

10 classic articles to become a world-class leader (from Harvard Business Review)



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Personal Ethics

How Will You Measure Your Life?

Don't reserve your best business thinking for your career. by Clayton M. Christensen

From the Magazine (July–August 2010)



1. "How Will You Measure Your Life" by Clayton M. Christensen

Success isn't just about wealth or fame—it's about creating a life of purpose and joy.

- Nurture your family relationships.
- Find happiness in your work.
- Live with integrity.

Become a “leader with purpose,” and you’ll be unstoppable.

Managing Yourself

Managing Oneself

Success in the knowledge economy comes to those who know themselves—their strengths, their values, and how they best perform.

by Peter F. Drucker

From the Magazine (January 2005)



2. "Managing Oneself" by Peter F. Drucker

Understand your strengths and weaknesses.

- How do you learn?
- Are you a reader or a listener?
- Do you produce results as a decision-maker or as an adviser?

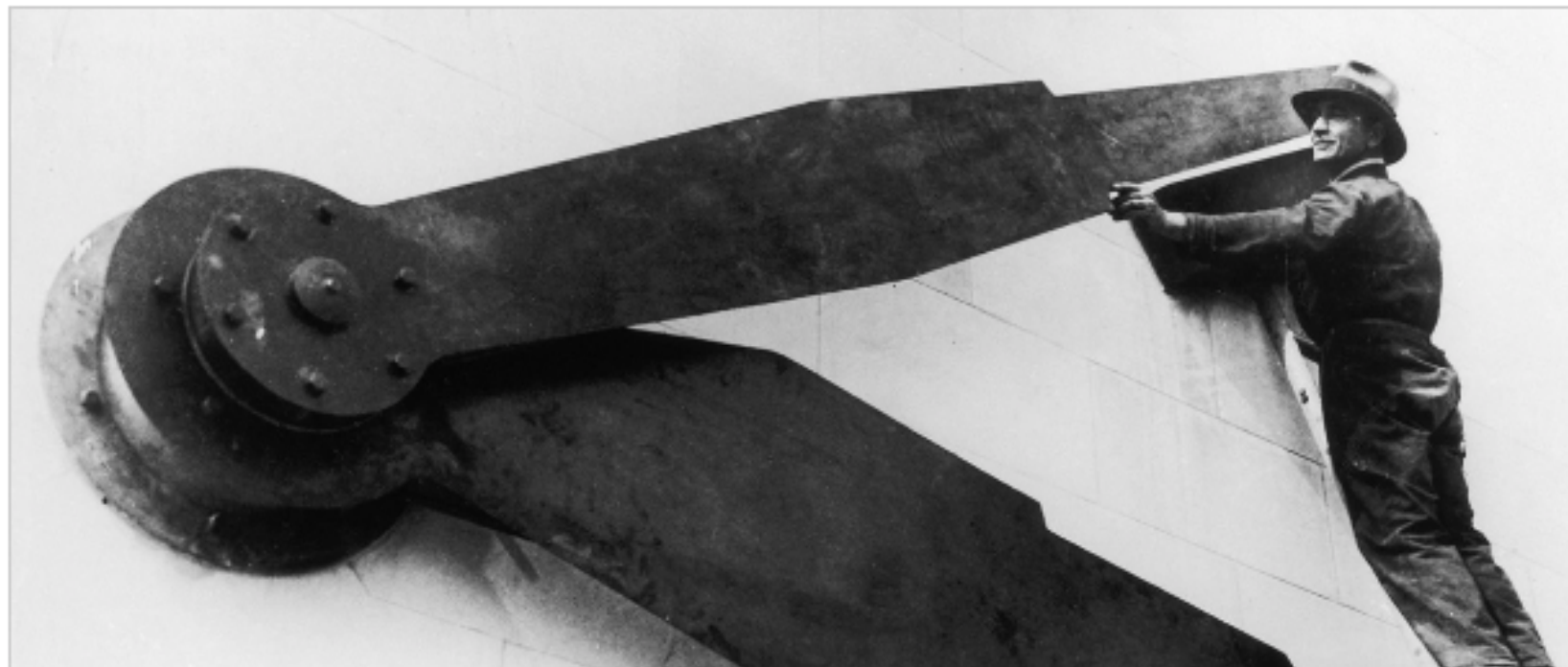
Remember: Not everyone excels in the same field. Find your unique competence and leverage it to your advantage.

Delegating

Management Time: Who's Got the Monkey?

by William Oncken, Jr. and Donald L. Wass

From the Magazine (November–December 1999)



3. "Management Time: Who's Got the Monkey?" by William Oncken, Jr., and Donald L. Wass

Manage your time like a pro.

Imagine time as a monkey.

Don't let it jump around aimlessly.

Guide it purposefully to achieve your goals.

Personal Resilience

How Resilience Works

by Diane Coutu

From the Magazine (May 2002)



4. "How Resilience Works" by Diane L. Coutu

Cultivate resilience.

