

Featured in *Your Weekly Staff Meeting eNews*  
**John Pearson's Book Reviews**

Master List: 2006 to 2025

- Leadership & Management Books
- Board Governance Books
- Inspirational & Spiritual Formation Books



**DINOSAURS  
DIDN'T READ.**

**NOW THEY ARE  
EXTINCT.**

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## 2025 Index: List #1 by Bucket Category

### ATTACHED:

- List #1: Books by Management Buckets Category** (Issues 1 to 668)

### 3 ADDITIONAL LISTS:

[managementbuckets.com/book-bucket](http://managementbuckets.com/book-bucket)

- List #2: Books by eNews Issue Number (updated 12/31/2025)
- List #3: John's Top-100 Book List (updated 12/31/2022)
- List #4: Mastering 100 Must-Read Books List (9/14/2022)



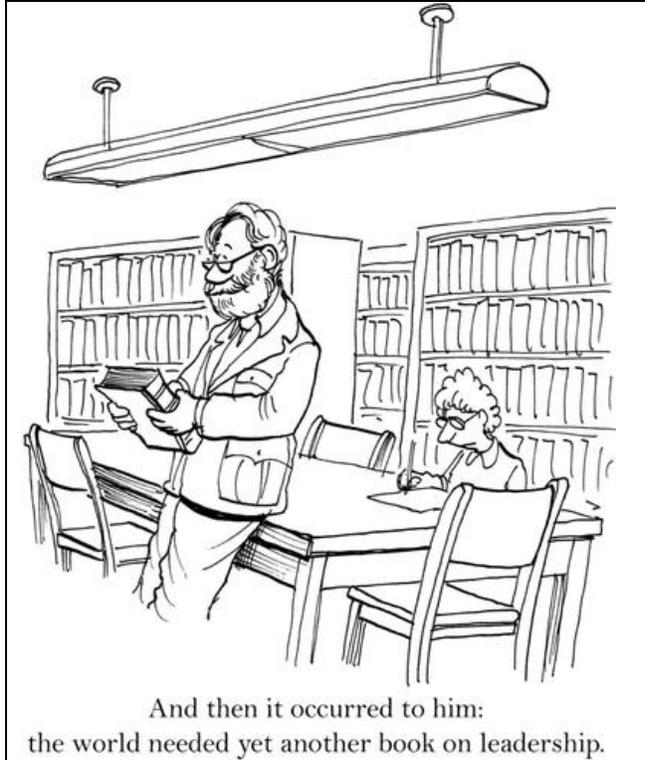
### ***Your Weekly Staff Meeting eNews***

Subscribe: <https://www.managementbuckets.com/general-5>

Archives: <https://urgentink.blogspot.com/>

- John Pearson's Buckets Blog
- Pails in Comparison Blog
- ECFA Governance Blog

## About John Pearson's Book Lists



These lists represent an assortment of well-known and lesser-known leadership, management, and board governance books (plus inspirational and spiritual formation books) that John has recommended to clients over the years. We add to the list every year.

For John's original list of his Top-20 books, read the "Book Bucket" chapter in *Mastering the Management Buckets*.

**Peter Drucker would ask, "Are you a reader or a listener?"** What's your learning style? (What's the learning style of your boss or board chair?) If you're a listener, check out the audio book options at Libro.fm audio books: <https://libro.fm/>

	<p><b>Listen to the 2025 Book-of-the-Year!</b> <a href="https://tidd.ly/4f3YuYX">https://tidd.ly/4f3YuYX</a></p> <p><b><i>Gentle and Lowly: The Heart of Christ for Sinners and Sufferers</i></b>, by Dane Ortlund (5 hours, 16 minutes)</p>
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Effective Sept. 30, 2025, the blogsite for *John Pearson's Buckets Blog* and *Pails in Comparison Blog* went out of business. Those blogs are slowly (!) being moved over to the new blog sites here:

- John Pearson's Buckets Blog*: <https://urgentink.blogspot.com/>
- Pails in Comparison Blog*: <https://pailsincomparison.blogspot.com/>

**John Pearson's Book Reviews**  
as featured in *Your Weekly Staff Meeting eNews*

# CONTENTS

<b>LIST #1 BY BUCKET CATEGORY</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
How to Read a Book	4
Book-of-the-Year Honors (2006 to 2024)	6
The 20 Management Buckets & Master List of Book Reviews	16
<b>OUR CAUSE</b>	
#1: The Results Bucket	18
#2: The Customer Bucket	22
#3: The Strategy Bucket	24
#4: The Drucker Bucket	30
#5: The Book Bucket	32
#6: The Program Bucket	40
<b>OUR COMMUNITY</b>	
#7: The People Bucket	43
#8: The Culture Bucket	45
#9: The Team Bucket	50
#10: The Hoopla! Bucket	56
#11: The Donor Bucket	59
#12: The Volunteer Bucket	62
#13: The Crisis Bucket	63
<b>OUR CORPORATION</b>	
#14: The Board Bucket	67
#15: The Budget Bucket	72
#16: The Delegation Bucket	75
#17: The Operations Bucket	77
#18: The Systems Bucket	78
#19: The Printing Bucket (aka The Communications Bucket)	81
#20: The Meetings Bucket	84
<b>Bonus Bucket!</b> Mini-Reviews and 8 Leadership Flicks	86
Leaders Are Readers (and Listeners!): Delegate Your Reading	89
INDEX to Over 400 Board Governance Blog Posts (ECFA Blog)	90
Books and Workbooks by John Pearson	92
Free Subscription Info – <i>Your Weekly Staff Meeting eNews</i>	94
Your Ideal Bookcase: What's on Your All-Time Top-10 Book List?	95
About John Pearson	96
Book Notes	98

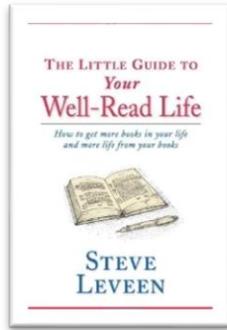
**“If you haven’t read hundreds of books, learning from others who went before you,  
you are functionally illiterate—you can’t coach and you can’t lead.”**

*Call Sign Chaos: Learning to Lead*

by Jim Mattis and Bing West (2019 Book-of-the-Year)

Excerpted from [Mastering 100 Must-Read Books](#) (Book #1 of 100):

1



## HOW TO READ A BOOK

### The Little Guide to Your Well-Read Life How to Get More Books in Your Life and More Life from Your Books

by Steve Leveen  
Levenger Press, 2005, 123 pages

Reviewed August 10, 2020

Your Weekly Staff Meeting Issue No. 445

## “Give Yourself the Gift of Empty Shelves”

[Aug. 10, 2020] This is funny! Next month I’ll begin the 15th year of publishing *Your Weekly Staff Meeting*. The first issue was August 28, 2006, and I recommended Jim Collins’ easy-to-read 35-page booklet, *Good to Great and the Social Sectors*.

