



Bridgeway to Success™

May 2006

WHO IS IN CONTROL, YOU OR YOUR EGO?

Manage Your Ego

One of the most important traits of any successful leader is ego management. Yes, every effective leader needs a strong ego to make tough decisions, confront difficult situations and take risks. The question is: are you in control of your ego or is your ego in control of you?

A good test of ego management is how a leader reacts to success and failure. A successful leader who hoards credit erodes loyalty and motivation. A leader who generously acknowledges others builds loyalty and motivation. A leader who becomes defensive or blames others for failures loses trust and respect. A leader who first looks in the mirror and asks, "what could I have done differently?", grows trust and respect.

The paradoxes of leadership: Hoarding glory elicits contempt, not admiration. Deflecting responsibility is weakness, not strength. Are you in control of your ego or is your ego in control of you?

Michael Canic