

Pondering Point

Throughout our lives we come into contact with many people. Of those people, a fair amount have a hand in shaping who we are today. They leave a lasting impression and may be a guide or reference for us as we journey through the labyrinth of our lives.

What transforms an ordinary person into a leader? What makes that person a great leader? Though they may be our bosses and superiors, leaders are sometimes found outside the traditional professional setting. Some occur in circumstances that call out the leadership in "average" people. These people can be found in our homes, within our friendship circles and in the most unlikely places. They are those who have led by example, displayed humility and integrity and have impressed us in a life-altering way.

Pinpointing the exemplary leaders in our lives give us role models to look up to and strive to become more like. The more approachable the person is the more we may feel connected to them. Choosing leaders we have never met may have less of a direct impact on our lives. If at any moment we know we can be called to leadership, we can let those before us empower us to be greater leaders ourselves.

Who's the BEST leader you've ever had?



Imagine... being recognized as the best leader someone else ever had.

— From Pondering to Practice —

Reflection

Let's humanize the leadership role.

- Take a moment to recognize the leader (or one of the leaders) that has made the biggest impression in your life.
- Are there some characteristics of this leader that you may find within yourself?
- What characteristics did this leader **not** have that you wish to add in your own behavior?

Celebrate the similarities and learn from the behaviors of those that inspire you. You may be a leader to others and not realize it.

Activity

Try this –

- Get together with the leader you recognized in your reflection and tell them why they are important to you.
- This may help you to feel more connected to them and inspire you even further.

"I watch your motion, I listen to your words flow, and then I realize I can be you - I can be anyone."

- Anonymous