

## Leadership workshop

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### How are the ethics of leadership similar or different between Classical Athens and the Roman Republic?

Both nations tended to overlook the leaders who called for them to stay moderate and safer. For example, Pericles called for Athens to remain quiet during the war but inevitably they ignored that and paid the price. Rome treated Cicero similarly, the very man who sentenced him to death also referred to him as a very wise man and a lover of his country. Ideally, both wanted to stray away from corruption, but powerful figures, honor, and personal gain appealed to both far more than the sensible figure.

Both nations had strong convictions as to what a leader *should* be. Someone who leads with humility, connected to their subjects, and understood their allies and opponents. Homeric values played a large role in admired leadership qualities for Classical Athens, and some are reflected throughout the ages. Homeric Values included honoring the gods, keeping promises and oaths, being loyal to friends and fellow warriors, exhibiting self-control, and being hospitable.

### What elements are still considered important/valuable for leadership today?

Important leadership characteristics:

- Lead with humility, not pride
- Connection with subjects, balancing greater good for subjects with the needs of subjects
- Understanding political opponents
- Not being overwhelmed by struggles; carry oneself with calm
- Hard work
- Make political allies