

LEADERS

You can always get the truth from an American statesman after he has turned 70, or given up all hope of the presidency.

– Wendell Phillips, noted abolitionist, 1860



On the Cover

For LEADERS, this special cover reflects a very special message – or messages, more correctly. In this issue, nine of the world's most successful and revered men – each having reached the pinnacle of his field – share their musings, inspirational reflections, but, most importantly, sage advice to other leaders, present and future.

"This is an unfair world," writes Lee Kuan Yew, Singapore's former prime minister for 31 years. "There are no shortcuts to perfection," summarizes Walter Cronkite, dean emeritus of broadcast journalism. As such, "it helps to be smart," Jean-Pierre Garnier, CEO of GlaxoSmithKline, points out, "but it helps more to be resilient and hardworking." Nobel laureate Leon Lederman likewise recommends "hard work" and "total obsessive dedication." Former U.S. President George Bush advises, "Listen to your friends and mentors," with former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev adding, "Be brave, persistent, and efficient." And Donald Keough, Allen & Company's chairman, mentions those "special moments that, at the time, seem relatively unimportant but prove to be highly significant." But both Nursultan Nazarbayev and King Abdullah II take a broader view of success and life: "True happiness comes when a man chooses the best of possible options at every moment," Kazakhstan's president reasons; so "always focus on doing the correct thing," Jordan's king concludes.

These well-established leaders are shown alphabetically, left to right, top to bottom; their letters to LEADERS begin on page 67. To complement, in his own special corner of the world (and our cover), Perry Christie – longtime public servant but the Bahamas' prime minister only since 2002 – represents the future. In this burgeoning economy, where "the sky is no limit," he oversees an initiative "to replace the traditional red tape with red-carpet treatment" and thereby "encourage foreign and domestic investors to initiate and expand projects." His strategies appear on page 117.

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