

## Lessons of Life

No one can teach without learning; whoever assumes a teaching role needs to learn how to teach and guide; he or she needs to know what is more interesting to her children, to his students, and what they need to know most. However, to know what your students, friends, children, employees or subjects need to learn, you need first to know what they have; what kind of information, stories, complaints, aspirations and life experiences they have and would like to share. Knowing what they have helps you to determine what they need most and how you can help. And by telling you their stories and how they feel, you learn how to stimulate them to be more alert and more willing to listen to you and learn from you and from others. Therefore, parents, teachers, managers, professors and leaders who want to lead but are unable or unwilling to listen and learn from their children, students, audiences, employees and subjects will ultimately fail in their mission.

No one should underestimate the intelligence of others, even people with little or no education. People live different lives, under varied circumstances and tend to place different values from the ones we place on most things. While a person living in poverty might spend most of his day trying to get enough food to feed his children, a wealthy person might be spending his time thinking how to make his millions multiply fast. A student living in a house without electricity cannot and should not be reprimanded if he or she fails to do his or her homework on time, every time. An employee who walks an hour to reach his workplace should not be treated like someone who drives a car to work.

Successful parents, teachers, managers and leaders need to understand that people they try to teach are their best friends and most valuable teachers. if they listen to them and learn from them, they will be able to enhance their understanding of the others and succeed in leading them; if they ignore them and make their relationships with them a one way street, they are more likely to fail; fail not only the people who depend on them, but themselves as well.

Dr. Mohamed Rabie

[www.yazour.com](http://www.yazour.com)