So after reviewing more than 450 books (some issues have highlighted multiple books), I took time to read a book about how to read a book!

**“Do not set out to live a well-read life but rather *your* well-read life. No one can be well-read using someone else’s reading list.”**

*Wham!* Immediately, author and entrepreneur Steve Leveen lets you off the hook—no guilt. Just a boatload of ideas on navigating your own well-read life. The book features dozens of PowerPoint-worthy quotations, including this from Atwood H. Townsend:

**“Never force yourself to read a book that you do not enjoy.  
There are so many good books in the world  
that it is foolish to waste time on one that does not give you pleasure.”**

To uncover the books that will change your life (the big idea of the book), the author suggests you have two libraries:

- #1. The Library of Candidates (based on your List of Candidates)
- #2. The Living Library (your library of well-read friends)

Leveen did massive research and one-on-one interviews with readers and book clubs before writing this book. He notes that John Armato, a PR executive, “cherishes his growing Library of Candidates. When people ask him if he’s actually read all those books, he asks if they’ve actually eaten all the food in their kitchen. ‘It is good to put up a supply of books; it increases the odds that you’ll have what you want when you’re hungry for it,’ he says.” Leveen adds: **“Give yourself the gift of empty shelves. Like an open road, they hold the promise of your future examined life.”**

The chapter, “Seizing More from Your Reading,” gave me several new ideas—and affirmed several of my best practices. “The advice-givers all agree that you should not

start by reading the first sentence of a book and then plow your way through to the end.” His practical suggestions (start at 35,000 feet and conduct three tours of the book) include this: “Then take a third tour, and read a few introductory and concluding paragraphs from each chapter. That is where most writers sum up their major points.”

When should you give up on a book? **“A few years ago I gave up on *Crime and Punishment*. I found it not enough crime and too much punishment.”** Generally, Leveen votes for the 50-page rule: “...if you don’t like it after fifty pages, close the book and move on.”

Where do you find the meat of a book? Usually in the middle, but don’t forget my rule-of-thumb for striking gold on page 25 also. In Leveen’s book on page 25, you’ll find his generous recommendations of other books on how to read a book, including a classic, *Good Reading: A Helpful Guide for Serious Readers*.

I ordered *The Little Guide to Your Well-Read Life* for the five scholars/grandchildren in my life. (Three are ready to begin their senior year in high school—whatever that might look like at Covid High.) Students and serious readers will appreciate Leveen’s “proven techniques for remembering” content. Example: In the 1940s, Ohio State University professor Francis Robinson conducted the psychological research that created the system, SQ3R: Survey, Question, Read, Recite, and Review.

One granddaughter keeps a list of the books she’s read. So far in 2020, she’s knocked off 130 books! She affirms Leveen’s suggestion: “Another way to help your long-term retention is by keeping a reader’s journal or annotated Bookography.” He also notes that “Some of the most satisfying reading of all is re-reading. The Bible is the most re-read book of all in the West.”

Every year, my friend and mentor, George Duff, re-reads Peter Drucker’s *The Effective Executive*. Be sure to read Jim Collins’ foreword to the 50th anniversary edition, “Ten Lessons I Learned from Peter Drucker.”

➔ [https://www.jimcollins.com/article\\_topics/articles/Ten-Lessons-I-Learned-from-Peter-Drucker.html](https://www.jimcollins.com/article_topics/articles/Ten-Lessons-I-Learned-from-Peter-Drucker.html)

If you love books—and love the lifelong nourishment that good books deliver—you’ll feast on *The Little Guide to Your Well-Read Life* (123 delicious pages), including a tempting bibliography of 86 books. (I borrowed a few titles for my List of Candidates and my Library of Candidates.)

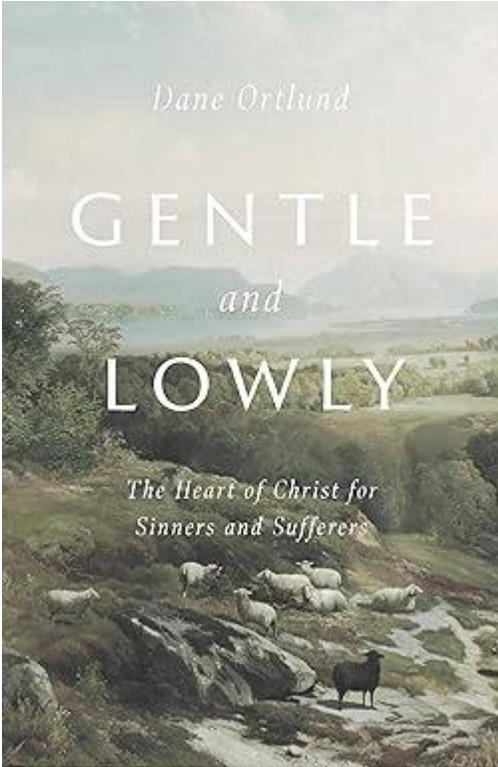
**Footprint Leaver or Preservationist?** Don’t miss the pros and cons of Footprint Leavers (those who write in books—I’m in the marginalia camp) and the opposing group, Preservationists (no writing allowed). Leveen received more than 2,000 responses to his blog on this Big Argument, including “A book unmarked is a book unloved.”

Also, learn why speed reading isn’t that important (the difference between reading speed versus thinking speed).

He quotes Mortimer Adler, coauthor of *How to Read a Book*: “Whereas a bookplate indicates financial ownership...writing in a book indicates intellectual ownership.” Leveen is encouraging. “If you have led an active reading life, your reading power at age eighty will tower over your reading power at age thirty.” And this: **“If you are not setting some books aside unfinished, you are not sampling enough books.”**

# BOOK-OF-THE-YEAR HONORS

John Pearson has been selecting the “Book-of-the-Year” honors since 2006.



