



Happy Tuesday, and welcome to the final edition of Leadership Unscripted for 2025.

As I write this, I'm holding a lot — gratitude, pride, sadness, joy, exhaustion, and hope — all at the same time. And if there's one thing this year has reminded me of, it's this: leadership isn't lived in straight lines. It's lived in seasons.

Quick Reflection

This year brought some incredible highs — launching this newsletter, meaningful client work, powerful workshops, and graduating from the Goldman Sachs One Million Black Women: Black in Business program. It also brought moments that were heavier than expected, including personal losses in just the past week.

And yet... here we are.

I wrapped up the semester teaching three classes — two sections of Introduction to Business and one Personal Finance course —, and I couldn't be prouder of my students. I watched them grow, stretch, and finish strong. That, in itself, was a gift.

This year reminded me that leadership isn't about pretending everything is fine. It's about showing up honestly, honoring what's real, and knowing when it's time to rest.

And for me, that time is now.

Leadership Insight: *The Power of Ending Well*

Visual Reminder



Closing the year with gratitude, reflection, and intention.

*We spend so much time talking about starting strong, pushing through, and finishing fast. But rarely do we talk about **finishing well**.*

Finishing well means:

- *Reflecting without judgment*
- *Celebrating progress, not perfection*

- *Letting go of what didn't work*
- *And permitting yourself to pause*

Rest is not quitting.

Rest is preparation.

Community Spotlight

Your words this year have been a gift to me. After last week's newsletter, one reader shared:

"Your words hit home for me. I truly appreciate receiving your messages. They feel so timely, especially this time of year."

Messages like this remind me why I started Leadership Unscripted in the first place — to create space for reflection, truth, and leadership that feels human.

Thank you for being part of this community. Truly.

What's Next:

*After today, I'll be taking a short pause to rest, recover, and reflect. My next newsletter will land in your inbox on **January 20th**.*

I'm not disappearing — just honoring the season I'm in so I can return grounded, clear, and ready for what's next.

Before I Go...

If Leadership Unscripted has added value for you this year, I have a few small asks:

- ***Share this newsletter*** with someone who could use a little clarity, encouragement, or permission to pause.
- ***Invite them to subscribe*** so they can join us in January. ([click here](#)) or go to <https://bit.ly/leadershipunscriptednewsletter>
- *If you've found these newsletters helpful, I've made all past editions available in one place. Feel free to **revisit them** — or share them with someone who might need one right now. Click on the Newsletter Archives below.*

- **Follow me** on all my social media platforms - I will be ready to share even more in 2026! Click the links below.

This community has grown because of you — your replies, your reflections, your willingness to engage.

Final Thought:

This year taught me that leadership requires courage — not just to lead others, but to lead yourself through change, grief, growth, and rest.

As we close out the year, my hope for you is simple:

- *Rest when you need to*
- *Reflect honestly*
- *Restore what matters*
- *And enter the new year with intention, not pressure*

Thank you for being here.

Thank you for trusting me with your time.

And thank you for leading — in your own way, in your own season.

Newsletter Archives:

Have you missed a newsletter? You can find all past editions here:

👉 [View the Newsletter Archives](#)

With appreciation,

Paula R Jenkins

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"Everything Begins and Ends with Communication."



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