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The Project Reformer's e-Tip of the Week

020: Take Care of Yourself First to Make Room for Others

To be successful in management, whether it is a project or an organization, you have to be Truthfully, Honestly, Openly and Directly pursuing what you want. Your focus should be: First, me. Second, the organization of which I am a part. Third, the people around me. The order is critical. People by their nature are not selfless. And the manager who ignores his human nature can't really help transform an organization or the people he manages.

Michael Gerber offers *7 Rules for Management Independence*. They are:

1. Know what you want.
2. Know you have the power to get it.
3. There can be no causes other than your own.
4. If you cannot manage yourself you cannot manage anything.
5. There are no simple answers, only complex questions.
6. Before it gets better is it going to get worse.
7. These rules must become the defining principles in your life.

Like David Schmalz, Gerber wants you to find your vision, or project, in the bigger vision. By making that matter to you, there is passion to be found for the bigger vision. By teaching this to your people, you can create a great organization. It sounds selfish at first sight, but people are selfish by nature. Rather than create a sense of false motivation, understand this truth and apply it so that everyone is pursuing "Their Vision" with passion. Your job as a manager is to ensure that "Their Vision" is aligned with the organizations Vision.

Dennis Stevens, [Knowledge in Process](#), developed this e-Tip from Michael Gerber's [The E-Myth Manager, Why Management Doesn't Work -- and What to Do About It](#).

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