How Leaders Lose their Way

"The Big Idea"

How do some leaders start strong and end in failure, scandal or the death of the enterprise or business they started?

Why did talented people rise fast, and fall suddenly?

Why do competent people experience immediate success, then plateau, slowly decline and drift into failure?

Are there keys clues that can prevent leaders from losing their way?

Every leader needs a series of questions they ask themselves regularly.

Every leader needs a safe accountability group to examine them, their practice and their organization.

Jim Collins has written two powerful books: *Built to Last* and *Good to Great*

Peter Greer has written an evaluation book: *How Leaders Lose Their Way*

Greer's broader message is that **leaders rarely lose their way all at once**; *they usually drift gradually when success is not accompanied by* humility, accountability, and spiritual health.

According to Peter Greer, leadership failure commonly develops through:

I

Pride, believing success proves one's superiority or makes one above correction.

🔑 **Isolation,** losing honest relationships, accountability, and wise counsel.

II

Unchecked ambition, allowing achievement, influence, or recognition to replace one's original calling.

Burnout and exhaustion, neglecting rest, health, family, and spiritual renewal.

🔑 **Misuse of power**, using authority for personal benefit rather than service.

III

Moral compromise, small ethical compromises that gradually become larger failures.

Neglect of character, focusing on competence and results while ignoring integrity.

🔑 **Failure to listen**, rejecting criticism or assuming the leader always knows best.

Let's be leaders that finish strong!

Let's be leaders that finish well!

Let's be leaders that fight a good fight, finish the course and keep the faith.