

LEAD WELL

BOOK REVIEW

Necessary Endings

Henry Cloud

KEY PRINCIPLE

There is a profound difference between Quitting and making a Necessary Ending

APPLICATION

Is it time for a Necessary Ending?

For leaders this can be a hard question to answer. Most of us are taught from an early age that you do not quit - no matter what. I have had times where I would run myself into the ground or hold onto something too long because I didn't want to admit that it may be time for an ending. I didn't want to be a quitter.

The idea of being courageous, tenacious, able to persevere when things get hard, and just flat-out hard work is not a bad thing. As a leader there will be times you need all of that. Yet there are times when the strategic, healthy, courageous, gut wrenchingly hard thing to do is to make a necessary ending.

Cloud's book shares insights into the strategy and challenges of necessary endings. The wise person learns when it is time to persevere and keep going and when it is time to make a necessary ending. Both have a place in your life - personally and professionally. It could be a relationship - it could be a project or even a career. It can be a mental challenge to get past the idea you are quitting. I often use the quote below to remember it is about doing the wise thing when having to make a tough call.

"You didn't quit - you made a necessary ending"

Kathy Crockett

+ CO