IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL LEADERS
(John Maxwell: “Developing the Leaders Around You”)

Ten Qualities of Successful Leaders

1. **Character.** Weaknesses are acceptable, serious character flaws are not. Such issues should be settled before a person enters leadership.

2. **Influence.** Two kinds of influence: Legal and natural. Do people listen to and follow the potential leader? Why or why not? If you have a history of success and have something to say that people are interested in listening to, they will follow you.

3. **Positive Attitude. (Faith)** The attitude of the leader sets the tone for those who follow him.

4. **People Skills.** Must enjoy people, be comfortable around them and know how to relate to them.

5. **Evident gifts.** Does the leader have gifts that are suitable for a leader or a follower?

6. **Proven Track Record.** Does the potential leader learn from his mistakes. Does he have a history of successes in the small responsibilities he has received.

7. **Confidence.** People are not usually drawn to a person who doesn’t have self-confidence. If a leader has confidence in himself he can inspire confidence in others.

8. **Self-Discipline.** Great leaders have self-discipline, especially in the area of their emotions and time.

9. **Communication Skills.** Vision is effectively communicated through communication. Can the potential leader communicate his ideas in a way in which others can understand him?

10. **Discontent With the Status Quo.** Potential leaders see how things are and desire to change the situation. They have a vision and a plan about how to change the situation.