



MONDAYS

with Mike

AULTCARE

Leadership in Tough Times

Weekly PLAN

monday

All of the great leaders have had one characteristic in common: it was the willingness to confront unequivocally the major anxiety of their people in their time.

- John Kenneth Galbraith

I open today's edition of Mondays with Mike with John Galbraith's quote because of what our country has experienced in the last two weeks relative to gun violence and tragedy. These certainly are tough times. However, this edition will not be about gun control or politics. Rather, it will be about control in another context – leading our families, office teams, companies, churches, and groups. What skills and talents should we be exercising to help our groups with their anxiety when things seem out of control, emotionally heavy, or unpredictable?

John Maxwell shares the following four qualities that we should engage in order to help those that we influence, regardless of our titles or positions.

1. Confront reality. Do not latch on to news that you want to hear. Process painful information, condense it for accuracy, and stretch your team's resources to be helpful to the needs of the situation—all hands on deck, all skills in play. Lend help in unique and productive ways.
2. See the big picture. Do not sacrifice the future on the altar of the present. There is always greater good to be pursued. Don't let emotion create a short-term decision that has negative long-term consequences.
3. Value teamwork. As challenges escalate, the need for teamwork elevates. Our leadership should create a sense of urgency compelling enough and a vision for the future attractive enough for all to find common ground. We must let go of self-serving agendas and combine abilities in the interest of the team as a whole.
4. Make it happen. Leaders can be evaluated by the size of the problem they are willing to tackle. The best leaders push beyond their comfort zones and challenge themselves to wrestle with the biggest obstacles in their path. They commit, knowing that failure is a possibility. Doing nothing is not an option.

While we cannot control the events beyond our locations, we certainly can help the leadership energy in our spheres of influence.

Let's commit to doing just that!

