

**“Self-trust is the first secret to success.”**  
**—Ralph Waldo Emerson**

**CREATING YOUR LEADERSHIP POINT OF VIEW**

Use the following steps to create an initial draft of your Leadership Point of View (LPOV). Take your time!

1. *Key people*—List the key people in your life who have had a positive (or in some cases negative) impact on you. Answer the following questions:
  - a. Who mentored you? Taught you? Inspired you? Helped you believe in yourself?
  - b. What did you admire (or not admire) about each of these people?
  - c. What did you learn from each of these people that shaped your leader behavior?
2. *Key events*—Identify key events in your life that impacted you the most. Answer these questions:
  - a. What events do you remember as if they occurred yesterday?
  - b. What have been turning points in your life?
  - c. What experiences in your past prepared you for a leadership role?
  - d. What did you learn from each experience?
3. *Values*—What are your top three to five values when leading others? Values determine how you behave as a leader and are often shaped by the key people and events in your life. Brainstorm the values that are important to you, and narrow them down to the three to five most critical. (See also Simple Truth #41.)
4. *Expectations for yourself and others*—Clarifying expectations for yourself and others is the last step in crafting your LPOV. These expectations should flow naturally from the people and key events that have influenced you and your values.

Combine these four sections into a written narrative. Share the draft of your LPOV with a confidant and get their feedback. Make additional changes, and schedule a time to share your LPOV with others.