## 2025 Book-of-the-Year

### ❑ 653. **Gentle and Lowly: The Heart of Christ for Sinners and Sufferers**

by Dane Ortlund

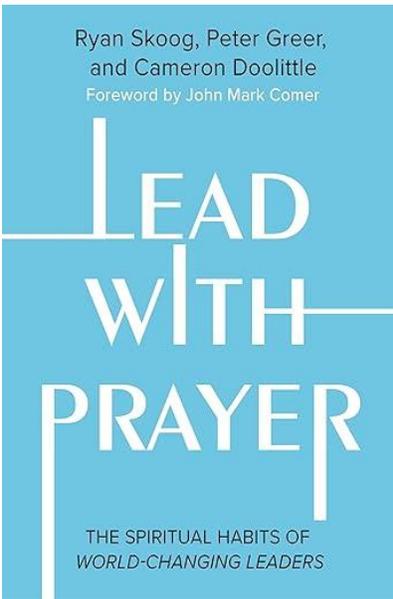
**Add this to your next PowerPoint:** “If his grace in kindness is ‘immeasurable riches’—as opposed to measurable, middle-class grace—then our sins can never exhaust his heart. On the contrary, the more weakness and failure, the more his heart goes out to his own.”

I read this book twice in 2025—and have gifted copies to others. I will read it again. *Oh, my.*

And LOL! Ortlund adds that **if Jesus hosted his own personal website**, the most prominent line of the “About Me” dropdown menu would read:

**"GENTLE AND LOWLY IN HEART."**

[Read John Pearson's review.](#)



## 2024 Book-of-the-Year

### ☐ 591. **Lead with Prayer: The Spiritual Habits of World-Changing Leaders**

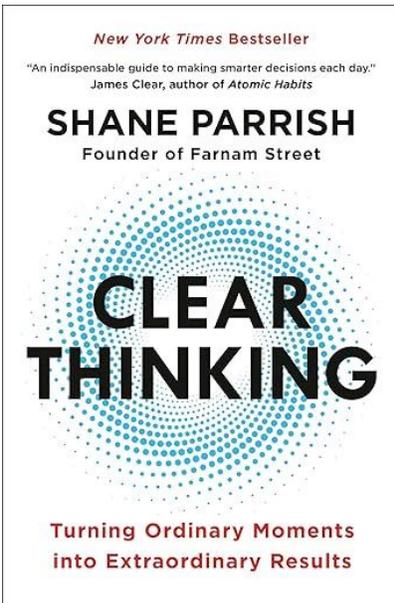
by Ryan Skoog, Peter Greer, and Cameron Doolittle

**The authors invested three years** in research and over 100 hours of interviews with leaders across the globe. (I love the international stories.) They asked leaders about their very personal and private prayer habits. *How? When? Where? Why?*

You've never read anything like this. And Ryan, Peter, and Cameron transparently share their own missteps in prayerlessness. (*Amazing.*) The reality: none of us are spiritual giants. And this I affirm: learning more about the spiritual habits of God-honoring leaders—*it changed me.*

[Read John Pearson's review.](#)

**Favorite Quote:** Ryan Skoog writes about being at the National Prayer Breakfast “in a breakout session for business leaders. A French Canadian businessman stood up to pray. He was a wise and accomplished leader with thousands of employees. But what most affected the room was his prayer—more specifically, the single word he prayed.”



## 2023 Book-of-the-Year

### ☐ 587. **Clear Thinking: Turning Ordinary Moments into Extraordinary Results** by Shane Parrish

The author of *Clear Thinking* mentions this memorable story about former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger (1923-2023):

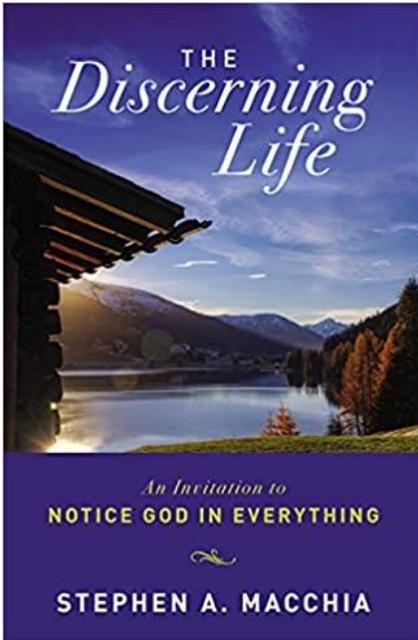
- “A staffer had drafted a memo and left it on Kissinger's desk for him to read. A while later, Kissinger approached him and asked if it was his best work. The staffer said no and rewrote the entire memo.
- The next day the staffer ran into Kissinger again and asked what he thought. Kissinger asked him again if this was the best he could do. The staffer took the memo and rewrote it yet again.
- The next morning, the same scenario played out, only this time the poor staffer stated that yes indeed it was his best work.
- Kissinger replied, ‘**Okay, now I'll read it.**’”

That insight—and dozens more from a former intelligence agent—is from this *New York Times* bestseller. Read my review and you'll see why you could read just this one book—or read 20 books! (Your decision!)

[Read John Pearson's review.](#)

Here's my question for you today:

**Would you rather read ONE book or read 20 books?** If you could scan my copy of *Clear Thinking*, you'd see more than 20 book titles written in the margins. Much like Patrick Lencioni summarized his 20 years of thinking and writing in *The Advantage* (my 2012 book-of-the-year), so Shane Parrish summarizes, with an extraordinary grasp, any of the must-read leadership and management books.



## 2022 Book-of-the-Year

### ❑ 509. **The Discerning Life: An Invitation to Notice God in Everything** by Stephen Macchia

This is a hopeful book. *The Discerning Life: An Invitation to Notice God in Everything* emits the same respectful tone that oozes out of Macchia's other books (see *Crafting a Rule of Life* and others). Steve writes with high regard and aspirations for readers and leaders—fellow pilgrims. He confesses, “The older I get, the harder it is to pray.” Steve admits he’s “just a beginner” in this discernment journey, and so with that honest humility, he invites me in. *I love this book!*

### THE DISCERNING LEADER PODCAST

Listen in as Steve Macchia interviews John Pearson on “Your Discerning Life Story, Episode 4,” April 21, 2022.

