

The Great Leader, James K. Polk

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In Tennessee history, many great leaders such as Andrew Johnson, David Crocket, Sam Houston, etc., were introduced. The following principles in a great leader should be considered leadership, courage, and caring hearts for others. According to the principles, James K. Polk can be treated as one of the greatest leaders.

Compared to such leaders in the history, James K. Polk showed strong leadership. For example, during Mexican-American War, his leadership was demonstrated by leading our nation to win the war in difficult situations. Although we lost invaluable lives in the war against Mexico, new territories such as California and New Mexico were included into our nation by forcing Mexico to give up their territories. During the war, President Polk suffered from the conflicts with many Americans who opposed the war with Mexico. However, his strong leadership accomplished the purpose of spreading our territories and bringing the peace with Mexico.

In addition, President Polk showed great courage that was able to make him a magnificent leader. During the Mexican-America War, he knew that his political standing would be in trouble due to being a much longer war than he anticipated. However, as President in our nation, he carried out his responsibility to achieve his goals to enlarge our country, even though he would miss the chance to serve consecutive terms. This was to keep his promise to the voters during the election campaign.

As the last principle, a caring heart for others should be concerned to meet a great leader. President Polk always thought the majority of people to help them for a better life in consideration of reducing taxes on imports. His mind to first think other peoples for taking care of them is one of the most important attributes in a great leader.

Based on his achievements in American history, President Polk could be called a great leader representing the Tennessee history. All his

attributes that were the abilities to become a great leader were sufficiently satisfied.