



TEACHING RESOURCES

WORKSHEETS

I DEFINE LEADERSHIP AS...

WORKSHEET

Instructions: Explain to students that there is no single answer in this exercise. Ask students to stand under the quote that they think best defines leadership. Ask them to share why they chose that particular quote. Once all students have shared their choices, invite students to change where they are standing; if they choose to stand under a different quote, ask them why they prefer it to the first one they chose. Which quotes best describe Max Fisher?

“If I am not for myself, who will be for me? But if I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?”

–Hillel

(Jewish scholar, 110 BCE-10 CE)

“A genuine leader is not a searcher for consensus but a molder of consensus.”

–Martin Luther King, Jr.
(African-American leader, 1929-68)

“Good leaders must communicate vision clearly, creatively, and continually. However, the vision doesn't come alive until the leader models it.”

–John c. Maxwell
(Author, born 1947)

“Effective leadership is not about making speeches or being liked; leadership is defined by results not attributes.”

—Peter Drucker
(Business professor, 1909-2005)

“As we look ahead into the next century, leaders will be those who empower others.”

—Bill Gates

(Entrepreneur, philanthropist, born 1955)

*“Do what you feel in your heart to
be right—for you’ll be criticized
anyway.”*

—Eleanor Roosevelt
(First Lady of the US, 1884-1962)

*“He who has great power should
use it lightly.”*

—Seneca
(Roman philosopher, 4 BCE-65 CE)

*“Leadership and learning are
indispensable to each other.”*

—John F. Kennedy
(US President, 1917-1963)

*“The supreme quality of leadership
is integrity.”*

—Dwight Eisenhower
(US President, 1890-1969)

“Most often, the person who becomes leader is not the one who knows the way, but the one who behaves as if he/she knows.”

— (Midrash) Yalkut Shimoni

*“One who is wise, humble and
fearful of sin may be made a
community leader.”*

—Tosafot
(12th Century commentary on Mishna)
Sanhedrin 7:1

“The task of the leader is to get his people from where they are to where they have not been.”

—Henry Kissinger
(US Secretary of State, born 1929)

“We do not know the extent of our own power to change and to effect change. But we must act; that is in our power.”

–Rabbi Baruch Bokser
(Professor of Talmud, Jewish Theological Seminary, 1946-90)

“We must not appoint a leader over the community without first consulting the people.”

—Talmud Berachot 55a

*“Modesty is a great thing, for Moses
our Leader was endowed with it.”*

—Midrash HaGadol
(13th Century rabbinic work)

“You cannot be a leader, and ask other people to follow you, unless you know how to follow, too.”

—Sam Rayburn
(Speaker of US House of Representatives,
1882-1961)

*“There are those who look at things
the way they are, and ask why...I
dream of things that never were,
and ask why not?”*

– Robert F. Kennedy
(US Senator, 1925-68)

“Few will have the greatness to bend history itself; but each of us can work to change a small portion of events, and in the total of all those acts will be written the history of this generation.”

– Robert F. Kennedy
(US Senator, 1925-68)