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## Get Clear On What You Want With Personal Leadership

**By Joelle K. Jay**



If I ask you to describe your organization’s vision for the future, you can probably fire off a quick, concise answer, explaining the short- and long-term goals you’re working toward and outlining what success will look like.

But what if I ask you the same question, this time about your personal vision for the future? Can you answer me with the same confidence? Do you have a clear idea of where you’re headed and what your priorities are?

If you are like many of the high-performing business leaders I work with in executive coaching and leadership development, you struggle with this second scenario much more than the first. You’re used to leading in your company, using your talents and expertise to achieve your business objectives. Yet applying these same leadership principles to your personal goals may feel unfamiliar and uncomfortable. This practice is called personal leadership, and it is underutilized by many of the high achievers I work with.

### **What Is Personal Leadership?**

The way I define personal leadership is: *to achieve what you want to achieve and lead the life you want to live.*

The emphasis in personal leadership is on the word “*lead*.” Many people are just *living* their lives; many fewer are actually *leading* them. You have the opportunity to take the lead in your life – to make yourself a priority and pursue a grander vision for yourself.

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Personal leadership helps you formulate your vision for the future, so you can define where you want to be and take action to get from here to there. It's about making yourself your top priority and not feeling guilty about it. Because when you invest in personal leadership, you see the benefits in every area of your life: at work, at home, in relationships and in health. You become the best version of yourself and learn to lead from the inside out.



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