*“Once you taste spiritual discernment, you won’t want to go back to the old way of decision-making.”*



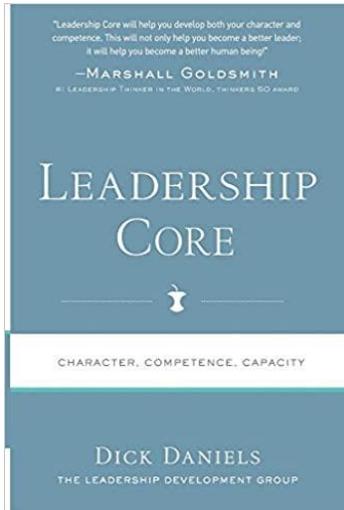
PODCAST (45 minutes)

<https://www.leadershiptransformations.org/podcast/2022/04/21/john-pearson-your-discerning-life-story-episode-4/>

JOHN'S BOOK REVIEW:

<https://urgentink.blogspot.com/2025/12/the-discerning-life.html>

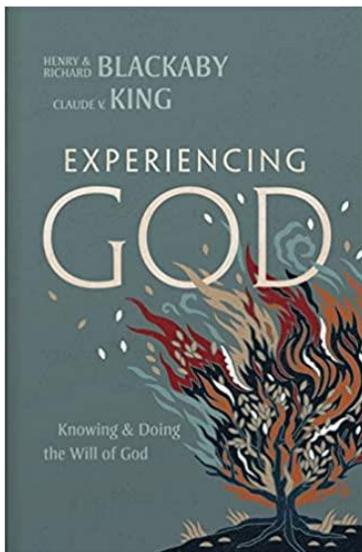
Years 2020 & 2021 were crazy, right? So...we selected TWO books each year!



## 2021 Book-of-the-Year

❑ 460. **Leadership Core: Character, Competence, Capacity (Leadership Multipliers)**, by Dick Daniels

Daniels cautions: “Every leader will face at least one impossible situation during their leadership tenure. That time is described as having your back against the wall, with no way out, completely alone, and the feeling of gloom you have when it seems like the end is near.” (*Don’t despair: Dick Daniels has deep insights and wisdom for you.*)



## 2021 Book-of-the-Year

❑ 496. **Experiencing God (2021 Edition): Knowing and Doing the Will of God**, by Henry Blackaby, Richard Blackaby, and Claude King

“Nowhere in the Bible does God promise to stop us from making mistakes!” The authors list four inappropriate ways for discerning God’s voice. (Even well-meaning people make these mistakes! *Yikes!*) These are serious mistakes—because people are misunderstanding what the Bible teaches. They include: “1) Asking for a miraculous sign, 2) Seeking a method, 3) The ‘name it and claim it’ method, and 4) Open and closed doors.”

**Read John’s reviews:**

➔ **Leadership Core**

<https://urgentink.blogspot.com/2025/12/leadership-core.html>

➔ **Experiencing God (2021 Edition)**

<https://urgentink.blogspot.com/2025/12/experiencing-god.html>

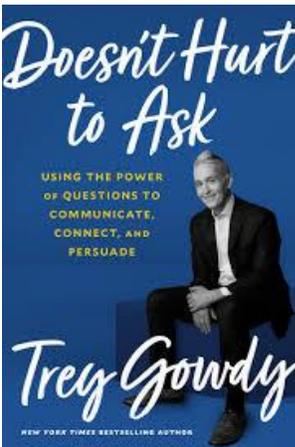


## 2020 Book-of-the-Year

□ 432. *The Advice Trap: Be Humble, Stay Curious & Change the Way You Lead Forever*,  
by Michael Bungay Stanier

John began his book review with this:

**“Hello. My name is John and I’m an Advice Monster.”  
Yikes! If you’ve got the guts to read this book, you  
won’t come out unscathed.**



## 2020 Book-of-the-Year

□ 450. *Doesn't Hurt to Ask: Using the Power of Questions to Communicate, Connect, and Persuade*,  
by Trey Gowdy

John listed 10 “favorites” in his book review:

**#9. Favorite short course on questioning:** Brilliant explanations and examples of Leading Questions and Non-Leading Questions—and when to use them. (This reminded me of the AWE question in *The Advice Trap*.)

Read John’s reviews:

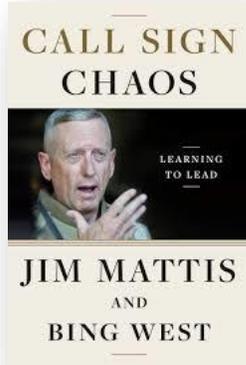
➔ ***The Advice Trap***

<https://urgentink.blogspot.com/2025/12/the-advice-trap.html>

➔ ***Doesn't Hurt to Ask***

<https://urgentink.blogspot.com/2025/12/doesnt-hurt-to-ask.html>

## BOOK-OF-THE-YEAR HONORS



### 2019 Book-of-the-Year

□ 416. *Call Sign Chaos: Learning to Lead*  
by Jim Mattis and Bing West

**“If you haven’t read hundreds of books, learning from others who went before you, you are functionally illiterate—you can’t coach and you can’t lead.”**

#### LEARNING TO LEAD!

According to Jim Mattis...

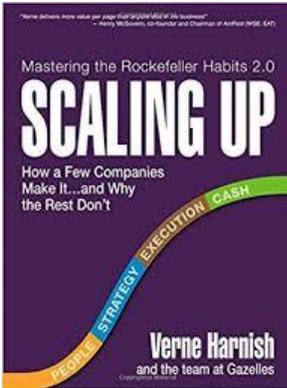
...the Commandant of the Marine Corps maintains a list of required reading for every rank. “All Marines read a common set; in addition, sergeants read some books, and colonels read others. Even generals are assigned a new set of books that they must consume. At no rank is a Marine excused from studying.”

- “Praise in public, criticize in private.”
- “Operational tempo is a state of mind. I’ve always tried to be hard on issues but not on spirits.”
- “We learn more about ourselves when things go wrong.”
- To his one-star generals and admirals: “...protect our mavericks. That’s your job. If you’re uncomfortable dealing with intellectual ambushes from your own ranks, it’ll be a heck of a lot worse when the enemy does it to you.”

**Read John’s review:**

<https://urgentink.blogspot.com/2025/12/call-sign-chaos.html>

## BOOK-OF-THE-YEAR HONORS



### 2018 Book-of-the-Year

□ 395. *Scaling Up: How a Few Companies Make It...and Why the Rest Don't*  
*Mastering the Rockefeller Habits 2.0*  
by Verne Harnish

*Scaling Up* is one of the most complete books I've ever read. The alignment with the great leadership and management experts (Drucker, Collins, Lencioni, Gerber, Blanchard, and many more) is stunning.

Faith-based organizations will enhance their study of *Scaling Up* with occasional dips into the 20 core competencies in *Mastering the Management Buckets*, including the Book Bucket.

