



The Many Facets of Leadership

JUNE 2025



Vicki Holden, CFWC Leadership Chair, Editor

Welcome to "Facets of Leadership"!

FACET – one side of something many-sided, especially of a cut gem; a particular aspect or feature of something.

We consider each of you a gem in our Federation Treasure Chest. Each bringing distinct qualities, which when shared with others, create a huge bounty upon which we build the strength of GFWC/CFWC. It is our hope that by sharing these thoughts of others on Leadership, we can help you to polish the facets of the dedicated member you are. And in turn, enable you to share your polished gleam and talent with others as they join us on our Leadership journey.

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From Leadership Matters by Lee J. Colan, Ph.D

"Inspiring leadership is not just about investing in others. **Inspiring leadership is also about investing in ourselves.** Today more than ever, there is a cafeteria of learning available to us...and it's filled with the food of knowledge. Your life is a virtual cafeteria of learning where you can build your leadership competence. You can find best practices everywhere. Watch the people around you. You can find nuggets of insight from a father-in-law, a clergyman, a speaker at a professional association meeting, a fellow leader, a mentor, a child, a Boy Scout's troop leader or a particularly helpful salesperson at a local department store. Observe, read, ask, listen, and learn."

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"Let go of who you think you're supposed to be and embrace who you are."

– Brené Brown, [*The Gifts of Imperfection*](#)*

"Imperfections are not inadequacies; they are reminders that we're all in this together." – Brené Brown, [*The Gifts of Imperfection*](#)*



From Admired Leadership Field Notes

A Relationship Challenge: Greet Everyone You Come in Direct Contact With

There is something special about a person who chooses to greet everyone they come in direct contact with. With a simple gesture, they convey that people and relationships matter to them. When a leader follows this principle, it carries an additional meaning. Leaders who greet everyone they come in direct contact with project a deep respect for others.

The gesture says people are worth their time and consideration.

For busy leaders, who are normally on task and focused on getting things done, this is quite a relationship challenge.

Taking the time and making the effort to acknowledge everyone they see requires a willingness to step outside what is most comfortable. It takes a positive attitude, high energy, and a desire to engage people.

And not all leaders are self-secure enough to do it. But it leaves a big and lasting impression. For those a leader knows, addressing them by name is essential. The greeting doesn't need to be more than a polite acknowledgment: "Nice to see you, Jackie," or "How are you today, Bob?" A conversation may ensue, but it doesn't have to. A simple acknowledgment usually suffices to make people feel respected.

As a rule, leaders who value relationships don't tell people it is "Nice to meet you," as the possibility they have met them before can make this greeting off-putting.

"Nice to see you" works whether the leader has met the person earlier or not. So it is a better choice.

Being excited to greet people is something leaders can train themselves to do. The kinetic energy of a positive greeting can be infectious and lift others up.

Excitement doesn't have to be exaggerated or over-the-top. Sometimes a smile is all it takes. Using positive language, such as "delighted," "thrilled," "eager," "pleasure," and "jazzed," all convey enthusiasm and friendliness.

Take the relationship challenge. Greet everyone you come into direct contact with at the start or end of your day. Watch others light up and respond differently to you.

Now try to do it more often, until it becomes a habit.

You might be surprised how much it obviously means to others. But **the biggest revelation** may be in how it makes you feel about yourself.

When you convey a respect and excitement in acknowledging others, you will feel more connected to others and positive about yourself. It's a great trade.

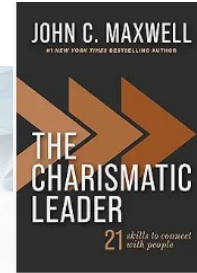
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Suggested Reading

The Charismatic Leader: 21 Skills to Connect with People

John C. Maxwell



Is charisma essential for every leader? Absolutely, because at its core, leadership is about influence – nothing more, nothing less. This reality underscores the importance of engaging effectively with others. *The Charismatic Leader: 21 Skills for Connecting with People* unveils John Maxwell's roadmap to more impactful leadership through the power of charisma. By adopting a mindset that prioritizes others – transforming every “Here I am!” into a heartfelt “Ah, there you are!” – you can light up any room and create deep meaningful connections.

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Resources available if you don't already have them...:

Do have your GFWC Leadership Tool Kit?

It's available on the GFWC Website, in the Membership Portal, in the Digital Library

Do you have your copy of CFWC publications?

Federation at a Glance and the Art of Leadership?

Both are available to download free of charge on the CFWC Website under “Publications”

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Comments and suggestions for future topics may be sent to cfwcleadership@gmail.com