

THE POWER OF POSITIVE LEADERSHIP

How and Why Positive Leaders Transform Teams and Organizations and Change the World

Jon Gordon

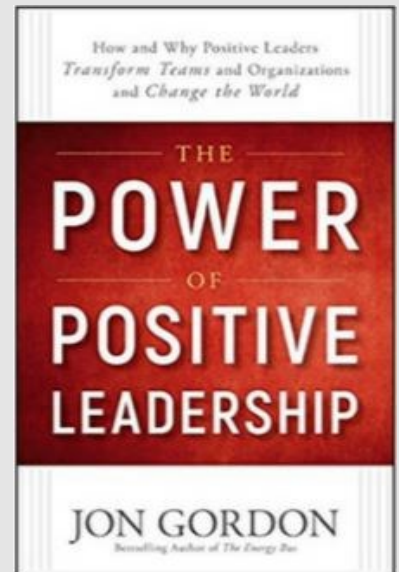
September 11th, 2020
EADM 826
Executive Summary
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Overview

The *Power of Positive Leadership* by Jon Gordon explains why positive leadership is essential. Positivity is essential if a leader wants to build a great culture, develop committed teams and achieve excellent results. The book, which is full of anecdotes and stories, has two main goals. The first goal is to explain how and why positive leaders make a difference. The second goal is to provide a framework filled with practical ideas to assist the reader in becoming not only a better leader, but a better person.



About the Author:

Jon Gordon is an American, best-selling author and keynote speaker. His talks and books have inspired companies, professional sports teams, school districts, and non-profit organizations. He is the author of twenty books, eight of which became best-sellers. Gordon is a graduate of Cornell University. He is also the creator of the Power of Positive Leadership Training Program.

“Being positive doesn’t just make you better, it makes everyone around you better”.

Jon Gordon

REAL POSITIVE

Positivity makes great leaders great. Leaders have to face many challenges. They encounter negativity, criticism and adversity. Positive leaders possess the qualities necessary to overcome these challenges. Positive leaders work harder. They are adept at building relationships. They can see the big picture. This gives them a competitive advantage and assists them in achieving their goals.



POSITIVITY FRAMEWORK

Positive Leaders

- Lead with purpose
- Create and share a vision
- Lead with optimism
- Pursue excellence
- Unite their organization
- Believe in teamwork
- Build great teams
- Confront and remove negativity
- Create positive cultures
- Have grit



“We are positive, not because life is easy. We are positive because life can be hard.”

Jon Gordon

POSITIVE LEADERS DRIVE POSITIVE CULTURES

“Culture is not just one thing, it’s everything.”

Jon Gordon

Gordon states that the most important task of a leader is to drive the culture. Leaders must create a positive culture that energizes and encourages people. Leaders must foster connected relationships. They must empower others thus enabling them to learn and to grow. Leaders must lead by example. They can not merely show the way.



Apple founders, Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak emphasized culture before strategy in creating their organization.

POSITIVE LEADERS CREATE AND SHARE A POSITIVE VISIONS

Positive leaders can transform education, health care and businesses. A positive leader sees what is possible and inspires people to create it. In order to inspire and motivate, a leader must have the ability to communicate their vision in a compelling way. Frequent conversations on vision attainment and the stage of progression are vital. A leader must hold the team accountable.



“We don’t get burned out because of what we do. We get burned out because we forget why we do it.”

Jon Gordon

POSITIVE LEADERS LEAD WITH OPTIMISM, POSITIVITY AND BELIEF

Keys to Success

- Optimism
- Faith
- Planning
- Determination
- Vision
- Attitude
- Goals
- Perseverance
- Knowledge
- Enthusiasm



Rick Hendrick, who built the largest United States privately-owned automotive group and turned Hendricks Motorsports into a winning race organization lists optimism as the number one key to his success.

