



Queen Elizabeth

Thoughts on leadership
by Karl Pister





In 68 years of leadership, Queen Elizabeth of Britain has only spoken officially on television, outside of traditional messages, five times. Over this past weekend, she gave two eloquent, and extremely short messages that truly personify inspirational leadership. Here are brief excerpts:

Together we are tackling this disease, and I want to reassure you that if we remain united and resolute, then we will overcome it. I hope in the years to come everyone will be able to take pride in how they responded to this challenge, and those who come after us will say the Britons of this generation were as strong as any, that the attributes of self-discipline, of quiet, good-humored resolve, and of fellow feeling still characterize this country. The pride in who we are is not a part of our past, it defines our present and our future.





Using the great advances of science and our instinctive compassion to heal, we will succeed, and that success will belong to every one of us. We should take comfort that while we may have more still to endure, better days will return. We will be with our friends again. We will be with our families again. We will meet again.

As dark as death can be—particularly for those suffering with grief—light and life are greater.

See some familiar themes here?

I want to reassure - Yes, I have a vision and, as your leader, I know WE can get there.

If we remain united and resolute - What has to happen...clearly stated.

I hope in the years to come.... - appealing to the powerful precedent of the past and how to apply it in the future.



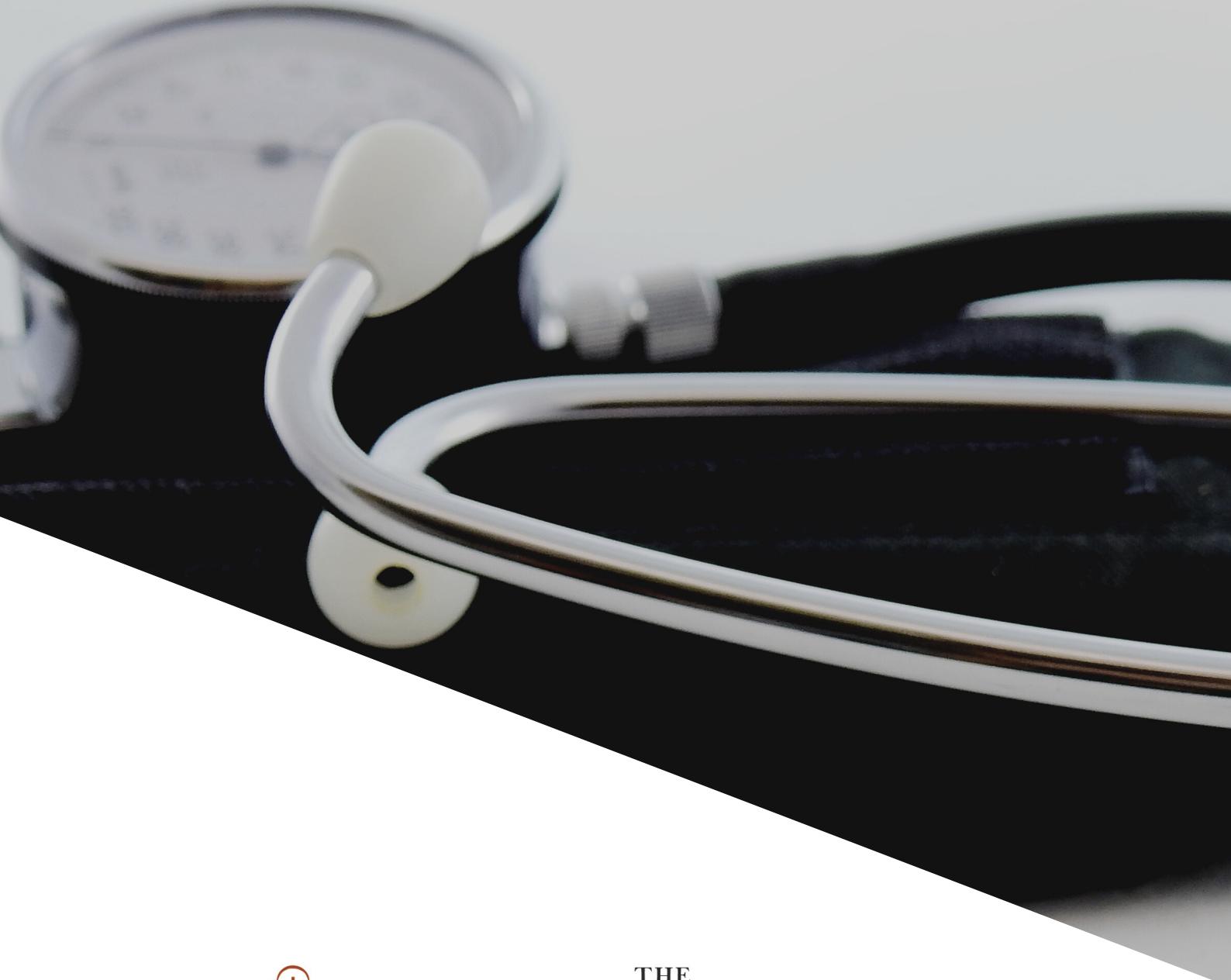
That the attributes of self-discipline... - describing the proud characteristics of her fellow citizens. This resonates with people, whether in a country or a corporation!

The pride in who we are.... - What we have done will influence where we go.

We will succeed... - again, the vision and the confidence.

As dark as death.... acknowledging the pain (a required step in leadership) and letting them know the light at the end of the tunnel is a reality.

She said nothing fancy or profound. The eloquence is in the simplicity and how she touched common themes with caring and directness. Truly a model to follow.



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