



# character

a 52-week series about amplifying your  
management & leadership skillset

create

# Initiative

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## Overview

If there was one thing I would share about management & leadership...

It would be about **initiative**. I remember being told once very early in my managerial career, “just do something”. If we unpack that statement, it allows us to try, to risk and to move forward...perhaps even enthusiastically in uncertainty. My statement has changed with years of experience to “Just do the next right thing”.

*“Initiative is doing the right thing without being told.”*

*Elbert Hubbard*

### For the week...

- Reflect: How do you make decisions now? Does it take a committee or is a gut feeling? Pick the last big or small decision, what fueled the action?
- Act: With your next company initiative (pun intended) or program, what empowerment can you clarify for your team? What will they need to allow their initiative to create change and innovation?
- And remember, taking initiative means having belief and faith in what you do.

Let's be real, **is taking the initiative inspired or reckless?** Or both? To act decisively bears responsibility to what happens and also accountability in outcome. And the only certainty is your actions before, during and after. Perhaps the best place to start in showing or taking more initiative is controlling your controllable's first.



**To learn more about this series, contact Kurt Reinhart.  
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