

# The Three Qualities of a Leader Everyone Wants to Follow.

Great leaders aren't always the loudest or the smartest in the room. But they are the ones everybody wants to follow.



The second quality you must develop in order to become the kind of leader people love to follow centres around inspiration.

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### Inspire Your People



*“Why is probably the most important message any organisation can communicate as this is what inspires others to action.”*

– Simon Sinek

According to research by IBM people who describe themselves as ‘inspired’ are more than twice as productive as people who are merely ‘satisfied’ with their job.

When you build a culture of inspiration in your team you’ll see lower turnover, more productivity and increased loyalty.

The ability to inspire your people to action means they feel what they do really matters and that they are making a difference.

Inspiring the people you lead is an obvious necessity for a leader but here’s something new - it’s different to motivating them.

• **Motivation** is urging people to do something they don’t want to do.

• **Inspiration** is about pulling out the best of what’s already in them.

How does a great leader do that? How do they inspire others to achieve their goals?

**1. They know the power of a big ‘why’** - Most leaders talk about what their people should do and how they should do it. But what & how doesn’t really inspire. The inspiration to action comes when leaders talk about why we should make a change. You can bang on for a month of Sundays about what your new small group system will look like and how people can get involved. But you’ll only inspire people to make a change when you lean into why changing the small group system is vital for your church. *“Why is probably the most important message any organisation can communicate as this is what inspires others to action.”* (Simon Sinek)





**2. They lead by example** - Authentic leaders act by their words. They walk the talk. They'd never expect their people to do what they aren't prepared to do themselves. I listened to a leader recently berate their church for not inviting their friends to church. After the service I asked when they last invited as friend or neighbour. They couldn't remember. Leading by example is inspirational and sets the tone for the church.

**3. They love new ideas** - Inspiring leaders challenge the status quo. They promote a culture of innovation. When someone comes to an inspiring leader with a new idea they don't hear BUT HOW ("how can we afford it? How can we get others to buy in?") They hear WOW (Wow - I love your fresh thinking for our organisation!) We must learn to be a student not a critic and replace how with wow. Let's stop focusing on what's wrong with an idea and start giving it space to develop.

If you are going to do something truly significant you need help.

You can't do it alone.

***"Inspiring leaders challenge the status quo. They promote a culture of innovation."***

You need others.

And you can't pay your people enough to give you their hearts. Instead you'll have to become an inspirational leader who can inspire others to give their very best for the sake of the cause.

Being an inspiring leader doesn't mean giving emotional speeches it means talking passionately about your why, leading by personal example and throwing your arms around new ideas.

In part three I'll show you how you can turn your followers into owners...

