

AWARENESS

IS BETTER THAN

IGNORANCE

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Awareness is Better than Ignorance – from [Leadership Wisdoms](#)

In the busyness of work, it can be easy to lose the ability to be perceptive. For a leader, this can be fatal. For if you are ignorant of what is happening around you, you will suffer and your people will not follow you.

Leadership is all about people. And any leader needs to be fully in touch with what is going on in their team. Each individual is different – and has different needs – but the critical factor for any leader is that they have the radar to be aware enough to act when things are not going to plan.

One of the biggest challenges any leader has is to be precise in how they use their time. If a leader gets too involved with things they need not be involved in, they will not have the inner resources to keep alerted to this radar. Because of this, it is vital to ensure that a leader's role is geared towards what the role is intended to be and much less on the tasks their team could deliver. Freeing up time to be with their people is how the best leaders do what they do and have a clear awareness of how to motivate their team and grow performance.

When a leader fails to prioritise awareness of what is going on, they will be unable to respond to the needs of individuals and the team as a whole. Being with their people is how they do this, appreciating these subtle nuances only comes from a close appreciation of the mood and culture which exists.

5 Steps to being more Aware

1. Get rid of tasks that others can do and focus on the leadership role.
2. Create specific amounts of time in your calendar to be with your people informally, as well as formally. Be the leader your people want to hang around with.
3. Invest in the conversations with your people and find out how they are.
4. Meet the needs of your people by finding out how best you can serve them to be their best.
5. Be curious about them. Get to know them as real people and not just employees.

How will you be more Aware?

About Martin

Martin Haworth is a leadership coach and trainer based in Gloucester England. He coaches individuals one-to-one developing their leadership skills, on their personal development and career planning. He also works with organisations helping them deliver effective leadership throughout their organisation in a kind, supportive and motivational way. martinhaworth.com

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