

As a leader, talk is cheap. Action is what counts and practice makes a difference. Below are practical steps to improve performance.

- Surround yourself with wise counsel. Leadership in the midst of chaos requires leaning on the perspectives of those you trust. Proactively seek them out to lead others through chaos.
- Step back and look at the big picture. Avoid becoming myopic and hyper-focused on the chaos only to miss out on the opportunities that change and upheaval can often create.
- Take care of yourself first. Self-care is a significant strategy and important component of leadership in any situation, but it becomes even more critical in sustained chaos. You can't take care of anyone else if you're not first taking care of yourself.
- Recognize others for continuing to show up and be counted on in chaos. Often, your people will remain positive and optimistic in chaos when they know you care about them and appreciate their efforts. Forgetting to do this makes working in chaos exponentially worse for your teams.
- Stay coachable. Great leaders are always humble and seek the advice of others. Asking for help is a sign of strength, not weakness.
- Make learning a priority. Broaden your perspective. Books, blogs and podcasts (like *The Frustrated CEO!*) can be a source of new ideas and perspectives to help you thrive in chaos.
- Avoid quick fixes. Look for long-term solutions that help you emerge from the chaos stronger than before rather than short-term firefighting that often lacks a wholistic approach and might fix one thing while creating additional problems.
- Let your corporate values guide you and be the litmus test for any decision during times of chaos. When the chips are down, it's more important than ever to lean on your values and ensure they're not just words on the wall. Let your values keep you grounded and true to who you are in times of chaos!
- Get creative and engage your teams in the process of thriving in chaos. Brainstorm with them to find innovative ways to move through and ultimately beyond the chaos. You don't have to have all the answers, but you can bring others together and enable them to find answers with you.
- Don't forget to have fun! The importance of fun in an organization is often underrated. If work isn't fun, the chaos will overwhelm your entire organization.

To listen to this Episode again, and tune in to Episodes that you may have missed, go to <http://www.thefrustratedceo.com/>