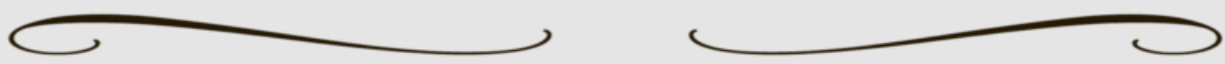
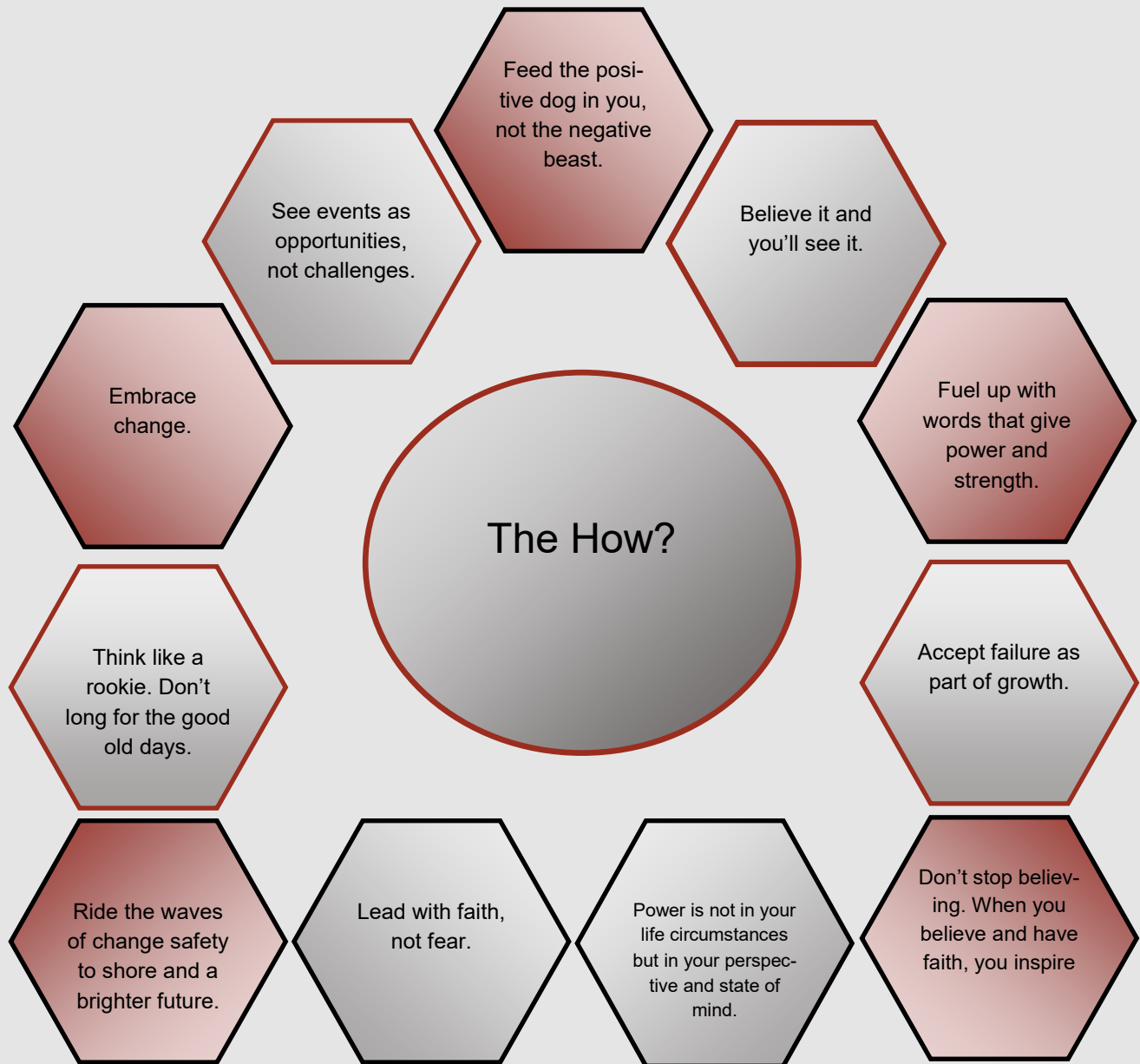


Marva Colins started her own elementary school frustrated by the inadequacies in public education which determined that certain students were incapable of learning. She taught children who had been labeled as learning disabled. She believed they could succeed and she instilled this belief in her students. Her optimism, positivity, and belief in their capabilities provided the fuel that made forward progress possible. Many of her students went on to college and became teachers and lawyers.

