

WHS BAND LEADERSHIP WIRED

**Attitude determines that altitude of our success.
The simplicity of motivation...**

What many people do not understand about success is that it all begins with a basic *attitude*. Everything starts and ends with *attitude*. Many times the *attitude* that we consciously choose at the beginning of a task determines our level of success more than anything else. In order to find success, we must first choose to be **proactive** rather than **reactive** in the way we handle situations that come our way. Learning this skill takes time. **What we think (our self talk) determines who we are. Who we are determines what we do.** Therefore, if we can begin to change how and what we think we can begin to alter what we do and affect the outcome of our relationships in a more positive manner.

James Allen said, "You are today where your thoughts have brought you. You will be tomorrow where your thoughts take you." Our thoughts--that which we tell our selves day in and day out, determines what our legacy will be. Every aspect of our life begins with a thought. Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote, "Life consists of what a man is thinking about all day." **It all starts and ends with YOUR attitude of choice.**

You and you alone are in control of your thoughts. Our feelings and emotions are a product of our thought life. **Therefore, we can learn to control our feelings and emotions by controlling our thought processes.** By leading a **proactive** lifestyle rather than one that is **reactive**, we can begin to make conscious choices about our *attitudes* before they are challenged. *Let's face it, one person really does make a difference!* Your effectiveness as a human being can be measured by the sphere of influence that you possess. It is in direct relation to the effect your life has on others around you.

Motivation comes quite simple. Some sort of impetus or ACTIVATOR is placed before others from the appointed leader. This then elicits a response in the form of a BEHAVIOR. Both of these aspects create a response or CONSEQUENT action. Success in a team setting happens with the activator presented by the leader elicits the correct response that leads to the most healthy and efficient consequence. **In a group setting, a leader has a conscious choice to make regarding the nature of their motivating activator.** All of us are leaders within our own sphere of influence. We have a responsibility to help motivate those around us!

The nature of this impetus begins a MOTIVATIONAL CYCLE that continues throughout the team interaction. **As a leader, your response continues or diffuses the cycle.** Many times, leaders choose one of only two responses that break down the communication of the team. A *negative response* is the most ineffective and damaging type of response. In a tight race for second is *no response* at all. Positive, negative, or indifferent, activators are presented. Often times, these types of responses are not personal and do not create a connection with the members of your team.



Great thinkers find alternatives when they understand the nature of their position on the team.

Learning to praise progress and giving constant evaluation for people doing things right keeps the cycle going. It is more personal and more effective. When things are not going well, utilizing personal redirection that sets up a positive personal response also continues the cycle. In this way, even critical evaluation is meaningful and leads to ultimate success without breaking down the process.

What you as a leader choose for the impetus of this motivational cycle determines the success level of the outcome. By being a visionary thinker that works in a *proactive* fashion, you can begin to find alternative personalized methods of motivating others within your sphere of influence. *Proactive* or *reactive* leading is most directly affected by the consistency of your *attitude* of choice. **It all starts and stops with your attitude.**

What have you told yourself today? Be *proactive* about how you will spend the precious time that you are given on this earth. How can you help lead those within your sphere of influence? Are you on the road to success in your relationships and activities? Are you on the road to failure because you play the victim and react to all of the circumstances around you? **It all starts with you!!**

