

# GENEROUS LEADERSHIP® CHALLENGE

## For Individuals

The COVID-19 situation is unusual for us all. Especially at this time, how we lead and influence those around us deeply matters.

Every morning I wake up excited to embrace this unique opportunity to be a leader who inspires others in the midst of a storm. Leaders are made for times like these. This is our chance to lean into the uncertainty and become MORE creative, a BETTER problem solver and an INSPIRING leader. These skills can be the difference-maker for your future.

We can choose to make the most from this season, and to do so together.

### The Invitation

Accept the Generous Leadership® Challenge and invite your friends, family and colleagues to join with you.

### The Purpose

Embark on a fun, inspiring, unique challenge and better yourself in the process. Walk away with a new perspective of how you see yourself, others and the meaning of work so that you can embody the type of generous leadership® others love to follow: abundant thinking and giving for their best.

While it can be tempting to focus on just surviving, this is the BEST time to build for an abundant future. Let's choose to embrace the opportunity in front of us! This is your chance to see what you can do, who you can become and the legacy you can leave. Take the Generous Leadership® Challenge!

Standing with you in this time,



Founder of Generous Leadership® and the GLC  
Founder and Executive Director, Big Idea Project

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## Setting The Stage: What Is Generous Leadership®?

Generous Leadership® is a framework for shaping our beliefs that unlock our potential to lead others well. Generous Leadership® is a paradigm, or a way of seeing, and it's the foundation of leadership because who we are and what we do on a daily basis is determined by what we believe.

Generous Leadership® is not a style or a way to do something, but the way to be someone people will follow.

Paradigms are starting points that set trajectories for our actions and leadership. With the wrong paradigm, experience or skills aren't enough. When you see with the eyes of a Generous Leader, experience and skills multiply your influence to elevate others and cause lasting impact.

This is a season of redefining perspective. Prepare for an abundant future by increasing your ability to lead generously.

A **paradigm** is a standard, perspective, or set of ideas.

A **paradigm** is a way of looking at something.

A **style** is simply a manner of doing something.

## Your Challenge

Test your leadership ideas, assumptions and skills in small weekly personal experiments you can do at your home and in your neighborhood over the next few months. Compile your reflections to creatively answer the Question Prompt.

Generous Leadership® is abundantly giving of yourself so that others may be better people who do better work.

It requires one to see from three different lenses:

- 1 See your self as valuable and worthy (not worthless)
- 2 See other people as people (not objects)
- 3 See the work you do as sacred (not ordinary)

### THE QUESTION PROMPT

How does seeing through the three lenses increase your ability to lead others generously?

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## Choosing Personal Leadership Experiments

Create a total of three weekly leadership experiments, one from each Generous Leadership® lens. You define your goals of what you will do, how often and when. Below is just a selection of ideas.

Find more on GLC's website: [www.generousleadership.org](http://www.generousleadership.org)

SEE YOURSELF AS VALUABLE	SEE PEOPLE AS PEOPLE	SEE YOUR WORK AS SACRED
Treat yourself as valuable, create habits for self-care and mental well-being	Treat others with compassion and honor; relate with them; focus on family, friends, coworkers, neighbors	Identify tasks you do daily and decide to do them in a more meaningful way
Create sleep routines	Increase patience, heal conflict	Identify a situation in your life where you struggle to be yourself with others. Change your attitude, how you show up or how you do this task so that the situation reflects who you really are
Do something creative daily	Choose to ask questions, not tell	
Eat healthier	Get to know other's stories	Create a compelling future for yourself (what impact do you want to leave?). Define your life's mission. Take small steps toward your goals today
Take on a gratitude challenge	Do acts of kindness, big and small	
Exercise regularly, go outside	Do something for a neighbor or for your neighborhood	Identify tasks or distractions you can say "no" to in order to spend more time on work that is meaningful to you
Identify and use your strengths	Notice something your partner or child needs and do it without them asking	
Incorporate mindfulness exercises	Say only positive, supportive things about others	Create your own!
Notice and change self-talk, negative thoughts	For someone you don't agree with: write down what you appreciate about who they are or their point of view, tell them	
Create your own!	Create your own!	

Sample Timeline	WEEKS							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
PLAN								
LENS 1: SELF								
LENS 2: OTHERS								
LENS 3: WORK								
SHARE FINAL PRODUCT								
DEBRIEF WITH TEAM								

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## Suggestions For Personal Development

Join with the GLC Community: [www.generousleadership.org/individual](http://www.generousleadership.org/individual), #GLChallenge

1

Choose your weekly leadership experiments and share them online at GLC. Post your plan.

2

Implement your leadership experiments weekly.

3

Invite a friend to join with you. Meet once a week to discuss your learning.

4

Record (and post!) a weekly 1-minute video reflection. Follow the conversation on social media at **#GLChallenge**. And be sure to tag us or mention us on your social posts to be featured on our website!

5

Watch or listen to leadership content online at GLC.

6

At the end, review your reflections to creatively answer together the GLC Question Prompt. Post your final product and share with others.

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## Helpful Templates

### My Weekly Leadership Experiments

Write a defined goal (or two!) for each Lens and post your goals where you will see them. Specify who, what, when, how often, etc.

Find ideas at: [www.generousleadership.org/individual](http://www.generousleadership.org/individual)

LENS 1: SEEING SELF	LENS 2: SEEING OTHERS	LENS 3: SEEING WORK
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li></ul>

### Weekly Checklist

Find ideas, resources, and community at: [www.generousleadership.org/individual](http://www.generousleadership.org/individual)

#### Week 1:

- Find a friend and thought partner to do this with who can meet weekly
- Choose your weekly experiments and share your plan with your thought partner
- Go to GLC online to “like” the experiments you will do or add your own

#### Weeks 2-6:

- Implement your leadership experiments every week so that by week three you are doing all three leadership experiments simultaneously
- Discuss your ideas and reflections with your thought partner
- Film your 1-minute reflection video at the end of the week and share **#GLChallenge**
  - What actions you took and why you wanted to do them
  - Results of your experiments
  - What you learned and how this impacts your answer to the question prompt
- Watch or listen to leadership content at GLC; comment and share

#### Week 7-8:

- Compile a creative final response to the question prompt. You could create a video, a written response, visual art, anything you want!
- Share your final answer with **#GLChallenge** and **#GLCFinal** to inspire more people