“The most important characteristic of a leader is optimism.”

Jon Gordon

STRATEGIES FOR BECOMING A POSITIVE, OPTIMISTIC LEADER



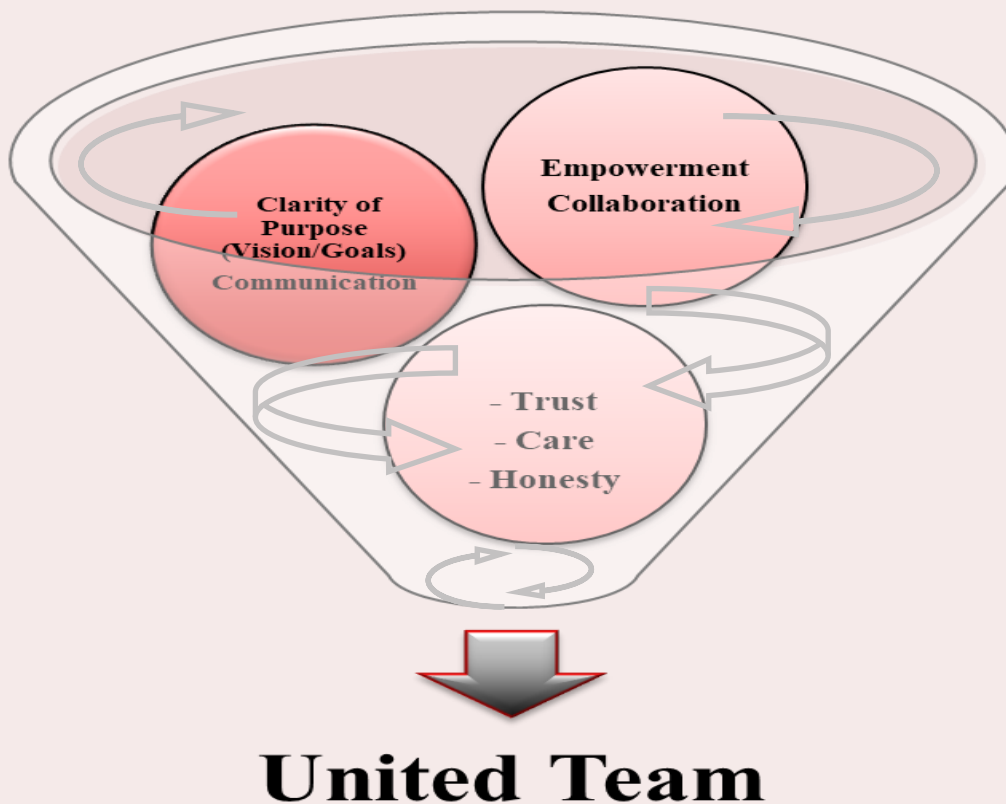
"Positivity is the glue that enhances team performance."

Jon Gordon

POSITIVE LEADERS CONFRONT, TRANSFORM AND REMOVE NEGATIVITY

Don't ignore negativity. If you ignore it, negativity will breed and grow. If a team has some "negativity vampires" that are sucking the energy out of an organization, the leader has to first try to transform them. If they won't transform, a leader must let them go as even one negative person can break a team. A wise leader implements a no complaining rule whereby no one can complain unless they can offer a possible solution to the problem. Thus, the focus is on solutions rather than complaints.

