



# THE LEADERSHIP LENS

A VISION FOR GROWTH AND SUCCESS

by J.R. Snow

# Table Of Contents

Introduction

The Lens of...

Listening

Empowerment

Attitude

Discernment

Engagement

Reality

Success

Humor

Inspiration

Possibility



# Introduction

A leader looks at the world differently. We have to. The expectation placed upon us is different. We wear the target on our back. We are required to think, act, and flourish in scenarios that aren't always easy. The people we lead are complex. They require us to see them.... *REALLY* see them. See to a depth that others can't see. See them when no one else does. See what is best for them when they can't. See to the core of their need, in that specific moment, that is ever changing. See the possible, which sometimes feels impossible.

Yet, we lead.

Some, because we are asked to. Some, because of the nameplate on our door or the title given to us. Hopefully, most lead because we are called to. Called to help. Called to improve. Called to cultivate. Called to take the initiative to put on our Leadership Lens and look at the world a little differently.

When we are called to action, we need our Leadership Lens. The Leadership Lens allows us to see the world as an effective leader. Captain America has a shield, we have our glasses. Thor has his hammer, we have our glasses. Wonder Woman becomes invisible, we get to see. Wolverine has....well Wolverine doesn't count because he, is AWESOME!! We don't have metal running through our body and the ability to heal forever...but we do have our Leadership Lens, which I believe can be more powerful than any of those comic book heroes.

*The Leadership Lens* will take you through ten skills essential for leaders to use as they look at the world around them. I will share not only my experiences, but also build insight to what I have learned watching, talking, and teaching alongside fantastic leaders. This will prepare you to move people to change, to lead people toward self actualization, and ultimately help you build a stronger and healthier environment for growth and success. Let's throw on some goggles and see what the world looks like when we peer through The Leadership Lens.

## **WAIT!!!**

I almost forgot to share about the filters that come with your Leadership Lens. They are dangerous, as they are easily removable, which could cause catastrophic failure when trying to lead your people. Picture that scene from National Treasure where they figure out how to read the back of the Declaration of Independence...wait...you don't love that movie and Nicholas Cage as much as I do? Here is an example of the glasses with the additional filters.



Long story short: Cage has the answer in his hands in the Declaration, but can't see it without a pair of glasses designed specifically by Benjamin Franklin that uses filters. The Declaration is useless without the filters and the glasses. Your people are the Declaration. You need the filters. These three layers come together and allow you to use the tools the Lens brings you:

**Transparency:** That first layer that allows your people to see YOU. Make sure you don't use the cool mirrored Aviator shade filter that you can buy on Amazon for your Leadership Lens. Leadership isn't always cool.

**Empathy:** This filter gives you the opportunity to feel what your people feel. This filter gives you every emotion you might ever need while wearing your glasses. You can laugh, cry, guffaw, mourn, hope, wonder, celebrate, rage, and be down right silly. Your people are not machines. They are beautiful, emotional beings. See them that way.

**Value:** This is the last and most crucial to your filters. It is the key to having the ability to use your lens to the fullest capacity. This filter allows you to value your people more than yourself. You could be transparent and engage through empathy with the best of them, but without the filter to understand what your people value, you will never truly be able to help them know how much you respect and care about them, their thoughts, and their input.

NOW you are ready to dive in, glasses on, and view the world through *The Leadership Lens!*