

WHY LEADERSHIP MATTERS

Thursday, February 5, 2026 | David McKinley

"Clarity"—Nehemiah 1–2:5

"Leadership brings clarity where confusion, conflict and complacency rule."

"A true leader has the confidence to stand alone, the courage to make tough decisions, and the compassion to listen to the needs of others. He does not set out to be a leader, but becomes one by the equality of his actions and the integrity of his intent." —Douglas MacArthur

"The challenge of leadership is to be strong, but not rude; be kind, but not weak; be bold, but not bully; be thoughtful, but not lazy; be humble, but not timid; be proud, but not arrogant; have humor, but without folly." —Jim Rohn

"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." —Dr. Martin Luther King

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." —John Quincy Adams

"The Christian leaders of the future have to be theologians, persons who know the heart of God and are trained—through prayer, study, and careful analysis—to manifest the divine event of God's saving work in the midst of the many seemingly random events of their time." —Henry Nowen

"Consensus is the negation of leadership." —Margaret Thatcher

"Everything rises and falls on leadership." —John Maxwell

[Nehemiah 1:1-4, 11; 2:1-5]

Leadership Matters because...

1. Leaders View Problems as
Personal Responsibilities

WHY LEADERSHIP MATTERS

Thursday, February 5, 2026 | David McKinley

"Clarity"—Nehemiah 1–2:5

"Leadership brings clarity where confusion, conflict and complacency rule."

"A true leader has the confidence to stand alone, the courage to make tough decisions, and the compassion to listen to the needs of others. He does not set out to be a leader, but becomes one by the equality of his actions and the integrity of his intent." —Douglas MacArthur

"The challenge of leadership is to be strong, but not rude; be kind, but not weak; be bold, but not bully; be thoughtful, but not lazy; be humble, but not timid; be proud, but not arrogant; have humor, but without folly." —Jim Rohn

"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." —Dr. Martin Luther King

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." —John Quincy Adams

"The Christian leaders of the future have to be theologians, persons who know the heart of God and are trained—through prayer, study, and careful analysis—to manifest the divine event of God's saving work in the midst of the many seemingly random events of their time." —Henry Nowen

"Consensus is the negation of leadership." —Margaret Thatcher

"Everything rises and falls on leadership." —John Maxwell

[Nehemiah 1:1-4, 11; 2:1-5]

Leadership Matters because...

1. Leaders View Problems as
Personal Responsibilities

2. Leaders Choose a Posture Over a Position (Nehemiah 1:1-11)

"You don't need a title to be a leader."—Mark Sanborn

Note Nehemiah's prayer:

Worship	Who God is	1:5
Confession	Where they are and why	1:6-7
Promises	What God said	1:8-10
Supplication	What he asked	1:11

"All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."—Edmund Burke

2. Leaders Choose a Posture Over a Position (Nehemiah 1:1-11)

"You don't need a title to be a leader."—Mark Sanborn

Note Nehemiah's prayer:

Worship	Who God is	1:5
Confession	Where they are and why	1:6-7
Promises	What God said	1:8-10
Supplication	What he asked	1:11

"All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."—Edmund Burke

3. Leaders Risk Confidence to Display Courage (Nehemiah 2:1-8)

3. Leaders Risk Confidence to Display Courage (Nehemiah 2:1-8)

4. Leaders Bring Clarity Where Complacency Rules

4. Leaders Bring Clarity Where Complacency Rules

"Life is like a ten speed bicycle. Most of us have gears we never use."—Charles Shultz

"Life is like a ten speed bicycle. Most of us have gears we never use."—Charles Shultz