conflict from life, but the ability to cope with it.

Even on our worst days we must hold on to the possibility of JOY.

Fill your own shoes first.

You cannot find peace by avoiding life.

Positive transformation of any kind begins with a personal choice. A choice to do better, to commit with your whole heart. One choice can mark the beginning of a new life. A new standard of excellence. A new anything.

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A well-lived life is spread across eight areas: emotional, relational/family, financial, physical, intellectual, professional, social & religious/spiritual.

Everything we do touches on some combination of these areas, and a good life finds a **BALANCE** among them all.

FOUR WAYS TO BECOME A ONE WORD LEADER: (list your words below: find a common word)

1) Explore and define “pockets” of positive energy. Unsuccessful leaders spend too much time focused on things that aren’t working. Where are the pockets of positive energy in your life? Negativity doesn’t yield positive results.

What one word best describes what’s behind the pockets of positive energy?

_____ ; _____ ; _____ ; _____ ; _____ ; _____

2) Think about all the parts of “YOU” and identify your individual talents, passions, and points of energy. If you mixed all that up, what one word best expresses YOUR combined passions?

_____ ; _____ ; _____ ; _____ ; _____ ; _____

3) How do you energize yourself? How do others help you energize yourself? What attitudes and/or behaviors do you, and the others who help you energize your life, have in common? How might that translate into one word?

_____ ; _____ ; _____ ; _____ ; _____ ; _____

4) How do you identify frustrations? What can you do about repeated frustrations? Don’t fix a broken past. Build a positive future. Define words and practice actions that express your inspiration.

What one word might give you focus?

_____ ; _____ ; _____ ; _____ ; _____ ; _____

Credit for this concept is given to Jon Gordon, Dan Britton, and Jimmy Page.

