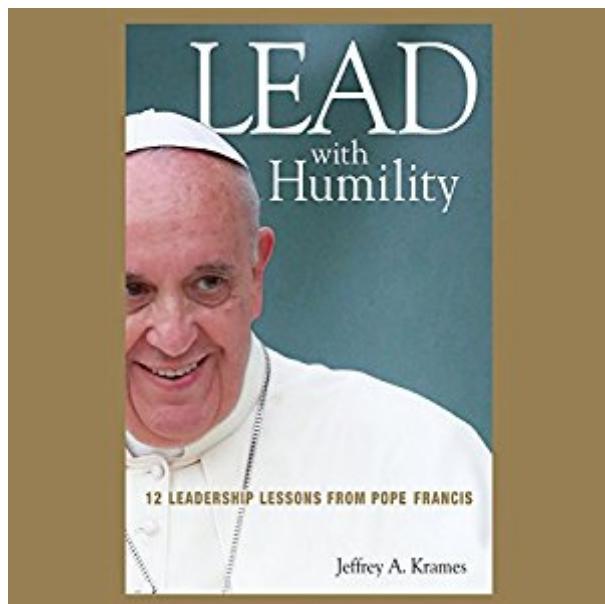


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# Lead With Humility: 12 Leadership Lessons From Pope Francis



## Synopsis

When Fortune announced its list of the World's Greatest Leaders, the top spot was awarded - not to a captain of industry - but to the new pontiff. In the year since his election, Pope Francis earned that accolade - and more. He has achieved the remarkable: breathed life into an aging institution, reinvigorated a global base, and created real hope for the future. How did a man who spent his life laboring in slums far from the Vatican manage to do this and so quickly? The answer lies in his humility - and the simple principles that spring from it. *Lead with Humility* explores 12 of these principles and shows how leaders and managers can adapt them for the workplace with equally impressive results. They include:

- Don't stand over your employees - sit down with them
- Avoid insularity
- Don't judge - assess
- Take care of people, not lobbies
- Go where you are needed
- Temper ideology with pragmatism
- Don't change - reinvent!
- The boldest course can be the most prudent
- And more

Pope Francis's ability to inspire the world is unprecedented in modern times. *Lead with Humility* reveals the power of his methods, and helps anyone lead with grace and greater authenticity.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In today's world what is needed is authentic leaders with vision, who participate in the lives of the people. The challenge is to find leaders that possess these qualities. A further challenge is to develop these qualities in ourselves to become the kind of leader that we seek. We need more role

models who illustrate the core principles of effective leadership. The book, 'Lead with Humility,' delves into this theme by reflecting on the life of Pope Francis and utilizes key points in his life as strategies to help managers become more effective leaders. Pope Francis has a different method of leadership than what we are often familiar with. For him, leadership means service to others. To him, a leader shouldn't be at the head of the dinner table directing. Instead, the leader should be the maid or the butler serving the meal, and empowering the guests to make their own choices about the menu. Leading through service creates the conditions for doing things a different way. People become empowered to collaborate in the decision making process. Through empowerment they become engaged in their roles in their communities, creating the conditions for a more equitable society. The question is how to achieve this unique way of leading others? The book develops this theme by looking at the essence of Pope Francis style and distilling key ideas. For instance, these two quotes really made me reflect on the leadership process: 'Leadership is the ability to articulate a vision and get others to carry it out.' 'Leadership is not about perfection; it is about espousing a new vision and getting others to live that vision.' The author, Jeffrey Krames continues by discussing strategies an effective leader can use, and issues that every leader deals with, including effective dialogue; stating that 'to dialogue, one must know how to lower the defenses, to open the doors of one's home and to offer warmth.' An important part of dialogue is listening. The skill of listening is just as important as eloquence. Leaders must know how to listen with their hearts. Mr. Krames says it better when he states that: 'Listening, in communication, is an openness of heart, which makes possible that closeness without genuine spiritual encounter cannot occur. Listening helps us to find the right gesture and word, which shows that we are more than simple bystanders. Only through such respectful and compassionate listening can we enter on the path of true growth.' Leaders are change agents. However, real change is not easy to achieve. Effective leadership must be able to handle adversity. I like what Mr. Krames says about adversity when he states, 'turn adversity into an asset: Adversity can be a positive thing. Adversity can help you make sure that you and your management team are not complacent.' For Mr. Krames, service is about engagement and empowering those we serve. To effectively serve in this manner a leader must be willing to be 'on the frontier,' at the scene of conflict, seeing the problems where they are taking place and assisting others in creating a new vision for how to solve these problems, encouraging and coaching those led to perform at their highest level. Effective leadership means motivating the led to also become leaders and to take on the responsibilities that leadership entails. I found this book to be inspiring as well as informative. I learned a lot about the life of Pope Francis that I didn't know before. I also learned some new methods for leading. Furthermore, the book made me contemplate on what it

takes to truly lead others, and how to lead from 'the ground up' instead of the 'top down' strategies that are too often used by society. I think that it is more difficult to change conditions from 'the ground up.' However, I think that when change happens in this manner it is more effective and may last longer. Anyone who seeks a different way of managing others would do well by investing the time and effort in reading and contemplating the message in this book.

I have worked with Jeffrey Krames and this is one of his finest works. He has cleverly distilled the leadership wisdom of this incredibly moving Pope into 12 leadership lessons that are relevant for any size or type of business. In the interest of complete transparency, I read the manuscript prior to publication and gave Jeffrey some of my thoughts (which have been incorporated into the manuscript). Just about everything that is there is hands-on and useful in helping anyone to become a more effective leader. I particularly liked the three prescriptive "how-to's" that conclude every chapter. If you are a leader---or aspiring leader---I recommend *Lead with Humility* very highly. My only criticism is that the book ends too quickly!---Rocco Ortenzio, Co-Founder, Vice Chairman, Select Medical Corporation

I'm not at all religious, but Pope Francis' televised speech in the U.S. last year made me cry. His moral clarity and compassion stood in stunning contrast to our current crop of would-be presidents, who, with a few exceptions, seem to utterly lack his clarity and compassion. This book, too, brought tears to my eyes. I get the impression that many of the stories of Francis as a young man appear here in English for the first time. Terrific!

I am not Catholic (or really religious at all) and I loved reading about the great leadership qualities that Pope Francis uses to guide his leadership of the church. All managers of every company need to read this and implement these qualities. One of the best leadership books I've ever read.

Great inspirational ideas and examples in a better way of leading other people, whether it be for a CEO, President, mayor, town leader or parent. It's not only for those of the Catholic / Christian faith but for those of all faiths and beliefs.

Insightful, reassuring, powerful and yet very easy read. Younger readers, non Catholics, anyone in business world-likely to benefit from leadership lessons.

A leader is what he does and in the case of Pope Francis in the frontiers meeting the needs of the sick, the poor, and the naked. The book is written by a non-Catholic who has made this humble pontiff appear even more earthly. Good read.

Anyone who is in a leadership role, or who wants to be in a leadership role, should read this book. I had trouble putting it down. This book charges or recharge your battery!

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