

# A Leader's 3 Most Powerful Weapons

Appreciation, Affirmation, and Encouragement

## **APPRECIATION**

- Past
- · "You did it."

## **AFFIRMATION**

- Present
- "You are doing it."

## **ENCOURAGEMENT**

- Future
- · "You can do it."

#### **APPRECIATION**

Appreciation is expressing thanks for something someone did in the past.

- · Catch people doing something right.
- Make the positive feedback specific.
- · Let them know why it mattered.
- Unexpressed gratitude is interpreted as ingratitude.

"Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a gift and never giving it." - William Ward

### **AFFIRMATION**

Affirmation is letting someone know what they are good at.

- Affirmation means 'to make firm'.
- · Affirming positive behavior means you will get more of it. You are making the behavior 'firm'.
- Let others know their gifts and strengths. They often don't see it themselves.
- Give others the 'gift of confidence.'

"The greatest good you can do for another is not just share your riches, but to reveal to him his own." - Benjamin Disraeli

### **ENCOURAGEMENT**

Encouragement is letting someone believe in them and their abilities.

- Encouragement means 'to give courage'.
- Move people slowly out of their comfort zone.
- Move people closer and closer to their potential.
- Under-challenged employees begin to put in time or look somewhere else.

