

What Makes Good Leadership?

LeVar Burton

American Actor, Director
and Children's Television Host

Leaders are only as good as the tools they use to guide themselves and others — and good leadership cannot be attained without integrity, authenticity, introspection and impeccable communication.

Good leaders see beyond their own needs, wealth or success. They are servant leaders who strive to be effective agents for growth and change for their followers. Their level of integrity — their ability to stay true to what they believe is right and wrong — is in alignment with their purpose. Good leaders

practice authenticity through their actions, behaviors and communication by remaining open-minded yet open-hearted, expressing their values, and sharing their failures as much as their successes. They thrive on feedback because, without it, they operate in a vacuum where learning and growth cannot exist. Good leaders create an environment where people feel safe, comfortable and able to bring their best selves to the table. They help others shine and acknowledge them when they do.

MAIN POINTS

1. Integrity plays a big role in authentic leadership.

As a leader, your personal barometer for morality and the way in which you uphold your values matter.

2. Be open-minded and open-hearted.

The more you get out of your head, the better your communication will be.

3. Introspection is key to good leadership.

Get feedback from those you lead so you can continue to learn and grow.

“Good communication cannot be underestimated in terms of its value in leadership.”