#### REMINDER: LEADERS ARE READERS!

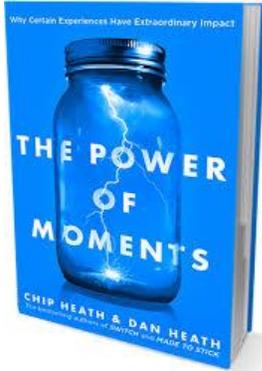
According to Verne Harnish:

“Mark Cuban, the outspoken owner of the Dallas Mavericks, reads three hours per day. His goal is to find just one idea he can use to give him and the over 150 companies in which he's invested an edge in the marketplace.”

Read John's review:

<https://urgentink.blogspot.com/2025/12/scaling-up.html>

## BOOK-OF-THE-YEAR HONORS



### 2017 Book-of-the-Year

□ 372. *The Power of Moments: Why Certain Experiences Have Extraordinary Impact*, by Chip Heath and Dan Heath

The Big Idea:

Defy “the forgettable flatness of everyday work and life by creating a few precious moments.”

Read John’s review:

<https://urgentink.blogspot.com/2025/12/the-power-of-moments.html>



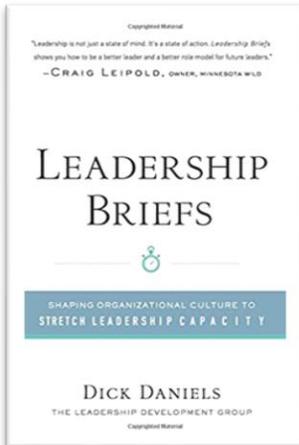
### 2016 Book-of-the-Year

□ 342. *The ONE Thing: The Surprisingly Simple Truth Behind Extraordinary Results*, by Gary Keller with Jay Papasan

"What's the ONE Thing you can do this week such that by doing it everything else would be easier or unnecessary?"

Read John’s review:

<https://urgentink.blogspot.com/2025/12/the-one-thing.html>



### 2015 Book-of-the-Year

□ 318. *Leadership Briefs: Shaping Organizational Culture to Stretch Leadership Capacity*, by Dick Daniels

*Gimme a break, Dick!* I've written a whole chapter on the Delegation Bucket, so how come I just learned a new insight that's going right into my PowerPoint?

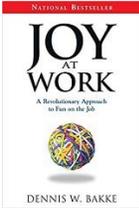
“Leaders have three options: (1) Not delegating, (2) Delegating prematurely, or (3) Delegating developmentally.”

Read John’s review:

<https://urgentink.blogspot.com/2025/12/leadership-briefs.html>

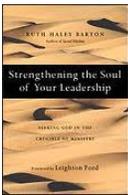
## BOOK-OF-THE-YEAR HONORS

<https://urgentink.blogspot.com/search/label/Book-of-the-Year>



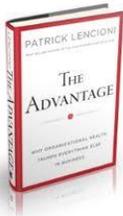
2006

□ 7. *Joy at Work: A Revolutionary Approach to Fun on the Job*, by Dennis W. Bakke



2009

□ 168 & 181. *Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership: Seeking God in the Crucible of Ministry*, by Ruth Haley Barton



2012

□ 245. *The Advantage: Why Organizational Health Trumps Everything Else in Business*, by Patrick Lencioni



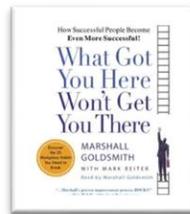
2007

□ 22. *The Best Question Ever: A Revolutionary Approach to Decision Making*, by Andy Stanley  
See his 2020 updated book with five questions, *Better Decisions, Fewer Regrets*.



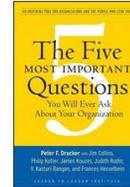
2010

□ 191 & 328. *The First 90 Days: Proven Strategies for Getting Up to Speed Faster and Smarter (Updated and Expanded)*, by Michael Watkins



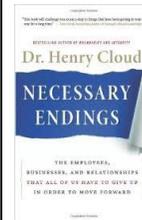
2013

□ 269. *What Got You Here Won't Get You There: Discover the 20 Workplace Habits You Need to Break*, by Marshall Goldsmith and Mark Reiter



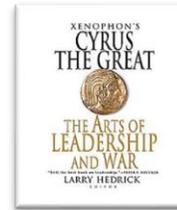
2008

□ 87. *The Five Most Important Questions You Will Ever Ask About Your Organization*, by Peter Drucker (plus Collins, Kotler, Kouzes, Rodin, Rangan and Hesselbein)



2011

□ 208. *Necessary Endings: The Employees, Businesses, and Relationships That All of Us Have to Give Up in Order to Move Forward*, by Dr. Henry Cloud



2014

□ 301. *Xenophon's Cyrus the Great: The Arts of Leadership and War*, by Xenophon (Larry Hedrick, Editor)

*Read insights from all 20 buckets every year!*

## **Mastering the Management Buckets 20 Critical Competencies for Leading Your Business or Nonprofit**



<https://www.managementbuckets.com/20-management-buckets>

### **Cause ♦ Community ♦ Corporation**

*The 20 Management Buckets are organized into three arenas—think three-legged stool. So when you read (or clip or download an article), categorize the resource into one of these 20 buckets. See the book or the website for the core competency statement/description for each bucket.*

#### **OUR CAUSE**

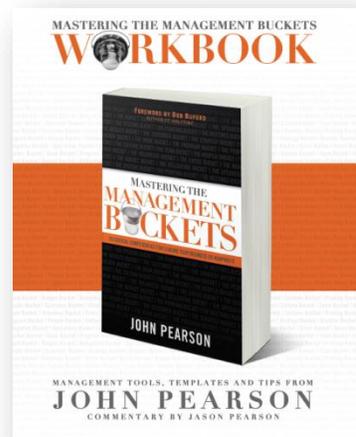
- #1: The Results Bucket
- #2: The Customer Bucket
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- #5: The Book Bucket
- #6: The Program Bucket

#### **OUR COMMUNITY**

- #7: The People Bucket
- #8: The Culture Bucket
- #9: The Team Bucket
- #10: The *Hoopla!* Bucket
- #11: The Donor Bucket
- #12: The Volunteer Bucket
- #13: The Crisis Bucket

#### **OUR CORPORATION**

- #14: The Board Bucket
- #15: The Budget Bucket
- #16: The Delegation Bucket
- #17: The Operations Bucket
- #18: The Systems Bucket
- #19: The Printing Bucket
- #20: The Meetings Bucket



<https://amzn.to/2ErXYpd>



<http://amzn.to/2Cw0LcS>

## ***Your Weekly Staff Meeting eNews*** **John Pearson's Book Reviews** **Master List: 2006 – 2025** **Leadership, Governance, Management**

