



## Inspiration

by Cub Marion

Years back, I had a quick, but very impactful conversation with a co-worker. In fact, when the individual walked into my office to give me an update on a particular situation, I was caught in a moment of deep thought contemplating what I was going to write surrounding leadership. After the individual left, I knew immediately what my article would be on: Inspiration.

An inspirational person is one who can instill motivation in others. What is it about a person that makes them inspirational? How do they do it?

The aforementioned person certainly falls into this category. When the individual left, I felt motivated...inspired. This started the wheels in motion, as I reflected from a high level, what is it that makes an individual inspiring? To a large degree, this is a very personalized question, however, I am going to take a crack at it.

The inspirational person...

- ✓ Has an optimistic outlook
- ✓ Possesses confidence in their abilities to deliver on desired results
- ✓ Is creative and looks at all options to come up with viable solutions
- ✓ Is action oriented
- ✓ Provides meaningful input
- ✓ Takes the time to actively listen
- ✓ Is enjoyable to be around
- ✓ Truly cares about people

Great leaders are inspirational; they intuitively know how to motivate others. This attitude provides a sense of belonging for all individuals in the organization, and is contagious.

The person at the beginning of this article had been diagnosed with terminal cancer. He still came to work, and never stopped inspiring others. He passed away not long after that conversation, and the inspiration he provided me will last a lifetime.