

Topic: Personal Journal- Week 1 to Week 4

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LEAD 704: The Leader's Role in the 21st Century

Week one**1. ~~___ leadership strengths~~**

In the first week of taking this course, I was able to reflect on my own leadership strengths and weaknesses. One of my strengths is that I like working with a team. According to Kouzes and Posner (2010) “Leadership is at team sport.” The simplest way to know whether someone is a leader is to just look and see if that person has followers. That is what the leadership author John Maxwell advances in his book, “Team wWork makes the dDream wWork.”

2. leadership skills that needs improvement

I also discovered this week that there are a number of areas I need to make improvements in order to be more effective as a leader. These include trusting that when I give my followers that when I give them an assignment they will come through. I also believe I need to work on the ninth truth in *The Truth About Leadership* (2010) that says “the best leaders are those who learn.” I believe as a leader I should never stop learning if am going to be a good leader.

~~Other leaders I saw exhibiting exemplary leadership.~~

This week I paid very close attention to the leadership qualities of my Bishop Emeritus Dr Mophat Kilioba, though he is retired, he took time to send us information of what is required by the government if churches are going to resume worship after restrictions are lifted by the government because of coronavirus.

3. ~~Characteristics and skills that were evident in their leadership.~~

The characteristics and skills that were evident in his leadership was that which is described by the fourth truth which states that “focusing on the future sets leaders apart.” Indeed forward looking is a quality that defines a leaders ability to imagine and communicate exciting about future possibilities. I found ~~my~~ Bishop Emeritus to be quiet forward looking as far as matters of the reopening of churches was concerned.

Week Two

1. ~~___~~ leadership strengths

This second week has been filled with many lessons about how I lead and how I can be more effective as a leadership. I learnt for instance, that in order to be a good leader you need, like Moses in the Bible, to be a good in delegating responsibilities. I was working on a case study of Moses ~~for in~~ one of my assignments. His father-in-law, Jethro, came visiting him. ~~W~~hen Jethro ~~he~~ saw how ~~Moses was~~ busy ~~Moses was~~ settling disputes, the whole day, he pulled him aside and advised him on how to delegate to other leaders. When Moses did this, it lessened his workload. I believe just like Moses I need to learn the art of delegation. I tend to do things on my own because at times I feel I do not want to burden others.

I also learnt about facing challenges as a leader, Moses faced a lot of challenges as he lead the children of Israel. There were times when he failed like that time God told to speak to the rock so that water may come out, but instead he hit it with his staff because he was angry with his followers. I should try to control my anger so as to avoid making unnecessary mistakes.

I also learnt that historical leaders whom people admire ~~have most~~ always faced and led others through major challenges. Indeed, ~~leadership~~ is the study of how men and women guide people through uncertainty, hardship, disruption, transformation, transition, recovery, new beginnings, and other significant challenges. It's also the study of how men and women, in times of constancy and complacency, actively seek to disturb the status quo, awaken new possibilities, and pursue opportunities.

2. ~~Leadership skills that needs improvement~~

I need to learn how to delegate and be resilient as I face challenges in leadership.

~~Uhuru Kenyatta, Other leaders I saw exhibiting exemplary leadership.~~

~~The pPresident of Kenya, -was when he was~~ faced with the challenge of lifting measures put in place to fight coronavirus. These measures which included lockdowns and curfews had been in place for two months which had made the economy ~~to~~ grind to a halt. He addressed the country very articulately putting ~~forward th~~his case ~~on~~ why we should not lift the measures at the moment. He appealed to the hearts of the citizen when he ~~said how he~~ was ~~in favor of for~~ the idea of reopening the country, ~~but~~ decided not to do so because of the advise ~~he received from of~~ health experts. At the end he reduced the curfew hours, but left the other restrictions ~~in place~~ -and everybody was happy. ~~Through his leadership, I saw -~~

3. ~~Characteristics and skills that were evident in their leadership.~~

~~O~~penness, ~~t~~rustworthiness, team leadership, ~~his ability to face ing~~ challenges, ~~and his -~~ ~~willingness to lead and Leading~~ with the heart.

Week Three1. ~~_____ leadership strengths~~

This third week I conduct an interview with Bishop Dr. ~~J~~John Warari. My first impression was the humility I saw in him. This reminded me ~~of the the~~ tenth truth in Kouzes and Posner's (2010) book "*The Truth About Leadership*," which states that "Leadership is an affair of the heart."

It also reminded me that as a leader, you have to believe in yourself before you can make an impact on anyone else. You have to believe you can make a positive impact on those you are leading. ~~In the interview I had~~ asked him what were his values since values drive commitment. To which he had answered ~~me~~ that he valued his relationship with God, character, ethics, honesty, gratitude, self-development and good leadership.

2. ~~_____ leadership skills that needs improvement.~~

He should try not to over commit his time since at times it could cause him to lose credibility with those he is not able to fulfill his promises to.

~~_____~~
~~The leader that I felt exemplified leadership skills this week was Other leaders that I saw exhibiting exemplary leadership.~~

~~m~~My colleague in the ministry, ~~_~~Rev Zadock. We ~~had~~ bought our ~~p~~Presiding ~~b~~Bishop a car, ~~_~~ but it was stuck in the port ~~c~~City of Mombasa. There was no way of getting it to Nairobi because of the lockdown imposed on Nairobi and Mombasa as a measure to combat ~~the~~ Coronavirus. ~~Rev.~~

~~Zadock He~~ was able to ~~c~~contact a friend who lives in Voi, a town near Mombasa; ~~his friend,~~ ~~arranged for the car to~~ ~~organized how he would~~ get ~~to the car at~~ the border of Mombasa ~~and to~~ drive it up to the ~~bor~~Boarder of Nairobi where it was handed over to us. I thought that was great leadership and innovation from Rev Zadok.

~~Characteristics and skills that were evident in their leadership.~~

The leadership characteristics that were evident in his leadership were, innovation and forward looking, which Kouzes and Posner (2010) found in their surveys of what characteristics people want in leaders. They ~~had~~ found that ~~being~~ forward-looking was the second most sought characteristics people wanted ~~in~~ ~~their~~ leaders after honesty.

What leadership strengths and weaknesses did you see in yourself this week?

Week Four

1. leadership strengths

This forth week I accompanied Bishop Dr John Warari to see what a typical day for him comprised of ~~how his day looks like~~. One thing I learned was he was good ~~at~~ ~~in~~ time management. He started his day with his students whom he taught via Zoom, we then proceeded to visit his long-time friend Bishop Monde. From there we proceeded to the head office of the Inter-Religious Council of Kenya. Then we delivered anti-corruption books to two other offices. One thing I noticed is that he is very engaging and throughout the day he kept me glued to his leadership stories which I really appreciated. He is also a servant leader.

2. ~~leadership skills that needs improvement~~

I personally need to learn how to relate with people more, this is what I noticed with Dr. Warari; those who work for him respect him, I could see it in how he interacted with them. Dr.

Warari's

3. ~~Other leaders I saw exhibiting exemplary leadership~~

~~His~~ friend, Bishop Monde, who was building ~~a the~~ church, ~~he~~ was very enthusiastic about the vision he had. Also, ~~when~~ finding him in the building site instead of his office spoke volumes on the kind of leader he is. I admired that

4. ~~Characteristics and skills that were evident in his leadership~~

hHe was leading from the front; he was very excited about the project. He was also interacting very well with the workers at the site.