**BOOK REVIEW ARCHIVES.** More than 600 book reviews have been featured in John Pearson's eNews, *Your Weekly Staff Meeting*. Read them in the Book Review Archives at: → <https://urgentink.blogspot.com/>

**SUBSCRIBE.** Sign up for your complimentary subscription at:  
→ <https://www.managementbuckets.com/general-5>

**DOWNLOAD.** Download four book lists at:  
→ <https://www.managementbuckets.com/book-bucket>

**4 Book Lists are posted:**

- List #1: Books by Management Buckets Category
- List #2: Books by eNews Issue Number
- List #3: John's Top-100 Book List (updated 12/31/2022)
- List #4: Mastering 100 Must-Read Books List (9/14/2022)

**SEARCH FOR A BOOK REVIEW.** To read a book review and/or order the book:  
→ <https://urgentink.blogspot.com/>

**CFO asks CEO:**  
**“What happens if  
we invest in  
developing our  
people and then  
they leave us?”**

**CEO:**  
**“What happens  
if we don't  
and they stay?”**

### **Leaders Are Readers (and Listeners!). DELEGATE YOUR READING!**

- Each month, give your direct reports one book to read.
- Ask for a 5- to 10-minute “book review” from one person each week.
- Your team will be inspired, motivated and their learning will be enriched from reading...  
**...4 books x 11 months = 44 books per year!**
- Then... file the book on your staff resource shelf with your marked-up copies so your managers can mentor their people with niche chapters.

For more ideas on creating a lifelong learning culture, read the Book Bucket chapter in *Mastering the Management Buckets*.

## THE CAUSE

To read a book review (and order the book), visit  
<https://urgentink.blogspot.com/>

**Top-10 Book** = Named one of the "Top-10 Books" reviewed in that year by John Pearson  
**PIC** = from the *Pails in Comparison* blog (new in 2022)

**Book-of-the-Year** = Named "Book-of-the-Year" by John Pearson  
The 2026 honors will be announced December 31, 2026, in *Your Weekly Staff Meeting* eNews.

### #1. THE RESULTS BUCKET (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

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- 23. Stop Setting Goals If You Would Rather Solve Problems  
Biehl, Bobb (2/5/2007)
  
- 29. Execution: The Discipline of Getting Things Done  
Bossidy, Larry and Charan, Ram (3/19/2007)
  
- 44. Leaving Microsoft to Change the World: An Entrepreneur's Odyssey to Educate the World's Children  
Wood, John (7/9/2007)
  
- 51. The Three Signs of a Miserable Job: A Fable for Managers  
Lencioni, Patrick (8/27/2007)
  
- 53. Effectiveness by the Number: Counting What Counts in Church  
Hoyt, William R. (9/10/2007)
  
- 57. Confronting Reality: Doing What Matters to Get Things Right  
Bossidy, Larry and Charan, Ram (10/8/2007)
  
- 68. Reveal: Where Are You?  
Hawkins, Greg and Parkinson, Cally (12/24/2007)
  
- 70. Mastering the Management Buckets: 20 Critical Competencies for Leading Your Business or Nonprofit -  
Pearson, John (1/8/2008)
  
- 72. \*The Five Temptations of a CEO  
Lencioni, Patrick (1/21/2008) **Top-10 Book**
  
- 92. & 93. Know Can Do! Put Your Know-How Into Action  
Blanchard, Ken; Meyer, Paul J.; Ruhe, Dick (6/9/2008)
  
- 97. Managing the Nonprofit Organization: Principles and Practices  
Drucker, Peter F. (7/21/2008)
  
- 107. Squawk! How to Stop Making Noise and Start Getting Results  
Bradberry, Travis (9/29/2008)
  
- 118. The 80/20 Principle: The Secret to Achieving More With Less  
Koch, Richard (12/15/2008)

- ❑ 149. \*How the Mighty Fall: And Why Some Companies Never Give In  
Collins, Jim (7/28/2009) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 158. \*Master Leaders: Revealing Conversations With 30 Leadership Greats  
Barna, George with Dallas, Bill (10/5/2009) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 164. Missional Renaissance: Changing the Scorecard for the Church  
McNeal, Reggie (11/20/2009)
  
- ❑ 167. The Most Effective Organization in the U.S.: Leadership Secrets of The Salvation Army  
Watson, Robert A. and Brown, Ben (12/14/2009)
  
- ❑ 174. Churchill  
Johnson, Paul (2/22/2010)
  
- ❑ 190. The Nonprofit Dashboard: A Tool for Tracking Progress  
Butler, Lawrence M. (7/17/2010)
  
- ❑ 199. Leading Without Power: Finding Hope in Serving Community  
De Pree, Max (10/18/2010)

#### ▶2011 Book-of-the-Year

- ❑ 208. \*Necessary Endings: The Employees, Businesses, and Relationships That All of Us Have to Give Up in Order to Move Forward - Cloud, Dr. Henry (2/7/2011)
  
- ❑ 232. I Want to Make a Difference Now: Your Bridge to Global Impact  
Parrott, Don (10/3/2011)
  
- ❑ 242. Tales from the Top: 10 Crucial Questions from the World's #1 Executive Coach  
Alexander, Graham (1/31/2012)
  
- ❑ 255. Corporate Entrepreneurship: How to Create a Thriving Entrepreneurial Spirit Throughout Your Company -  
Hisrich, Robert D. and Kearney, Claudine (8/13/2012)
  
- ❑ 279. Entrepreneurial Leadership: Finding Your Calling, Making a Difference  
Goossen, Richard J. and Stevens, R. Paul (6/9/2013) **Top-10 Book**

- ❑ 297. The Choice: The Christ-Centered Pursuit of Kingdom Outcomes  
by Gary G. Hoag, R. Scott Rodin, and Wesley K. Willmer (4/13/2014) **Top-10 Book**

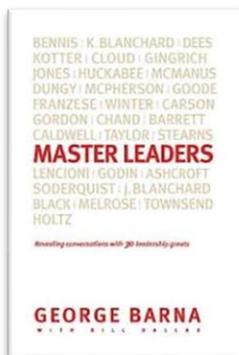
#### ▶2015 Book-of-the-Year

- ❑ 318. Leadership Briefs: Shaping Organizational Culture to Stretch Leadership Capacity, by Dick Daniels (2/21/15)

#### ▶2016 Book-of-the-Year

- ❑ 342. The ONE Thing: The Surprisingly Simple Truth Behind Extraordinary Results  
by Gary Keller with Jay Papasan (5/2/16)
  
- ❑ 361, 362. The Gatekeepers: How the White House Chiefs of Staff Define Every Presidency  
Chris Whipple (6/13/17, 6/21/17) **Top-10 Book**