- Find meaning in troubled times.
- Accept harsh realities.
- Improvise.

Resilience is not just surviving — it's about thriving amidst adversity.

Burnout

Manage Your Energy, Not Your Time

The science of stamina has advanced to the point where individuals, teams, and whole organizations can, with some straightforward interventions, significantly increase their capacity to get things done. by Tony Schwartz and Catherine McCarthy

From the Magazine (October 2007)



5. “Manage Your Energy, Not Your Time” by Tony Schwartz and Catherine McCarthy

Renew your energy across four dimensions:

- Physical
- Emotional
- Spiritual
- Mental

Energy management is the secret sauce of high performance.

Managing Yourself

Overloaded Circuits: Why Smart People Underperform

by Edward Hallowell

From the Magazine (January 2005)

Summary. Reprint: R0501E Frenzied executives who fidget through meetings, lose track of their appointments, and jab at the "door close" button on the elevator aren't crazy—just crazed. They suffer from a newly recognized neurological phenomenon that the author, a psychiatrist,... [more](#)

6. "Overloaded Circuits" by Edward M. Hallowell

Control Attention Deficit Trait (ADT).

In our hyper-connected world, it's easy to get distracted.

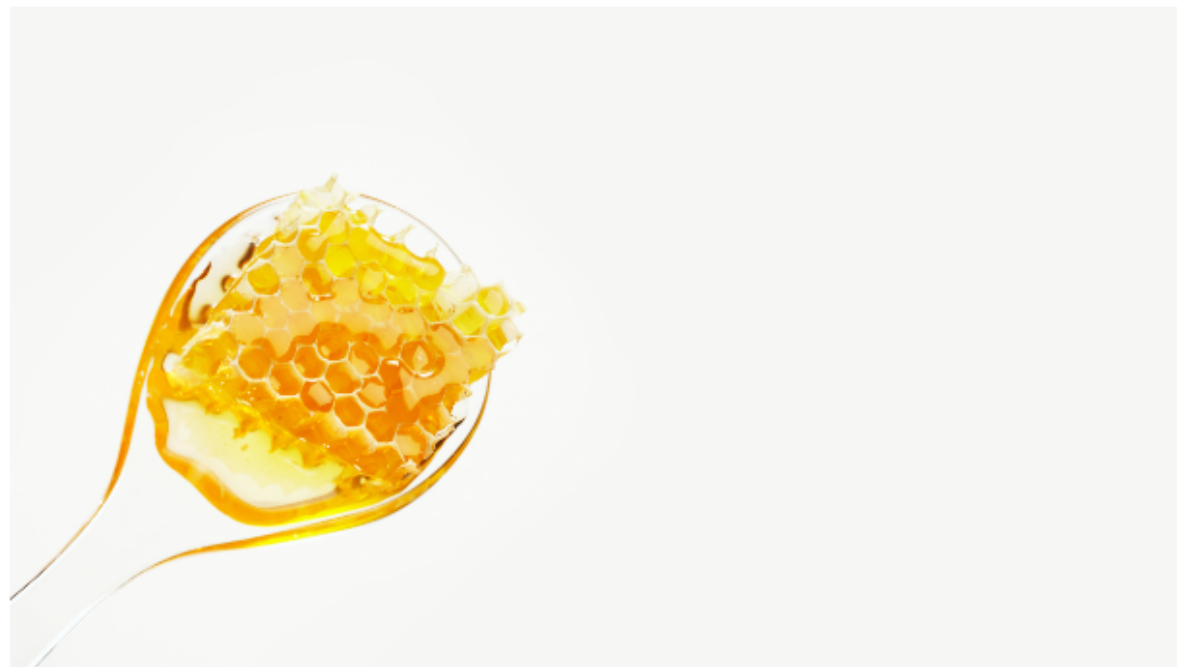
Learn to focus and avoid the trap of ADT.

Leadership

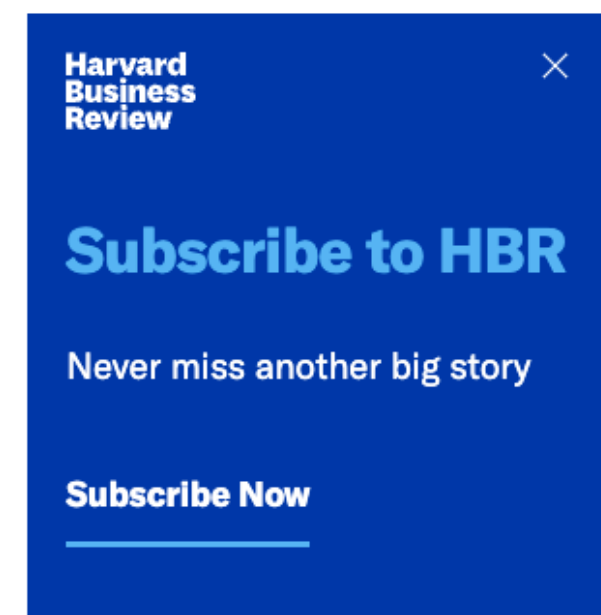
Be a Better Leader, Have a Richer Life

by Stewart D. Friedman

From the Magazine (April 2008)



Summary. Reprint: R0804H Work fills most executives' lives to the brim, leaving insufficient time for their families, their communities, and themselves. But Wharton professor Friedman

[More From The Author](#)

7. "Be a Better Leader, Have a Richer Life" by Stewart D. Friedman

Embrace Total Leadership.

