

"A Leadership Lesson from US Presidents"

Dear Small Business Owner:

This month's newsletter will be short and sweet. I know you all have your minds on the vacations you just took or are leaving on to squeeze into this summer.

I attended a leadership conference recently and took home a good ah-ha on thinking about the legacy I want to leave behind. In an interview on leadership with David Gergen, the well-known political analyst, he described an interesting phenomenon he's observed in the famous leaders with whom he's worked.

Gergen has advised US presidents from Nixon to Clinton. He has witnessed in each of those presidents many admirable, remarkable qualities. But, he has also seen traits that each president had to overcome in order to lead.



If US presidents can have strengths and weaknesses, it surely applies to each of us as leaders. We must make sure we have good traits that will stand out more than our flaws.

Gergen believes that being a great leader has to do with how well we come to grips with our flaws. Can we integrate our dark and light sides? How well do we align our public and private personas? Can we keep our flaws under control enough to not derail the good we can do?

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Next month, I'll review several of the suggestions Mr. Gergen had for overcoming our flaws.

Talk to you again when the yellow buses are clogging the roads!

If you missed last month's article on getting ready for the up economy that is coming, you can find it here: <http://www.alphabizcoaching.com/newsletter.htm>.

Sincerely,

Lynda Hess, Business Coach

Email: lhess@alphabizcoaching.com

Phone: 703-738-4634

Web: <http://www.AlphaBizCoaching.com>