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Week 11 Reflection

Leadership is very important to having an effective team in both its forms. Without capital and lower-case leadership having an organized form of communication would be very difficult. As discussed, communication is very important to effective teamwork, but there must be order and direction. Most capital L leadership is more management-based leadership, where an idea is present, and they are focused on getting things done. While lower case leadership usually falls to those who inspire those around them to do and be better through example and knowledge of the task at hand.

I have often been told that I am a lowercase leader in most things that I do. I am rarely ever given a management position, but people will often come to me for help or guidance on ways to handle problems because I am able to quickly earn respect for my perspectives and insights. So this is something that I intend to keep up on, regardless of my team situation, I want to be able to help lift, guide, inspire, and motivate those around me to continue to give there best to whatever it is that we are working on.

On my mission I had a lot of good conversations with one of my good friends and companion about the importance of leading by example and showing what you mean rather than just standing idle and discussing for long periods of time on how to do things. He has since spoke to me about how helpful the advice I gave him has been and how much more successful he feels having learned from my perspective. He told me that as he put forth more effort in showing his peers and coworkers what is expected of them he saw a great change in attitude and productivity in the process.

We talked about this in class a little bit but, the Leadership in the church can only do so much, and must be supported by the leadership in the ward! We are placed on this earth to learn and grow from each other and to motivate each other to continue to be better and more Christ like. With my mission one thing that I found is that lectures on what we need to be doing better are never really that effective. The best way to help lift and teach people to be more like Christ is to live like Christ yourself.

The leadership example given in class reminded me a lot about my experience working in a cabinetry before I left for my mission. I was able to distinguish and see in action both kinds of leadership at work all the time, because of how small the business was. Honestly it was really cool to see, because my manager took on more of the role of lowercase leadership because yes he was in charge of making sure jobs got done when they needed to, but he also made leading by example his top priority. While my boss was definitely more of a Leadership figure in the scenario because he was focused on making sure we were making a profit and doing things on time. So it was really cool to see how the two interacted as well as how sometimes they were able to switch hats to make things happen.