J. Jedediah Smith

BIFX 545

Hellenic Philosophy

4/14/2022

Watch these YouTube videos and answer the questions. In addition to these links, I will put direct links to these videos on blackboard with the same numbers I gave them here.

Video 1

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VDiyQub6vpw>

Explain how the following aphorisms by Plato can be applied to describe how to be a good leader:

“Know thyself”

Subject your ideas to examination, rather than acting on impulse. Don’t just blindly follow what everyone says, take the time to make your own conclusions.

“Let your lover change you”

Commit to educating each other on your short comings. Be willing to learn from those with strengths you admire or lack.

“The world will not be right until kings become philosophers or philosophers kings”

Bad heroes give glamor to character flaws. Be mindful that others might look up to you at times and act responsibly.

Video 2

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MgotDFs6cdE&list=PLwxNMb28XmpeypJMHfNbJ4RAFkRtmAN3P&index=3>

What do you think that the ideal form of leadership is?

Respectful, compassionate, patient. Needs to be able to work with all kinds of people. Also a good problem solver, determined, and strict when they need to be.

Video 3

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SWlUKJIMge4>

What insights do you get from the allegory of the cave about human nature and what it takes to convince others to see the world from your point of view instead of theirs?

Telling people they are wrong makes them angry. Need to encourage and ask question to prompt others to conclude the errors in their own reasoning. This forms the basis for the Socratic method, which can help you accomplish this.

Video 4

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fLJBzhcSWTk&list=PLwxNMb28XmpeypJMHfNbJ4RAFkRtmAN3P&index=4>

As a leader, how do succeed in getting others to follow you as a “doctor” rather than a “sweetshop owner”

One might consider utilizing the Socratic method to help others realize on their own that feasting fervently on sweets is unhealthy, and that they ought to consider other approaches that take longer term considerations into account.

Video 5

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=csIW4W_DYX4&t=6s>

Describe Aristotle’s concept of rhetoric and explain why mastering rhetoric is essential for a leader.

Rhetoric is about the art of convincing people. You need to recognize and soothe fear, see the emotional side of the issue and edge around it, make things funny for short attention span, use good and relatable examples. This is all important because if you can’t get someone to agree with you, you’ll be unable to change the minds of those who disagree with your ideas.