Excel in all dimensions of life—work, home, community, and self.

Leadership is not just about leading others—it's about leading yourself first.

Time Management

Reclaim Your Job

by Sumantra Ghoshal and Heike Bruch

From the Magazine (March 2004)



8. "Reclaim Your Job" by Sumantra Ghoshal and Heike Bruch

Escape the trap of inefficiency.

Align your personal goals with organizational objectives.

Make your job work for you, not the other way around.

Leadership

Moments of Greatness: Entering the Fundamental State of Leadership

by Robert E. Quinn

From the Magazine (July–August 2005)



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As leaders, sometimes we're truly "on," and sometimes we're not. Why is that? What separates the episodes of excellence from those of mere competence? In striving to tip the balance toward excellence, we try to identify great leaders' qualities and behaviors so we can develop them ourselves. Nearly all corporate training programs and books on

9. "Moments of Greatness" by Robert E. Quinn

Tap into your deepest values and instincts.

In times of crisis, the fundamental state of leadership emerges.

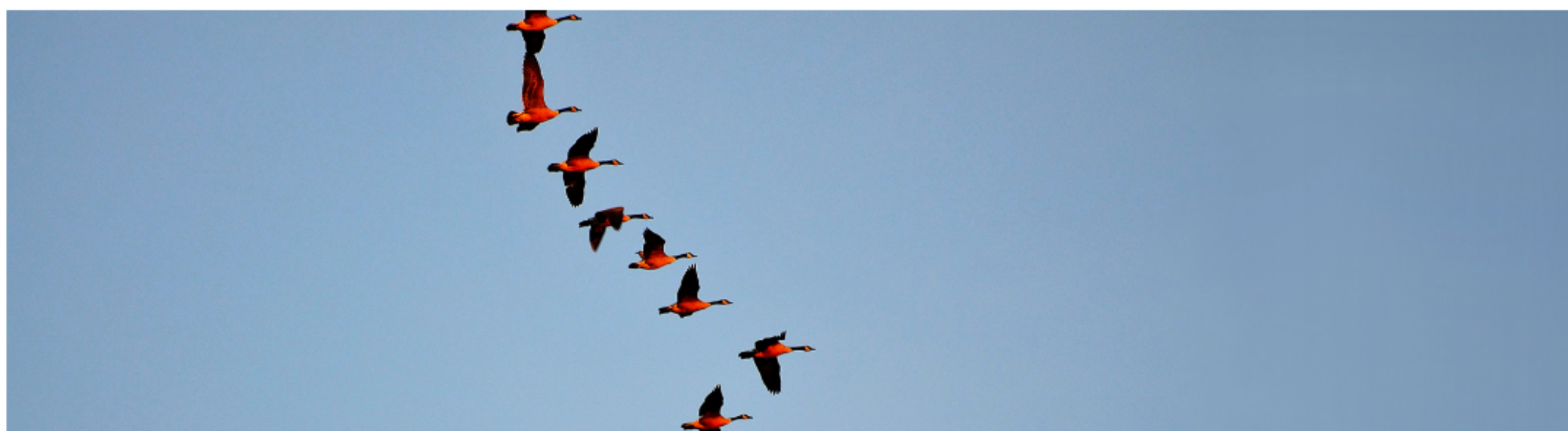
Lead from a place of authenticity and courage.

Emotional Intelligence

Primal Leadership: The Hidden Driver of Great Performance

We've known for years that emotional intelligence improves results—often by an order of magnitude. Now, new research shows that a leader's mood plays a key role in that dynamic—a discovery that should redefine what leaders do first and best. by Daniel Goleman, Richard E. Boyatzis, and Annie McKee

From the Magazine (December 2001)



10. "Primal Leadership, The Hidden Driver of Great Performance" by Daniel Goleman, Richard Boyatzis, and Annie McKee

Embrace emotional leadership.

Your emotions can drive great performance.

Lead with empathy, compassion, and emotional intelligence.

That's it—your guide to self-management in 2023.

Remember, managing yourself is the first step to managing others.

Master these insights and you'll unlock a new level of personal and professional success.

Want to dive deeper? Check out HBR's 10 Must Reads on managing yourself.

And, if you found this post helpful, please:

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