Principles for Effective Leadership

Jim Taggart

The following eight principles were created during the Fall of 1998 while I was engaged in distance learning with Royal Roads University's masters program in leadership. I had forgotten that I had written them down, until two years later when I discovered them in one of my binders. While these were personal principles that I created and am now re-discovering, they may serve as a catalyst for your own leadership journey.

1. Treat people as how you wish to be treated.

2. Share power − copiously.

3. Be open and up-front, yet respectful, with others.

4. Maintain an optimistic outlook, even in the face of adversity.

5. Be there to support others in times of difficulty, and let others know that you're also human and need *their* support.

6. Fully understand your strengths, weaknesses, gifts, and warts − *know yourself*.

7. Never stop learning − be a sponge.

8. Develop and maintain a healthy sense of humour, including the ability to laugh at yourself.

I learn by going where I have to go.
Theodore Roethke