

Ej4: Introduction to Leadership
Released to Thinkzoom November 1st, 2015

{***PRESENTER ON CAM***}

“Welcome to Introduction to Leadership. Let’s begin with discussing WHO is a leader.

A leader is someone who leads or commands a group of people. Most people believe that some are born leaders—while in fact most leaders are MADE. Being a leader is not only about directing someone or something but about giving guidance.

When you hear the word “leadership” what comes to mind? Usually your boss or your boss’ boss. When someone says the word “leader” everybody usually thinks about executives or “folks at the top.” But leadership isn’t reserved for the “top dogs” at your company. It’s found throughout the office.

There are four basic levels of leadership: executives, middle management, supervisors, and the front-line.

When you look at the traditional duties of the various levels in an organization, you see that a certain part of the job is conceptual. For top management a lot of their day is spent on conceptual issues like culture and strategy; the big picture elements. A “middle manager” is someone who has a manager or supervisor reporting to them. They still have a significant part of the conceptual work to do. Supervisors have a little bit of conceptual work but not a lot. While the front-line is getting the technical work done. But there's a big middle area that EVERYONE spends a significant amount of their time on. ***That's the “human issues.” These are things like relationships, communicating, and training. This is where leadership comes into play.”