

LeaderImpact Podcast – Episode #20 – Paul Henderson - Navigating Through Leadership

Release Date – September 28, 2022.

Episode Summary:

Today you are going to meet not only a Canadian hockey legend but the man who started LeaderImpact in 1984. Paul Henderson, a former Canadian NHLer who played left wing for the Toronto Maple Leafs, Detroit Red Wings, and Atlanta Flames is best known for scoring the winning goal for Team Canada in the 1972 Summit Series against the former USSR.

Paul's many accolades include being a member of several sports halls of fame, honored with numerous awards including the Order of Canada, as well as Paul holds two honorary doctorates of divinity degrees as well as authored several books, including his own autobiography. And while Paul has achieved 50 years of name recognition for his hard work from a single moment in time, his life purpose was realized after his career on the ice. Despite the fame, he felt an emptiness. Something was missing. In this podcast, we are going to draw on Paul's experience to help leaders in the business world navigate through leadership in their personal, professional, and spiritual lives.

Show Background:

For people who are not familiar with the hockey goal that is talked about in this podcast, you can view it using this link. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FMiMzqOYTwc>

To learn more about the 1972 Summit Series between Canada and the Soviet Union, go to https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Summit_Series

How to Contact Paul:

- Ask for Paul at leaderimpact.ca

Books Mentioned:

- *Live No Lies: Recognize and Resist the Three Enemies that Sabotage Your Peace* by John Mark Comer
- *Boundaries: When to Say Yes, How to Say No to Take Control of Your Life* by Henry Cloud and John Townsend

Show Notes:

0:00 – Introduction of Paul

3:13 - Paul describes the events leading up to “The Goal”

- 4:29 - Paul did something he never did before and never did again - he called a player off the ice for him to go on.

6:27 - The impact the goal still has in Canada

- 7:03 - If he meets someone for first the first time, they will describe where they were and how they felt when he scored the goal

8:10 - Wanted the goal to be a nice goal

“Sometimes you need somebody who has more confidence in yourself than you have.”

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9:03 - The people who influenced Paul’s career

- 9:33 - Paul thought of quitting his hockey career before it started and the influence Paul’s father had on him
- 11:44 - The influence of his wife Eleanor on his life

13:10 - The effects of the goal on the rest of Paul’s career and his life

- 13:53 - Success came almost too quickly and how it affected their family
- 14:28 - How it affected Paul’s play afterward
- 15:22 - He knew he wasn’t happy even though things were going well personally and professionally

16:02 - Who Paul turned to help him

- 16:26 - How he met Mel Stevens and how he helped him understand the Bible
- 18:48 - Didn’t want others to know he was a Christian and how he would hide that he was reading the Bible
- 19:26 - When Paul knew that God was real

“God doesn’t expect me to be perfect. He loves me and he was willing to die for me.”

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20:05 - The transition from not wanting others to know to letting others know of his faith

- 20:19 - Took him 3 days to tell Eleanor.

- 20:57 - A few days to tell Mel and how he advised Paul not to push Eleanor
- 21:32 - How Eleanor knew that there was a change in Paul's life

21:17 - How the goal created new opportunities for Paul

- 22:39 - How Paul got involved in a men's group at his church when he was playing in Birmingham, Alabama
- 24:13 - How Paul's pastor got him to lead a group of men
- 24:40 - Paul went to seminary and then back to Canada to start groups in the Toronto area
- 26:18 - How others got involved when Paul got cancer and the beginning of LeaderImpact

“Everybody has a gift they can use.”

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29:30 - How Paul got LeaderImpact started

- 30:05 - The benefits of a LeaderImpact group
- 31:16 - The friendships developed through groups

33:18 - How to be an influence at any level of leadership

- 33:49 - We all have different gifts. Use those gifts to influence others.

36:08 - The faith legacy Paul wants to leave

38:33 - What brings Paul joy