POSITIVE LEADERS CREATE UNITED, CONNECTED TEAMS



An important task facing leaders is the creation of a united team. Leaders must unite instead of divide. Gordon states that there is no place for selfishness and egos in the establishment of meaningful relationships and great teams. A leader must be willing to empower others and avoid micromanaging. A dictatorial style of leadership is ineffective.

"Team beats talent when talent isn't a team."

Jon Gordon

STRATEGIES FOR TEAM BUILDING

Coach and serve others

Put your love and care into your actions

Develop a caring trademark

Communicate. It is the foundation in building great teams.

Shout praise. Whisper criticisms.

Listen!

Interact. Get out of your office.

Encourage

Commit to team building.

Be humble. It's not about you, its about the team.

POSITIVE LEADERS PURSUE EXCELLENCE

”Positivity leads to winning.” Jon Gordon

Positive leaders are never satisfied with the status quo. They are always striving to improve themselves, their teams and their organizations. Positive leaders realize that there is no finish line.

In their pursuit of excellence, positive leaders are demanding but not demeaning. They have high expectations and hold their teams accountable. The plans and goals that they set are clear and simple. They avoid overcomplication. Positive leaders are determined and are open to new ideas that help them achieve the goals.

“Good leaders know their vision and purpose. Great leaders know and love their people.”
Jon Gordon

POSTIVE LEADERS LEAD WITH PURPOSE

Purpose fuels positivity. Without purpose an individual is incapable of leading. Positive leaders share a vision and purpose with their teams. The whole team is made aware of the purpose and the team collaborates to create purpose-driven goals.



POSITIVE LEADERS HAVE GRIT



Gordon defines grit as the ability to work hard for a long period of time. You are driven to work to achieve a goal. It is perseverance. Grit is not letting obstacles deter you from reaching you goal. Leaders with grit do not let failure define or stop them. They accept failure as just part of the progression towards ultimate success.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Jon Gordon challenges the readers to lead the way forward and not to stay stuck in a negativity rut. The author cautions readers to not let others define their destinies. He advises readers to fuel up with optimism and have faith. They should never give up hope. Gordon suggest readers power up and love and care.

Gordon also emphasizes that leaders must show up and do the work. They must address problems, find solutions and move forward. They must be determined and never give up. Leaders should ignore the critics and “fight the good fight”. Leaders must lead with passion and be the kind of leader people want to follow. A great leader is a positive leader.

“The number one predictor of success is grit.”

Jon Gordon

CRITIQUE

In his book, Jon Gordon convinces his readers that positive leadership is the way to build strong, flourishing organizations with connected, collaborative teams that obtain excellent results. His book helps anyone become a positive leader. The book contains a number of stories and anecdotes which are thought provoking and inspiring. It is a highly valuable resource. The only criticism of this book is that the author spends a significant amount of time “plugging” his other books.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

1. How can leaders raise their own positive level?
2. What skills sets are essential for further leaders?
3. What is the greatest impact of positive leadership?
4. How can a leader obtain cohesion when team members disagree?
5. Why must leaders possess excellent skills in human resource management?



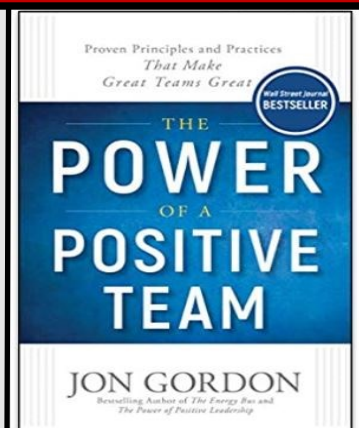
“Being positive won’t guarantee you’ll succeed, but being negative will guarantee you won’t.”

Jon Gordon



Future Summary Coming to You!

The Power of A Positive Team—Proven Principles and Practices That Make Great Teams Great by Jon Gordon.



REFERENCE

Gordon, Jon. (2017). *The power of positive leadership how and why positive leaders transform teams and organization and change the world*. Wiley.