



***FORWARD
IN FOCUS***

Lessons Learned : Both Sides of the Leadership Story

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Speakers

**Christy Clark: Project Manager, Sales Operations
Malin Integrated**

Steven Long: Training Manager: Ben E Keith Foods

**Jon Birdwell: Director of Warehouse Operations
Ben E Keith Foods**

**Great leaders are not defined by their successes alone.
They are shaped by how they respond to challenges, learn
from setbacks, and develop others along the way.**

Resilience During Difficult Moments:

Challenges reveal character and leadership capability.

How leaders respond to setbacks influences team culture.

Failure can become a catalyst for growth when approached with accountability and learning.

What challenge has taught you the most about leadership?

The Importance of Champions and Mentors

The description specifically references "champions who help leaders move forward."

No successful leader develops alone.

Mentors, sponsors, and advocates accelerate growth.

Leaders should intentionally become champions for others.

Are you actively developing someone today?

Learning from Success and Failure

The session promises stories of both toughest moments and proudest achievements.

Success leaves clues, but so do failures.

Reflection is critical after both wins and losses.

Leadership growth comes from extracting lessons and applying them consistently.

Every experience is either an achievement or a lesson.

Developing Future Leaders

One of the strongest themes in the description is "use to develop others."

Leadership is not about personal accomplishment alone.

The true measure of leadership is the leaders you develop.

Coaching, feedback, and empowerment should be daily habits.

Are we building followers or creating future leaders?

Authentic Leadership

The fact that panelists will share candid stories suggests an emphasis on authenticity.

Vulnerability builds trust.

Teams connect more with authentic leaders than perfect leaders.

Sharing personal lessons creates stronger engagement and credibility.

Three Key Takeaways

1. Adversity is a Leadership Development Tool

The toughest situations often produce the greatest growth.

2. Nobody Succeeds Alone

Champions, mentors, and trusted advisors are critical to leadership success.

3. Leadership Legacy is Measured by Who You Develop

The best leaders create more leaders.



**Thank you.
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