

# SERVANT LEADERSHIP NEWSLETTER

TOPIC THIS ISSUE: Transform Cultures One Person at a Time

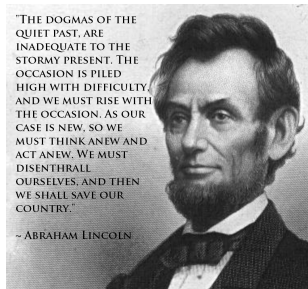
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*“The life that you are living is the legacy you are leaving.”*



## YOU ARE A ‘GIFT’ TO THE WORLD

By: Michael J. Stabile



I am reminded of a quote I read about Abraham Lincoln’s second annual address to Congress in December 1862. He was writing one month before he signed the Emancipation Proclamation, and in his message he urged the Congress to see the situation they faced with fresh eyes.

He said this: *“The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty. As our case is new, so we must think anew and act anew. We must disenthrall ourselves and then we shall save our country.”*

I love the word **“disenthrall”**. What he meant was that we all live our lives guided by ideas to which we are devoted but which may no longer be true or relevant. We are hypnotized or enthralled by them. **To move forward we have to shake free of them.**

What are the ideas, beliefs, values, or philosophies that enthrall us to the point that we are hypnotized or blinded by them and paralyzed to think anew? Given the challenges we now face in government, economics, business, education, and most recently with the crisis and war in the Middle East, the most profound shift has to be in how we think about ourselves, our abilities, our talents, our capabilities, the dignity of life, the future of our children, and generations to follow. We must disenthrall ourselves of the mindsets that hinder the original design and unique purpose for each individual.

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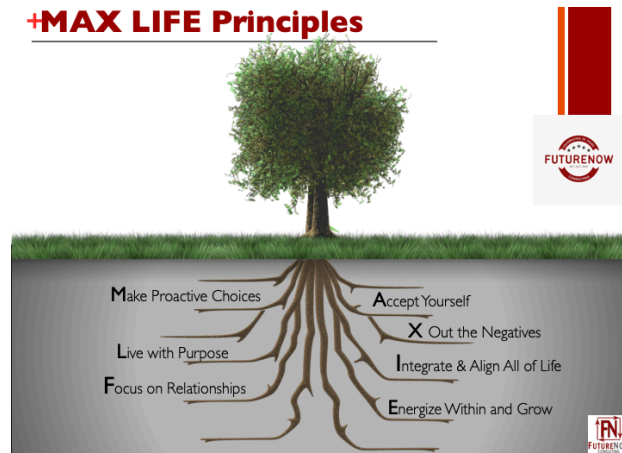
“The life that you are living is the legacy you are leaving.”

Servant leaders are limited only to the extent of their knowledge of the truth about themselves and their unique purpose in the world. The world needs you and the purpose for which you were born. **Your uniqueness differentiates you from billions of people who inhabit this planet. Purposefully pursue who you are and capitalized on the natural skills and talents that you were born with. You are a gift to the world.**

LIVING A MAX LIFE

By: Michael J. Stabile

+MAX LIFE Principles



Today, like never before in history, there is a desperate need for wellness in our culture and world. Wars and rumors of wars are a reality, most recently in the Middles East and Europe. As a Nation, we are divided not united. Our communities are experiencing internal collapse as lives are becoming more dysfunctional. As the family unit continues to atrophy, schools move further away from educating students in core personal life skills and values. The culture at large continues to push values that move us away from fundamental goodness. We are finding increased signs of human wreckage—marital breakdown, abusive families, relational fractures, personal depression and a sense of meaninglessness, and a multitude of mental, emotional and physical ailments that can be directly attributed to personal lives that are out of control. These problems can be found in the home, at the workplace, and in every institution of society.



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Healthy people make healthy families, businesses, communities and even cultures. In this day of dysfunction, people are looking for guidance on how to make their lives work.

When it comes to life planning, the leap from theory to practice requires real world techniques and the right tools. We need a framework that ensures application of principles for a focused and balanced life. We all want to increase productivity and life balance.

