

HOW THE BEST LEADERS THINK

CHANGE HOW YOU THINK

Your leadership is always moving in the direction of your strongest thoughts. How you think will determine how you lead. The problem is what you believe about leadership may be wrong.

Most people want to know “What do other leaders do?” While that’s not a bad place to start, the better question is “How do other leaders think?” Try these three steps:

1. Find a leader several steps ahead of you. The gift of disorientation leads to leaps of different thinking.
2. Watch for where you push back the most. Disagree strongly, most to learn. Be a student, not a critic.
3. Be willing to be wrong. People will follow a leader who is real all of the time even if they aren't right all the time.

The best leaders think differently from the rest, and we’ll cover why in the next four sessions:

*The best leaders don't control, they **empower**. [Trust the right people to know everything.]*

*The best leaders don't spend, they **invest**.*

*The best leaders don't think problems, they think **possibilities**.*

*The best leaders don't motivate, they **inspire**.*

- 2** Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve;
- 3** not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. **4** And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away. **1 PETER 5:2-4**

NOW, LET'S START THINKING:

Here are exercises you can do to grow as a leader—ask yourself and your team these questions:

1. Are you willing to be wrong? What's one area where you might need to challenge your thinking in order to grow, succeed, or see a perspective you might have missed?

2. We all have a leader we admire and would love to learn from. Write down three questions you'd like to ask them about the way they think about leadership.

