

15 Leadership Lessons from *The Audacity to Lead*

Michael Johnson – *From the Projects to the C-Suite*

1. Lead with Audacity, Not Fear

True change requires courage to take risks, speak up, and disrupt the status quo.

2. Adversity is Fuel

Your struggles can become the foundation of your strength and empathy as a leader.

3. Family is a Leadership Compass

Ground yourself in the values of love, loyalty, and responsibility to stay centered.

4. Purpose Over Position

Leadership is not about titles; it's about creating impact and solving real problems.

5. Listen Before You Lead

Leaders who listen deeply earn trust and unlock new perspectives.

6. Resilience Builds Respect

The ability to bounce back from setbacks inspires teams to do the same.

7. Community is Currency

Relationships and networks can open doors that money cannot.

8. Equity is Essential

A leader's role is to create opportunities for others, especially those who are overlooked.

9. Vision Anchors Action

Without a clear vision, effort scatters; with vision, effort compounds.

10. Give Credit, Take Responsibility

Share wins with the team; own failures yourself.

11. Mentorship Multiplies Impact

Investing in others ensures your leadership outlives your position.

12. Integrity Wins Long-Term

Shortcuts may bring fast gains, but credibility sustains influence.

13. Pay It Forward

Acts of generosity ripple outward, lifting individuals, families, and communities.

14. Continuous Learning is Leadership Insurance

Stay curious, adaptive, and open to new knowledge.

15. Legacy Over Limelight

Your greatest achievement is not recognition, but the lives you've changed.

