



# BEYOND SUCCESS

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**ROUNDTABLES**



BEYOND  
SUCCESS

Your Path  
to Significance

EQUIP



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# A Message from John C. Maxwell

**Dear Friend,**

What do you want out of life?

In my five decades of working with people and striving to add value to them, I've come to believe that deep down, everyone wants to be successful, live a life of purpose, and make a difference.

Does that describe you? If so, these roundtable lessons will help you. They have been designed to add value to you, help you become more successful, and start you on a road that goes even beyond success.

For the next seven weeks, you will have an opportunity to discuss subjects that are keys to success, such as priorities, attitude, and relationships. You'll also have a chance to learn about and discuss intentional living, which I have discovered to be the bridge to a life of significance.

Mahatma Gandhi advised us to be the change we want to see in the world. If I want my home, my workplace, my community, or my country to be better, then I need to become better. We do that by becoming intentional about improving ourselves. And one of the best benefits is that it puts us in a place to add value to others.

So, I want to welcome you into an exciting process. If you are willing to talk honestly in these meetings and are open to positive change, you will be amazed at what can happen in only seven weeks. And you also will be encouraged by the positive impact you can make on others.

Thank you for making an investment in yourself and others.  
Your friend,

  
John C. Maxwell



## ROUNDTABLE 1

# Attitude

The world you see is colored by your attitude.

“Attitude is the difference maker!  
Attitude isn’t everything, but it is one thing  
that can make a difference in your life.”

- John C. Maxwell

Note: The estimated time for each roundtable step is based on an eight-person roundtable.

### Step 1 - Sharing results (10 min)

Since this is the first session, introduce yourself to the group and tell them something brief about you.

### Step 2 - Watching video, reading and underlining (15 min)

Watch the video of today’s session and take note of what you find important.

#### INSIGHT

**Directions: Take turns reading the paragraphs below. As you read, underline the ideas that capture your attention.**

When you think of attitude, what comes to mind? You may not be able to easily define attitude, but you know a good or a bad one when you see it.

Your attitude colors every aspect of your life. It is like the mind’s paintbrush. It can paint everything in bright, vibrant colors—creating a masterpiece. Or it can make everything dark and dreary. If you look at the lives of people in any profession who achieve lasting success, you will find that they almost always possess a positive outlook on life.

Having a positive attitude is essential. It not only determines your level of contentment as a person, but it also has an impact on how others interact with you.

To learn more about what it means to be positive, think about these things:

**Your attitude is a choice you make.** Average people want to wait for someone else to motivate them. They are tempted to believe that their circumstances are responsible for the way they think and feel. In reality, attitude is always a choice. In fact, while we can’t control many of our circumstances, we can always control our attitudes. And choosing a positive attitude makes any circumstances look better. When you choose your attitude, you are taking control of an important aspect of your life, rather than just letting life control you.

#### NOTES

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**Your attitude affects your outlook.** When you choose to focus on the positive in your surroundings, you tend to see more positive things. Choosing a positive attitude about your current situation enables you to see future circumstances in a positive light. Your attitude at this moment colors your perspective both now and in the future.

**Your attitude precedes your actions.** Actions are always an outward expression of your inner feelings. The way you feel about a given circumstance or situation will impact the way you react to it. When you change how you feel, you change how you act. By choosing a positive attitude, you make it easier for you to choose positive actions. And this often leads to a positive outcome.

**Your attitude enhances your relationships.** Your attitude regarding people will impact your relationships with them. If you start with a negative attitude about a person, you will tend to focus on all of their negative qualities. A positive attitude about a person causes you to focus on their positive qualities. By choosing to see someone in a positive light, you will act toward them in a positive manner. They will usually respond in kind.

**Your attitude alters your outcomes.** In his book, *The Winning Attitude*, John C. Maxwell states, “Our attitude at the beginning of a task will affect its outcome more than anything else.” Whether you are choosing to be cheerful about a task, or choosing to believe in your ability to accomplish it, a positive attitude empowers you to do your best work. It makes team interaction go more smoothly. And very frequently, it delivers the results that you desire. Expecting the best usually results in the best. Thinking positively on the front end is critical to success.



**BENEFITS**

When you develop a positive attitude, you experience the following benefits:

1. You are content and enjoy life more.
2. You inspire others to achieve more together.
3. You attract people who exhibit the same qualities.
4. You see the opportunities in every situation.
5. You usually exhibit gratitude toward others.
6. You keep pushing until you succeed.

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**STEPS TO FOLLOW**

- 1. Talk to yourself.** The most important person to listen to is yourself. What you tell yourself about your situation is either an anchor that holds you back or a sail that propels you forward. Choose to think positive thoughts. When negative thoughts arise, respond to them with positivity. Tell yourself something positive in response. Don't let the negative voices inside your mind influence you to see things negatively. Immediately find the positive in the situation before moving forward. Remember, you can choose what you think.
  
- 2. Choose positive relationships over negative ones.** Think about the people that you spend a lot of time with. Are their attitudes primarily positive or negative? Attitude is contagious. So you should spend as much time as possible with people who choose to think positively. Their willingness to see the good in a situation will encourage you to make the same choice. If your circumstances don't allow you to completely avoid negative people, then seek out positive people and spend time with them to counteract negative influences in your life.
  
- 3. Feed your faith, starve your fears.** Choosing a positive attitude is challenging at first. It's especially difficult if you haven't been filling your mind with positive input. If you've been starved of anything positive, then you need to start feeding yourself a regular diet of motivational material. Read books that encourage a positive attitude. Listen to affirming messages. The more negative you are, the longer it will take to turn your attitude around. But if you consume a steady diet of the right mental "food," you can become a positive thinker.

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**Step 3 - Discussion (12 min)**

**Reflect and respond**

Choose something you underlined that is important to you. Take one minute to tell everyone what you chose and why it is important to you.

**Step 4 - Self-assessment (10 min)**

**Evaluation and action**

Complete the self-evaluation section below.

Rate how well you demonstrate this quality in your life on a scale of 1-10.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Why did you give yourself this rating?

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What benefits would you receive by improving your rating?

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Who do you know that exemplifies this quality? What do you admire most about that person?

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What specific action can you take immediately that will improve your rating?

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**Step 5 - Assessment and intentional action step conversation (10 min)**

Take a minute to share your responses to the self-evaluation section, including the step you will take to improve in this area. Everyone is asked to participate.