At FutureNow, we are committed to transformational change from the inside out. We believe everyone everywhere needs to lead well. Leadership is about influence and leading by serving your unique talents and gifts for the benefit of others. Whether you're an account executive or a stay-at-home mom or dad, you can affect transformational change if you learn the spirit of leadership imprinted into your DNA. We are passionate about seeing cultures transformed one person at a time. We developed **The Servant Leadership Personal Training and Coaching Process** to empower and equip leaders through timeless principles. The process leads you through self-discovery and self-manifestation of your unique giftedness and purpose. At the foundation of the process are a set of principles that form the acrostic **MAX LIFE**. **The MAX LIFE Principles** are like the roots of a tree that helps to nurture growth and purpose into your life. When we focus on the principles and competencies, they provide the nourishment and power to live from the inside out. Focus on the roots and you will see the fruit of a **MAX LIFE**.

### **Make Proactive Choices: (The Potential Principle)**

Be deliberate and proactive, not reactive about your life. **Take responsibility for yourself and focus on unleashing your potential through hard work and building habits that enhance and empower your uniqueness.** Each of us has talents and gifts that are full of potential. We are all like seeds, given the right kind of soil and environment we will thrive and grow. **The average person only uses about 5-15% of their potential in their life-time.** All of us have the capacity to tap into more of our potential. The only thing that stops us is our own hindrances. *Remember that you are not a victim and you can control your thoughts, attitudes, and actions.*

### **Accept Yourself: (The Mirror Principle)**

**We must discover our unique strengths, passions, and drives.** Through the reflective process of self-knowledge,

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self-regulation, self-acceptance, self-manifestation, and personal action, we examine ourselves to build and/or break habits that that will unleash your potential and power. **Be the unique person that you were created to be and live by design and not default.** *Remember progression not perfection!*

**X Out the Negatives: (The Principle of Focus of Attention)**

**Wherever you focus your attention, your mind, you become.** Negativity breeds negativity and positivity releases peace and trust. By accepting problems, troubles, trials, we focus on believing the best and reject a fear-based, negative thinking that is rooted in doubt and unbelief. **Rather focus on solutions and possibilities.** We live in a stressful world and stress is the root of distrust, fear, ANTS (*automatic negative thinking syndrome*), and correlated with a multitude of physical illness that paralyzes thinking and hinders personal and professional development and growth. *Remember, as a person thinks in their hearts, so are they.*

**Live with Purpose: (The Principle of Purpose)**

**If I am to live by design and not default, what am I uniquely designed to accomplish?** No one can take your place or purpose and for you there is no substitute. Your existence is evidence that this generation needs something that your life contains. **Success can only be defined by purpose and measured by obedience.** Success is not what you have done compared to what others have done, but what you have done compared to what you were supposed to do. *Remember the greatest success in life is to serve the gift of “you” to the world.*

**Integrate and Align All of Life: (The Principle of Priority Management)**

There are two things that are most difficult to get people to do: **To think and to do things in order of importance.** Every leader needs to understand how to prioritize and function in an efficient and effective way both personally and professionally. **Are you a juggler or plate spinner?** A juggler proactively focuses on what he/she is juggling. A plate spinner is reactively running from plate to plate being controlled by which plate is about to fall. Finding balance both personally and professionally is about priority management. Priority Management is about doing the right things at the right time. *Remember, “You need to schedule your priorities, not prioritize your schedule.”*

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### Focus on Relationships: (The Principle of Building Trust)

**Trust is foundational to being a servant leader. The 6Cs of Coaching from Trust** illustrates that caring, connecting, and complimenting is essential to cultivating and building trust with others. We must first build a “trust account” with others and then appeal from trust through conveying wisdom, completing and helping others bring balance to their life, and then correct when necessary and appropriate. *Remember people don't care how much you know until they know how much you care.*

### Energize Within and Grow: (The Principle of Progressive Growth)

*“You cannot teach what you do not know nor lead where you are not willing to go.”* **Focus on character and unleash success.** Personality is who you are in public, while character is who you are in private. To exist is to change, to change is to mature, to mature is to continually choose to progressively grow and learn. It is all about choices, do you choose to grow and learn or do you continue to do the same things over and over and expect different results. *Remember you are either green and growing or brown and dying.*

### Conclusion:

If you are going to authentically succeed as a servant leader, you must focus on the roots of your life, living from the inside out. Be mindful of your attitudes, beliefs, and commitments are they progressively aligned them to the **MAX LIFE** principles. Giving attention to habits that are intentional and purposefully going to manifest the fruit of authentic success and true growth into your unique “sweet spot.” Make a commitment to embrace these principles and choose to leave a legacy of influence and power on this generation and generations to come. *Remember the life you are living is the legacy you are leaving.* Take action each day and it is not how much, but what action have and will you take. **Growth doesn't happen in a day, but daily. Will you commit to getting 1% better each day?**

