

Leading with Impact

Key Takeaways from the 2023 Global Leadership Summit

The Balanced Growth team attended the 2023 Global Leadership Summit in South Barrington, IL. Every year, hundreds of thousands of leaders from a variety of backgrounds tune in from 123+ countries to hear from CEOs, Pastors, and other inspirational leaders.

Here is a glimpse into the Balanced Growth team's top takeaways from two days jam-packed with wisdom and empowering tips on leadership and life.



Vicki's Takeaways

I appreciated **Craig Groeschel's** formula for engendering trust among those we lead: Transparency + Empathy + Consistency = Trust.

Transparency involves being truthful, empathy involves the heart, and consistency involves the organizational culture. Now the challenge is to implement it!

*"Transparency +
Empathy +
Consistency =
Trust"
-Craig Groeschel*

Erin Meyer, co-author of the "No Rules Rules," challenged us to think through the complexity of today's organizations and the dilemmas created by competing values. For example, transparency and stability are often at two ends of a spectrum. If a leader values transparency, they must consider how much stability are they willing to sacrifice? Similarly, **innovation is often opposed to a culture that values error prevention**. Leaders need to think through the opportunity cost of focusing too heavily on error prevention at the expense of potential innovation.

*"If you don't obsess
somewhere, you will not
progress anywhere."
-Toto Wolff*

I was also inspired by **Toto Wolff's** (CEO of Formula One) quote, "If you don't obsess somewhere, you will not progress anywhere."
Accomplishing audacious goals requires steadfast determination and sacrifice. **Only a great passion will sustain the drive required to persevere and ultimately succeed.**



Amy's Takeaways

I was particularly inspired and empowered by **James Clear's** talk on Atomic Habits where he discussed his system for building good habits and breaking bad ones. He shared a secret to building good, lasting habits - it's about believing something new about yourself. This struck a nerve in me as I have a picture of who I am and it often feels a little too radical or difficult to make a change to that picture. Add to that the fact that we all have limitations and breakdowns in our systems - it is easy to feel stuck or burdened by these roadblocks. The idea that we can make small improvements over time and actually see the eventual benefits of these build up into something visible, good, and new - now that is something worth trying! **One step at a time - "The power of tiny gains"!**

"Every action you take is a vote for the type of person you wish to become."
 -James Clear

"Great leaders are able to meet people where they are."
 -Condoleeza Rice

Hearing the former US Secretary of State **Condoleeza Rice** speak at the GLS was a privilege. She reflected on key lessons she has learned from her experience as a leader. She talked about how she has learned the importance of listening first, and bridging the gap to meet people where they are. Know what you are trying to achieve and be a good listener first. If you can take yourself out the equation for a moment, listen to what others are saying and find interest overlap. Move towards yes. If you're just transmitting information, you won't hear those important little clues. **Listen first for a better sense of what is possible.** Once you first hear where people are and understand what they are going through, you can then tell them where to go.



Allie's Takeaways

I was inspired by **Liz Bohannon's** presentation on intentionality in relationships. She tackled the topic of leadership in a unique way, first drawing attention to an issue that affects 58% of American adults and 72% of America's leaders – loneliness. She talked about the fact that we were created to do life together and how as a leader you can have a profound impact on the lives of those around you. Her advice to achieve this? **Develop the skill of reflective listening.** Reflective listening creates an environment with trust and respect, and can build empathy, showing that you are genuinely interested in the other person. These stronger connections will build your character as a leader, creating a better work environment and allowing you to resolve conflict effectively



I also found **Pat Gelsinger's** (CEO of Intel Corporation) presentation on creating a leadership "map" to be very insightful. He put together his advice about leadership into a M.A.P.:

M: Mentors make you better.

A: Audacious Goals: Set and exhaust them.

P: Pursue your passion and purpose.

Using this map, you can set clear priorities. Everyday, check in with yourself, and your team, every day, and asking the question: **Am I making progress towards this audacious goal?**

"Pursue your passion and purpose."
 -Pat Gelsinger

This is only a small sample of the impactful lessons that we learned and we hope our insight may help you grow in your leadership skills. It is easy to get caught up in the rigors of day-to-day operations and it is important to take a step back and learn how we can become better leaders at work and in our communities.

Meet the Authors



Vicki Sutter, BG Principal, has consulted alongside Jason Bordui since 2008, partnering with clients to help them achieve breakthrough performance. Her expertise includes business process design, organization design, organizational development, business process outsourcing, eCommerce, merger and acquisition integration, and operations strategy and execution.



Amy Murrin, Senior Manager, has worked for Balanced Growth for the past 10 years. Amy is an effective leader with consulting and management experience in various industries and across diverse environments. She has a successful record of building strong business relationships with clients and staff members at all levels.



Allie Woodward, Strategic Communications Consultant, started with BG Team in February 2022. She is responsible for marketing and social media, as well as developing strategy to enhance client relationships and managing with corporate communications. Her strong organizational skills and experience in crafting effective communication are assets to both BG and its clients.

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