

Connect

LEADERSHIP PRINCIPLES OF ASCENDING VS. DESCENDING

“To help others realize their God-given potential is one of the most fulfilling and noble purposes to which one can devote their life. Leadership is a lifestyle, and to live one’s life in such a way that is focused on developing others will ultimately enrich our own lives beyond measure.”

ASCENDING VIEWPOINT

RESISTANCE (INCLINE)

Ascending is painful, uncomfortable, inconvenient, self sacrificing.

INCREASING VISIBILITY

The higher you go the more quickly and easily you see issues before they escalate, solutions to challenges and people that can help you as well as people you can help (if they want it) and the discernment to know who you cannot. You have a better overall understanding of the big picture not just a small, limited view.

INCREASE IN PRESSURE

As we ascend the weight of more responsibility, more accountability, more people counting on you, more deadlines due to organization and structure is felt. It takes years of intense pressure for diamonds to form.

MUST LEARN TO STOP AND REST

On the ascending road, you have to regain your energy, reflect on what’s working, re-calibrate the direction you’re going. Over exhaustion will take much longer to recover from, if ever, than short, interval planned breaks.

THE HIGHER UP YOU GO, THE MORE YOU RELY ON THE PEOPLE WITH YOU.

The greater the level of leadership the greater demand for surrounding yourself with the right people. You need other people to help you continue; it’s impossible to make it on your own. P.S. It helps to have people that have been there before. The descending path to safe ground is easy and doesn’t require you to rely on others as much.

DESCENDING VIEWPOINT

NO RESISTANCE (DECLINE)

DECREASING VISIBILITY

DECREASE IN PRESSURE

LITTLE REST REQUIRED

ON THE JOURNEY DOWN TO SAFE GROUND YOU RELY LESS ON OTHERS.

GRAVITY IS PULLING AGAINST YOU

GRAVITY IS IN YOUR FAVOR

Gravity (the World) will never cease to offer compelling reasons why you should stop ascending. Silence the voices or they will hold you back. End or distance yourself from certain relationships that would derail or hold you back. Take a stand and don't feel guilty. On the descending path, the World is in your favor.

STRENGTH, CONDITIONING AND PERSEVERANCE ARE ESSENTIAL

LESS STRENGTH, CONDITIONING AND PERSEVERANCE ARE NEEDED

One does not just show up and climb a mountain if you've never hiked over a hill. Strength and conditioning occur over time as one perseveres on their ascending journey.

GROW STRONGER AT A QUICK RATE

DON'T GROW STRONG AS QUICK

We constantly build muscles that we don't even realize we are going to need on the ascending path. The battles get easier to overcome because we are increasing in strength along the journey.

THE TRAIL IS FILLED WITH OBSTACLES

THE TRAIL IS OPEN AND CLEAR

The ascending trail is filled with sticker bushes and seemingly impassible points. The faith element has to exist and be activated for God to get involved. He gives us direction and the tools to get through (Proverbs 3:5-6). The descending trail is clear and easy to follow because everyone's using it.

A LIFE COMMITTED

A CASUAL LIFE

THE POINT OF NO RETURN

After being on the ascending path for so long, turning back is no longer an option. You will have paid a price but by this point you are living the rewards. Turning back is easier in the beginning. You'll be tempted to do so. The pull to mediocrity (safe ground, comfort, stability) is powerful but God's purpose for you and His blessings don't flow there.

A life devoted to personal growth, becoming the best you you can be, the person God intends you to be is worth it. Your kids are going to have heroes. Why not you? Why not live life like a hero of faith for your kids to look up to and follow? God wants everyone to be saved and He needs people to carry that out (II Peter 3:9). Why not you?

The greatest tragedy is a life fully lived, yet only reaching a mere fraction of it's God-given potential. The greatest joy is to live life to it's fullest; becoming all God intended you to be and doing all He pre-ordained for you to do the way He intended you to do it. At the end of that life hearing "Well done, My upright, honorable, admirable and faithful servant...enter into and share the joy, the delight, the blessedness that your Master enjoys" (Matthew 25:21 Amplified).