- ☐ 380. \*Your Best Year Ever: A 5-Step Plan for Achieving Your Most Important Goals, by Michael Hyatt (3/15/18)  
**Top-10 Book**
- ☐ 391B. Mastering the Management Buckets Workbook: Management Tools, Templates and Tips From John Pearson (Second Edition), by John Pearson and Jason Pearson (9/28/18)
- ☐ 407. Turning Goals Into Results (*Harvard Business Review Classics*): The Power of Catalytic Mechanisms, by Jim Collins (5/24/19)
- ☐ 409. In the Shadow of the Moon (DVD) - (Rerun: Issue 185), Ron Howard, Producer
- ☐ 441. It's the Manager: Gallup Finds the Quality of Managers and Team Leaders Is the Single Biggest Factor in Your Organization's Long-Term Success, by Jim Clifton and Jim Harter (7/2/2020)
- ☐ 457A. Fast Times: How Digital Winners Set Direction, Learn, and Adapt, by Arun Arora, Peter Dahlstrom, Klemens Hjartar, and Florian Wunderlich (12/28/2020)
- ☐ 472. Leadership Success in 10 Minutes a Day, by Bob Phillips (5/6/2021)
- ☐ 473A. Rooting for Rivals: How Collaboration and Generosity Increase the Impact of Leaders, Charities, and Churches, by Peter Greer and Chris Horst, with Jill Heisey (5/25/2021)
- ☐ 494. Becoming Trader Joe: How I Did Business My Way and Still Beat the Big Guys, by Joe Coulombe with Patty Civalieri (11/11/2021) – *ALL 20 BUCKETS!* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**



#### RICHARD STEARNS:

“Leaders have to be very aware of the power they wield. When you’re at the bottom of the hierarchical ladder, sometimes you have to shout to be heard, because you don’t have any title or you don’t have authority. But when you are the CEO or a top leader, you can speak softly and it sounds like a shout to someone. So when you criticize someone, you have to be very careful about being too blunt or cutting, because whatever you say will be amplified ten times just because you’re the president. You have to adapt your style to realize that it’s not just you, the person, speaking; it’s the position that you hold that’s speaking.”

- ☐ 503. How to Begin: Start Doing Something That Matters, by Michael Bungay Stanier (1/19/2022)
- ☐ 524. Leading with Heart: Five Conversations That Unlock Creativity, Purpose, and Results, by John Baird and Edward Sullivan (7/27/2022)
- ☐ 537. Leadership Not by the Book: 12 Unconventional Principles to Drive Incredible Results, by David Green and Bill High (11/23/2022) - *Special Mention*
- ☐ 550. The Four Workarounds: Strategies from the World's Scippiest Organizations for Tackling Complex Problems, by Paulo Savaget (3/9/2023) – *RESULTS BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**

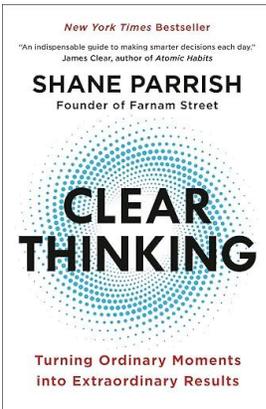


Listen to the “Zoom Review” of *The Four Workarounds* with David Schmidt, Jason Pearson, and John Pearson

❑ 557. Built to Beat Chaos: Biblical Wisdom for Leading Yourself and Others, by Gary Harpst (4/26/2023) – *RESULTS BUCKET*

❑ 573. Madison Avenue Makeover: The Transformation of Huge and the Redefinition of the Ad Agency Business, by Michael Farmer (8/16/2023) – *RESULTS BUCKET*

❑ 585. The Ins-N-Outs of In-N-Out Burger: The Inside Story of California's First Drive-Through and How it Became a Beloved Cultural Icon, by Lynsi Snyder (11/29/2023) – *ALL 20 BUCKETS!* (SEE ALSO PIC 52, THE SYSTEMS BUCKET)



## 2023 BOOK-OF-THE-YEAR

❑ 587. **Clear Thinking: Turning Ordinary Moments into Extraordinary Results**  
by Shane Parrish  
(12/13/2023)  
*RESULTS BUCKET*

BEST PRACTICES? “If you do what everyone else does, you’ll get the same results that everyone else gets. Best practices aren’t always the best. By definition, they’re average.” Parrish adds, “The ‘zone of average’ is a dangerous place when it comes to inertia.”

❑ 607. The Illusion of Innovation: Escape "Efficiency" and Unleash Radical Progress, by Elliott Parker (5/10/2024) – *RESULTS BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**

❑ 618. The Power and The Money: The Epic Clashes Between Commanders in Chief and Titans of Industry, by Tevi Troy (8/29/2024) - *RESULTS BUCKET*

❑ 621. Dynamic Drive: The Purpose-Fueled Formula for Sustainable Success, by Molly Fletcher (9/20/2024) - *RESULTS BUCKET*

❑ 636. Reset: How to Change What's Not Working, by Dan Heath  
(Part 1 of 2 reviews: 1/23/2025) – *RESULTS BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**

❑ 637. Reset: How to Change What's Not Working, by Dan Heath  
(Part 2 of 2 reviews: 2/13/2025) – *RESULTS BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**

## PAILS IN COMPARISON (PIC):

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❑ PIC 16. Begin Boldly: How Women Can Reimagine Risk, Embrace Uncertainty & Launch a Brilliant Career, by Christie Hunter Arscott (8/6/2022) – *RESULTS BUCKET*

❑ PIC 24. YOUquation: Living Your Dream—Your Happiness + Your Success, by Thomas M. Dean and Linda B. Awar (11/15/2022) – *RESULTS BUCKET*

❑ PIC 49. 101 Leadership Insights: Practical Tools, Tips, and Techniques for New and Seasoned Leaders, by Bob Phillips and Del Walinga (7/19/2023) – *RESULTS BUCKET*

❑ PIC 50. Managing Our Work, by John W. Alexander (9/8/2023) – *RESULTS BUCKET*

❑ PIC 67. The Most Holy Place: Daily Devotions from the Book of Hebrews, by Jeremy D. Vogan - (4/3/2024) - *RESULTS BUCKET*

❑ PIC 77. The Ethical Imperative: Leading with Conscience to Shape the Future of Business, by Andrew C. M. Cooper (8/15/2024) - *RESULTS BUCKET*

