

The FUNdamentals of Leadership

Leading Others by Light(en)ing the Way

presented by
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You Must Have a Foundation of EXCELLENCE

Do you ever wonder, "Do I have to be serious to be a successful leader?" Instead of being serious, you should strive to be excellent. It's your values and skills that earn respect - not your seriousness. By being good at your roles in work or life while using the proper values to guide your decision making, you convey integrity that commands respect from others.

- ☺ Don't confuse seriousness with excellence
- ☺ Understand the value of good values
- ☺ Strive for excellent skills
- ☺ Create a plan of self improvement

A Spoonful of Humor Helps the STRESS of Leadership Go Down

Humor serves as a buffer to protect you from the effects of the stress. By creating an emotional "distance" between you and the stress, humor allows you to take a break from the challenges while you regroup and regain your composure. Use humor as the leverage to keep your balance.

- ☺ Monitor your "crud pressure"
- ☺ Recognize the warning signs of humor
- ☺ Find the right humor for you
- ☺ Get at least one dose of humor per day

Humor forces you to see a new PERSPECTIVE

Humor, by nature, creates a new perspective. By leading you down one path and then changing directions, humor forces you to see the situation differently. All leaders need the ability to see a new perspective when faced with organizational challenges and problems. Humor can be one powerful tool you see to help new and creative opportunities.

- ☺ Understand the DNA of humor
- ☺ Protect yourself against status quo thinking
- ☺ Use humor to jumpstart your creative process

You CONNECT with those you lead through understanding and humor

Research has shown that we like to be around people who have a sense of humor as well as those who understand us. Humor coupled with an empathetic style is a powerful leadership tool that can result in less conflict, enhanced communication and improved teamwork

- ☺ When faced with a challenging behavior by others, seek to understand before being understood
- ☺ Connect with staff by sharing of yourself and showing your vulnerability
- ☺ Share funny jokes, stories and quotes with colleagues and staff on a regular basis

It is better to
deserve honors and
not have them than
to have them and
not deserve them.
- Mark Twain



Humor makes a MESSAGE more memorable

A leader's job is to motivate and inspire staff to work towards the organization's mission and vision. The style with which you lead determines the way you are perceived and the success you have in rallying your staff to follow a common goal. You must show that you are a real, caring person with a sense of humor who's worth following.

- ☺ Create a greater impact through authenticity and stories
- ☺ Use humor in both written and verbal communications
- ☺ Integrate humor in your meetings to inspire creativity and produce results

Humor makes work more FUNctional

The workplace is typically pretty serious and that culture is set by the leaders. Humor can make work more enjoyable without sacrificing productivity or the integrity of the work being performed. It can create a FUN environment that attracts employees and encourages them to contribute.

- ☺ Integrate humor and FUN into your organization's culture
- ☺ Hire staff with the right attitudes
- ☺ Celebrate staff successes and special occasions regularly
- ☺ Look for ways to make routine, mundane processes more FUN.

Learning Resources

The following resources, at www.FUNsulting.com, will help you add a bolt of "lighten"ing to your life and work:

- **FREE** articles, recommended reading list and links to other helpful sites
- **FREE printed newsletter** *LIGHTENing Bolts* that includes articles, resources & other FUN stuff to reinforce material in this program and to enhance your humor potential
- Products you can purchase on our secure shopping cart:
- **Books:** *Is Your Glass LAUGH Full? Some Thoughts on Seeing Humor In Life* by Ronald P. Culberson; *Humor Me: America's Funniest Humorists on the Power of Laughter* (Anthology by 16 humorists)
- **Video** (DVD & VHS): *The FUNdamentals of Humor*
- **Audio:** *The FUNdamentals of Humor* (CD); *Putting the FUN Back in Healthcare* (CD); *Leading with Laughter* by Malcolm Kushner (Cassette)
- Information on Ron's other programs and services

About Your Speaker

Ronald P. Culberson, Director of Everything! at FUNsulting, etc., is a speaker, humorist, columnist, author of *Is Your Glass Laugh Full?* and former hospice social worker whose mission is to work with organizations that want their people to lighten up by using humor to minimize stress and maximize effectiveness. He is a Certified Speaking Professional (CSP), the highest earned award from the National Speakers Association, and is one of less than 7% of speakers worldwide who have received this designation. He has provided entertaining and informative programs to over 80,000 people in more than 700 associations, government agencies, non-profit organizations and *Fortune 500* companies.

You don't have to teach people to be funny. You only have to give them permission.
-Harvey Mindess



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