

Follow the Leader ... If

Anyone who has been around sheep much will admit that they are not the most intelligent creatures on earth.

When shepherders wish to move their flock from one pasture to another, if there is a slight obstacle in the path, they let a goat lead the way, and it will be the first to jump over the obstacle. The sheep follow dutifully.

Interestingly enough, you could remove the obstacle and the sheep would continue to jump over an obstacle that no longer exists.

To a degree, people are the same way. A major cross-country race in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, was to cover a seven-mile course. Two hours after the race began, there were no runners in sight, and the officials became concerned that something had happened.



They set out in their automobiles to find the runners and discovered that all were six or more miles away, running in the wrong direction. Some had actually covered more than 10 miles.

A.J. Rogers, a race official, said the mix-up apparently occurred when the runner leading the pack took a wrong turn at the fifth checkpoint and the rest followed him.

John Maxwell, author and internationally recognized expert on leadership development, said that in a lifetime, the average person directly or indirectly influences 10,000 other people. Those who are in leadership positions influence many more. Think about that!

That's the reason leadership carries such an incredible responsibility – namely, that of making certain you're heading in the right direction, that the decisions you make are character-based and the route you choose is a good one.

When you make a decision, that decision is going to directly or indirectly influence countless other people.

Right decisions by the right people can influence people positively – so make good decisions.

An old-timer once observed: "Lack of direction, not lack of time, is the problem. We all have 24-hour days."

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given to him (James 1:5 ESV).

– Beecher Hunter