

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A LEADER AND A BOSS?

By: Fountain Hendricks

John 12:19

Bosses are **FEARED**. Leaders are **ADMIRED**. When you are placed in a position of leadership you will either govern your people like a boss or a leader. There is no other option.

People who do not take the time to understand how to be an effective leader become a boss by default.

Bosses are **NOT** spoken in a positive light. They are usually regarded as being un-compassionate, unkind and slave drivers.

People who act like bosses possess an attitude of entitlement rather than gratitude. They want their subordinates to serve them rather than serving their subordinates. They want the people to bow at the sound

of their voice rather than inspire the people to follow them. The attitude of a boss is contrary to the teachings of King Jesus.

King Jesus said the greatest among you is the one who **SERVES** according to Mathew 23:11. King Jesus teaches us to empower the poor, **NOT** to degrade them. If you decide to adopt the attitude of a boss you will struggle in a position of leadership.

People who act like a boss have a hard time managing a staff, family, congregation, etc. Their approach makes life difficult for themselves. If you are unkind to the people you manage they will eventually rebel against your authority.

A boss is a person who rules with an iron fist. Their style of leadership will not last because the people who are under this type of leadership will not allow it to last. Psalms 10:18 says, "Protect the orphans and put an end to suffering so they will no longer be afraid of evil people." When the

people who are oppressed by a boss cry out to God the Lord will deliver them.

LEADERS

Leaders on the other hand are spoken in a positive light. They want their subordinates to follow their actions while being uplifted by their words. Leaders take pleasure in serving the people they manage. They aspire to motivate their followers by leading by example.

This is why the whole world at one time followed King Jesus. John 12:19 says, "So the Pharisees said to each other, "You can see that nothing is going right for us. Look! The whole world is following Him." Jesus chose to exhibit the attributes of a leader and not a boss. Leaders increase their influence with their followers because they focus on **EMPOWERING** who's under them.

The primary and most important difference between a boss and a leader is that leaders increase their influence

and bosses lose their influence. As God elevates you, do not take on the persona of a boss. Choose to be a leader. Galvanize your followers by inspiring them with love rather than pushing them with fear.

King Jesus showed you what to do when you are positioned to sit in a seat of power. He did not redeem humanity from sin and death because He was a boss. He redeemed us because He was leader.

He did not have the whole world follow him because He was a boss. They followed Him because He was a leader. He did not change people's lives because He was a boss.

The people's lives were changed because He was a leader. Our King gave us a blueprint on what to choose and who to become. Choose wisely!

HERE ARE SOME COMPARISONS
BETWEEN BEING A LEADER AND A BOSS

- A **BOSS** forces you to do more.
- A **LEADER** motivates you to do more.
- A **BOSS** tells you what to do.
- A **LEADER** inspires you to do more.
- A **BOSS** dictates to you.
- A **BOSS** rules over you.
- A **LEADER** guides you.
- A **BOSS** controls people.
- A **LEADER** empowers people.
- A **BOSS** treats you like a slave.
- A **LEADER** treats you like a person.

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