



## turning managers into leaders

### Merge's Monthly Mega Minute – October 2013

Welcome to **Merge's Monthly Mega-Minute** - a bite-sized, yet substantial and practical, nugget of information that you can use immediately to enhance your professional and personal success.

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*Merge Gupta-Sunderji turns managers into leaders. Through engaging keynotes and facilitated workshops, she gives people specific and practical tools to achieve leadership and communication success. Contact her at [www.mergespeaks.com](http://www.mergespeaks.com) or 403-605-4756*

### Find a “mirror” to grow as a leader

Leadership growth is a voyage of discovery and learning. And one very useful ally in your journey is a trusted colleague (or mirror) who is also in a position of leadership; someone with whom you can discuss issues, celebrate successes, share challenges and commiserate about disappointments.

Don't underestimate the value of such a partner. Consider this: two mirrors placed directly across from each other create an infinite number of reflections. When you have someone who can listen with an understanding and empathetic ear (because they “get” your issues and difficulties), this person can reflect what you are doing and saying, and offer insights to your situation that you might not have considered yourself. And you can offer them the same in return. And of course, just like with real mirrors, the potential for unrestricted iterations is endless. In the end, this limitless ability to reflect (and learn) will make you a better leader.

If you are in a position of formal leadership, take the time (and energy) to seek out such a like-minded person. S/he doesn't have to be in the same department, or even the same company as you, but he or she does need to be willing to talk openly and share ideas.

Well, do you have such a “mirror” in your professional life? Please tell. And if you don't, what's stopping you from finding one. Please share online at my blog at: [www.mergespeaks.com/blog](http://www.mergespeaks.com/blog).