

# The quest to becoming a great leader

Clear, honest and effective communication, healthy boundaries, delegation and feedback all form part of the journey to becoming a successful leader. By *Nickolette Assy*



AUTHOR | Nickolette Assy MPhil(Coaching) (USB) is an executive coach and founder of Nickolette & Associates, Coaching and Mentoring

Great leaders have a number of qualities that make them great. The one that stands out most for me is that great leaders practise mindfulness and focus on awareness. They are aware of who they are. They know their strengths and weaknesses. Great leaders understand what they can do and what they cannot do. They understand where they need support and they are able to ask for the support that they need. In other words, great leaders are comfortable with who they truly are and they have come to accept who they are. This self-acceptance allows them to see others for who they are and so great leaders accept others as they are.

Great leaders are honest and authentic – even with their flaws. They are able to do this because they are constantly working to improve themselves. Great leaders are passionate about becoming the best version of who they can be. They live a life of purpose and so everything that they do becomes meaningful both in their personal lives and professional lives.

As a result, great leaders tend to lead by example. What follows is that people naturally become inspired and want to follow, or do the same. Your team is then more likely to produce quality work and you will have gained their respect. To walk your talk: be your word, and do what you say you will do. This builds character and also encourages others to do the same.