

**Coffee & Conversation Presents**  
**“Leadership Lessons from Plutarch”**

Spring 2022

4/15, 4/22, 4/29, & 5/6 at 1:00pm



*“These are the materials for reflection which history.” - Plutarch*

SYLLABUS

- Session 1:**            Introduction: Plutarch on Leadership  
                              *How to Be a Leader*, by Plutarch & Jeffrey Beneker (intro)
- Session 2:**            Plutarch on Education  
                              “To an Uneducated Leader,” by Plutarch
- Session 3:**            Plutarch on Success  
                              “*How to Be a Good Leader*,” by Plutarch
- Session 4:**            Plutarch on Age  
                              “*Should an Old Man Engage in Politics?*” by Plutarch

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS: This series invites patrons from the Bethlehem Public Library, and surrounding Capital Region, to analyze and discuss the Ancient Greek philosopher Plutarch's most famous writings on leadership. We will read three essays on leadership from Plutarch's *Parallel Lives*, discuss them in groups, and compare the historical figures and situations covered to US history. Our goal is to give participants a better understanding of leadership, which aspects of it remained favorable throughout history, and what lessons can be learned from Plutarch to better understand and practice good leadership.

Audience participation is both welcome and encouraged! Please feel free to bring questions for open discussion.

\*Sessions will be held on Zoom, sign up is through the Bethlehem Public Library

SELECT TEXT: (for in-class readings)

Plutarch's *Lives* is available for free online through the University of Chicago here: <https://penelope.uchicago.edu/Thayer/E/Roman/Texts/Plutarch/Lives/home.html>

RECOMMENDED: (for supplemental/further research)

*How to Be a Leader: An Ancient Guide to Wise Leadership (Ancient Wisdom for Modern Readers)*, by Plutarch (Author), Jeffrey Beneker (Translator)

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PUBLISHED WORKS (under the pen-name "Jacopo della Quercia")

*MacTrump* (Quirk Books, 2019)

*License to Quill* (St. Martin's Griffin, 2015)

*The Great Abraham Lincoln Pocket Watch Conspiracy* (St. Martin's Griffin, 2014)

"Abraham Lincoln's Steampunk Presidency" (Slate, 2014)