

FROM THE VAULT: THE VIRTUES OF A LEADER, PART 1

Virtues are important everywhere, but they are especially important within the context of leadership.

The Seven Virtues of Leadership

1. **Kindness** is love in action. Kindness is the tangible expression of love.
 - Loaning someone your strength instead of reminding them of their weakness.
 - Kindness isn't always soft and fuzzy. It's about treating people well, but that often includes hard conversations.
2. **Community** is being part of something greater than yourself, where you can experience belonging, mutual care, and accountability.
 - Research shows that if you have a friend at work, you're more likely to stay at that organization.
3. **Empowerment** is investing in others so they can acquire the skills, opportunities, and responsibility to grow into all that God intends for them.
 - Leaders have a responsibility to pour into those around them, especially the people they're leading.
 - "I cannot promise to fill your cup, but I have a responsibility to empty mine."
—Andy Stanley

Questions for Reflection or Team Discussion

1. Jonathan mentions that "graceful candor" is a phrase they use internally. What does "graceful candor" look like to you? Is this something you could use more of within your organization?
2. Do you have a best friend at work? Do you notice whether or not the people you lead have a best friend at work? How can you create a culture that allows these types of friendships to grow organically on your team?
3. Andy mentions that there are people whose shoulders he's standing on. Think back to the people who have helped you grow throughout your career. How can you pass along the same empowerment to others?

Resources Mentioned

[*Our Better Angels*](#) by Jonathan Reckford