

# "The Soul Woman"

GROWING PROFITS THROUGH PEOPLE



## The New Corporate Leader

We live in interesting times; every day is a new day in which we live in a time of great creative chaos, confusion and global transformation of the human condition. We may be entering a new dark age of the soul or a new renaissance of relationships. No one knows. However, what a great chance we have right now to shape our future and what a challenging time it is to be a leader. I passionately believe that leadership is a quality of the soul.

What is the essence of the soul leader, the first trait of the new corporate leader is courage, more than ever before if we are going to leave a legacy for organisations of the future, courage is needed to free the emotional and spiritual potential within employees and connect people together. Too often in the past, courage has been preached about but too few leaders have practiced it. Courage is the ability to stand alone and take sole responsibility for one's decision.

As I work throughout the world, I see rumblings within organisations. People are no longer willing to stay in organisations where they are made to feel undervalued, ill-informed. They want to work with leaders who are authentic, who will allow them to fulfil their potential and not ignore the emotional and spiritual side of them. Authentic leaders let their insides become their outsides and people will follow authentic leaders in times of change and will not follow leaders who don't ring true. More than ever before, leaders are called to be who they truly are and build a web of connections within and outside of their organisations.

Leaders need to continually ask themselves the following questions every day:

1. Who is the authentic me?
2. What do I value?
3. How do I impact the workforce each day?
4. What am I doing each day to help create the right environment for the people I lead?
5. What do you need to say no to?
6. What price are you willing to pay for your authenticity? (Are you willing to be criticised?)
7. How do you care for yourself?
8. What are you called to do in this life?

Too many leaders today get stuck at the what-if saloon, suffering from if-onlys and limiting beliefs, running around in circles.

I encourage you to step out of the what-if saloon and learn to be who you truly are again, you might need to go within and search the shadows of your heart and root out your own cynicism, fear and blame. Authentic leaders are willing to do that because they know that before they ever lead anyone else, they have to first confront their own demons, then in turn they can confront the destructive forces within the organisation.

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As leaders, I think it is so important that we take time to self examine which in turn helps us to be more accountable. People grow in organisations where honesty is valued and where honesty and truth telling is rewarded.

The new corporate leader has a holy man's compassion and a warrior's heart and the courage and the authenticity to say no to anything that diminishes their spirit or their people's spirit.

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