



EPISODE RECAP: DEC. 8, 2005 THE APPRENTICE | 9/8 PM THURSDAY | NBC

Donald: Insights on the Apprentice

Last night we saw that there are some very positive consequences of being a strong leader:

1. Loyalty: Both Randall and Rebecca have earned their teams' respect, you can hear it by how their teams talk about them;
2. Both teams are willing to work their hearts out for their respective leader;
3. Both teams have set aside any personal agenda for the victory of the team.

These aren't things you can buy, borrow, or rent. They can only be attained through strong leadership.

While strong leadership gets you respect and loyalty, to maintain loyalty and respect, you need to continuously display good judgment and leadership. That means you need to make smart, thoughtful decisions. And if you're not sure about a decision, ASK! If you surround yourself with smart people, you WANT their ideas and input. Ask them if you're missing anything! That's why they're there.

On the whole, neither team looked stellar last night. Randall's team did not plan for the possibility of rain, even after it was mentioned by one of the executives. Rebecca's team didn't seem to consider the possibility of their emcee bailing on them late in the game. From what I can see, both teams have challenging circumstances they have to overcome.

The winning team will be the one that is best able to balance the details of the operations, while keeping in mind the big picture, AND be able to problem solve as challenges arise. Right now it's really a toss up.