Paradoxical Leadership in a Complex Age

THE WAY MESSAGES TRAVEL THROUGH THE BRAIN
Uncommon Leaders Balance Both Confidence and Humility

THINK IT THROUGH, TALK IT OVER

▼ Do you know leaders who balance these two qualities well?
▼ Who do you know who struggles with either of the two?
▼ What do you struggle with in your leadership: humility or confidence?
▼ Why do you think keeping a balance between the two is so challenging?
Uncommon Leaders
Leverage Both Their Vision and Their Blind Spots

THINK IT THROUGH, TALK IT OVER

▼ Do you know leaders who balance these two qualities well?
▼ Who do you know who benefited from their blind spots?
▼ What do you struggle with in your leadership: vision or blind spots?
▼ Why do you think keeping a balance between the two is so challenging?
Uncommon Leaders Embrace Both Visibility and Invisibility

PARADOX 3

THINK IT THROUGH, TALK IT OVER

▼ Do you know leaders who balance these two qualities well? How do they do it?
▼ What do you struggle with in your leadership: visibility or invisibility?
▼ In what areas do you rely on words more than actions to motivate your team?
▼ How could you improve on preparing potential leaders and getting out of the way?
Think It Through, Talk It Over

- Do you know leaders who are both strong willed and open-minded?
- What problems are you stubborn about solving? Does this keep you open-minded?
- Which do you struggle with more in your leadership: a strong will or an open mind?
- From the strategies covered, which might be helpful for you to expand upon?
- How could you improve on practicing this paradox?
Uncommon Leaders
Are Both Deeply Personal and Inherently Collective

THINK IT THROUGH, TALK IT OVER

▼ Which do you naturally tend to be: a collective leader who sees and acts on the big picture, or a personal leader who sees one person at a time? Do you know why?
▼ What’s the number one takeaway you picked up from Mother Teresa or any of the examples in this chapter?
▼ What do you think is the most important advantage to practicing this paradox in the aftermath of a pandemic?
▼ What do you struggle with most when it comes to embodying this paradox?
▼ How could you improve your leadership in light of this paradox?
Uncommon Leaders
Are Both Teachers and Learners

THINK IT THROUGH, TALK IT OVER

▼ Do you know leaders who are both teachers and learners? Who are they?
▼ What traits do those leaders have in common?
▼ Which do you struggle with most: being a teacher or a learner? Why?
▼ From the five practices in this chapter, which could be most helpful to you?
▼ How could you improve on practicing this paradox?
PARADOX

Uncommon Leaders Model
Both High Standards and Gracious Forgiveness

THINK IT THROUGH, TALK IT OVER

▼ Do you know leaders who balance these two qualities well?
▼ What do you struggle with as you lead: high standards or gracious forgiveness?
▼ Why do you suppose radical leaders are so rare? Do you consider yourself one?
▼ What must you do to improve practicing this paradox?
Uncommon Leaders Are Both Timely and Timeless

THINK IT THROUGH, TALK IT OVER

▼ Do you know leaders who balance “timely” and “timeless” well?
▼ Which of these two qualities do you lean toward naturally? Why is the other hard?
▼ What are the “plumb lines” for your leadership and organization?
▼ What must you do to improve practicing this paradox?