

LIFT LEADERSHIP AHP SUBMISSION

Great Leaders Lead Through a Crisis – Gail Rudolph CMCT, CFRE & CEO of LIFT Leadership

Recently John Maxwell, a global authority on leadership and one of my mentors, spoke about leading through a crisis. With over forty years teaching, speaking, and writing about leadership, his remarks are worthy of sharing, especially as we all navigate the uncertainty created by the coronavirus pandemic.

A leader's perspective has a heightened impact on others during times of uncertainty. The top priority of an exemplary leader is someone whose perspective is one of putting others first.

A great leader guides their people through a crisis and helps them get better because of the challenges faced.

Great leaders leverage their team and its diversity, bringing people together to form a brain trust of different ideas and viewpoints.

Great leaders are flexible, adaptable, and adjustable, learning to change with the fluidity of uncharted seas on which they sail.

Great leaders are authentic. They allow others to see their vulnerability to create connection. They let their people know "we are in this together" and "we will get through this together."

Great leaders freely admit they don't have all of the answers, but they are certain of their beliefs, their choices, and their perspective.

Great leaders are moved to action. They encourage by example, knowing that action offers a sense of purpose for others.

Great leaders communicate thoughtfully. They are astute stewards of facts and information, sharing with their people details that are clear, wise, and necessary.

Great leaders are open, honest, clear, filled with hope, and the first to show up.

Each one of us is a leader. Maybe you're not the head of a company, an organization, or a nation, but anyone who has any influence with others is a leader. Managers, mentors, parents, team leads, friends, neighbors, spouses...each of these roles holds influence.

One thing for certain about the uncertainty of a crisis: it reveals who we truly are. Will we lead from a place of fear or from a place of hope? Will we focus on ourselves or on others? Will we cower at the feet of the challenge before us or will we rise up and find ways to make the very best of a bad situation?

In a crisis, a great leader will define reality, affect positive change for their people, and help them meet the moment through action, purpose, and personal growth.

Rise up. Meet the moment. Be the best leader you can be.

LIFT Leadership is hosting free virtual **Learn with LIFT** sessions every Friday at 10am Pacific/ 1pm Eastern. We invite AHP members to learn more from LIFT and a variety of guest experts. For more information on topics or how to join, visit lift-leadership.com or email kfrank@lift-leadership.com