

# THE LEADING EDGE: A TEACHER'S HEART THE DOOR TO CONNECTION, COMMUNICATION AND INTERACTION

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Teaching isn't about the teacher. It's about the student. As John C. Maxwell states in *Everyone Communicates Few Connect*, "Good teachers, leaders, and speakers don't see themselves as experts with passive audiences they need to impress. Nor do they view their interests as more important. Instead, **they see themselves as guides and focus on helping others learn.**"

If teachers don't approach students with a heart of service and a genuine desire to help guide them to become the best versions of themselves, then their students won't trust them.

If they don't trust you, they surely will not work to their potential while they are within your care.

If we think of the word care from the first question in terms of protection of someone or something, the teaching relationship becomes a sacred bond. While students are in our care, it is our duty to look after them and ensure *their* needs are met.

This doesn't mean that it's our job to shield them from failure or the world in general. Quite the opposite! It is the teacher's responsibility to create an environment of trust, allowing students to push themselves to explore new ideas, discover new ways of seeing the world, and to move ever closer to who they are in the process of becoming.