## #2. THE CUSTOMER BUCKET (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

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❑ 6. Applebee's America: How Successful Political, Business and Religious Leaders Connect With the New American Community - Sosnik, Douglas B., Dowd, Matthew J., and Fournier, Ron (10/2/2006)

❑ 8. Versatile Selling: Adapting Your Style So Customers Say "Yes!"  
Wilson Learning (10/16/2006)

❑ 19. Citizen Brand: 10 Commandments for Transforming Brands in a Consumer Democracy  
Gobe, Marc (1/8/2007)

❑ 24. Sales Autopsy: 50 Postmortems Reveal What Killed the Sale (and What Might Have Saved It  
Seidman, Dan (2/12/2007)

❑ 49. The Marketing Mavens  
Capon, Noel (8/13/2007)

❑ 99. \*Duct Tape Marketing: The World's Most Practical Small Business Marketing Guide  
Jantsch, John (8/4/2008) **Top-10 Book**

❑ 116. \*Outliers: The Story of Success  
Gladwell, Malcolm (12/1/2008) **Top-10 Book**

❑ 127. Tribes: We Need You to Lead Us  
Godin, Seth (2/16/2009)

❑ 133. \*The King of Madison Avenue: David Ogilvy and the Making of Modern Advertising  
Roman, Kenneth (3/31/2009) **Top-10 Book**

❑ 144. \*Wired to Care: How Companies Prosper When They Create Widespread Empathy  
Patnaik, Dev with Mortensen, Peter (6/16/2009) **Top-10 Book**

❑ 148. The Church & the Parachurch: An Uneasy Marriage  
White, Jerry (7/21/2009)

❑ 175. \*Getting Naked: A Business Fable About Shedding the Three Fears That Sabotage Client Loyalty  
Lencioni, Patrick (3/3/2010) **Top-10 Book**

❑ 183. Muslims, Christians, and Jesus: Understanding and Building Relationships  
Medearis, Carl (5/6/2010)

❑ 184. Managing the Millennials: Discover the Core Competencies for Managing Today's Workforce  
Espinoza, Chip; Ukleja, Mick and Rusch, Craig (5/14/2010)

- ❑ 210. It's the Customer, Stupid! 34 Wake-up Calls to Help You Stay Client-Focused  
Aun, Michael A. (3/4/2011)
  
- ❑ 247. The Mindset List of American History: From Typewriters to Text Messages—What Ten Generations of  
Americans Think Is Normal - McBride, Tom and Nief, Ron (4/16/2012)
  
- ❑ 282. \*Outliers: The Story of Success  
Gladwell, Malcolm (7/31/2013) **Top-10 Book** - *Summer Classic Book Series*, repeated from Issue 116
  
- ❑ 305. Muslims, Christians, and Jesus: Understanding and Building Relationships  
by Carl Medearis (8/15/14)
  
- ❑ 323. TRUST: The Firm Foundation for Kingdom Fruitfulness,  
by Dan Busby (4/14/15) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 330B. Gospel Justice: Joining Together to Provide Help & Hope for Those Oppressed by Legal Injustice, by Bruce  
Strom (8/26/15)
  
- ❑ 340A REBRAND: Workbook + Coloring Sheets for Ministry Branding  
by Jason Pearson (3/21/16) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 422A. The Right Choice: Choosing a College and Why It Matters, by John J. Jackson, Ph.D. (12/16/19)
  
- ▶ **2019 Book-of-the-Year**
- ❑ 416. Call Sign Chaos: Learning to Lead, by Jim Mattis and Bing West (10/18/19)
  
- ❑ 447A. The Goal: A Business Graphic Novel (2017), by Eliyahu M. Goldratt, Dwight Jon Zimmerman (Editor), and  
Dean Motter (Illustrator) - (9/9/2020)
  
- ❑ 447B. The Goal: A Process of Ongoing Improvement (30th Anniversary Edition, 2014), by Eliyahu M. Goldratt and  
Jeff Cox (9/9/2020)
  
- ❑ 470. Quantum Marketing: Mastering the New Marketing Mindset for Tomorrow's Consumers, by Raja Rajamannar  
(4/16/2021)
  
- ❑ 473B. Rethinking Competitive Advantage: New Rules for the Digital Age, by Ram Charan with Geri Willigan  
(5/25/2021)
  
- ❑ 495. From Impressed to Obsessed: 12 Principles for Turning Customers and Employees into Lifelong Fans, by  
Jon Picoult (11/19/2021)
  
- ❑ 499. Winning on Purpose: The Unbeatable Strategy of Loving Customers, by Fred Reichheld with Darci Darnell  
and Maureen Burns (12/20/2021)
  
- ❑ 504. Exponential: Transform Your Brand by Empowering Instead of Interrupting, by Jeff Rosenblum (1/25/2022)
  
- ❑ 544. Fall in Love with the Problem, Not the Solution: A Handbook for Entrepreneurs, by Uri Levine  
(1/21/2023) – *CUSTOMER BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**

❑ 562. Culture Shock: An Unstoppable Force Has Changed How We Work and Live. Gallup's Solution to the Biggest Leadership Issue of Our Time, by Jim Clifton and Jim Harter (6/2/2023) – *CUSTOMER BUCKET*  
**\*TOP-10 BOOK**

❑ 641. The Sodbather: An Extraordinary Journey in the Shadows of Sports' Greatest Fields, by George Toma with Craig Handel (3/18/2025) – *CUSTOMER BUCKET*

❑ 643. There's Nothing Like This: The Strategic Genius of Taylor Swift, by Kevin Evers  
(Part 1 of 2: 4/10/2025) – *CUSTOMER BUCKET*

➔ **NOTE!** See PIC #97 for Part 2 of 2 and our “Zoom Review” of the Taylor Swift book with Melia Yim and Paul Palmer on the *Pails in Comparison Blog*.

### **PAILS IN COMPARISON (PIC):**

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❑ PIC 4. Converted: The Data-Driven Way to Win Customers' Hearts, by Neil Hoyne (3/8/2022)

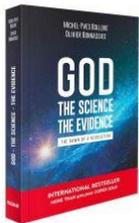
❑ PIC 20. Blind Spot: The Global Rise of Unhappiness and How Leaders Missed It, Jon Clifton (9/14/2022)



**Podcast** FEATURING MELIA YIM AND PAUL PALMER

❑ PIC 97. There's Nothing Like This: The Strategic Genius of Taylor Swift (Part 2 of 2), by Kevin Evers (4/15/2025) - *CUSTOMER BUCKET*

Note: See Part 1 of 2 at John Pearson's Buckets Blog, Issue No. 643 (4/10/2025)



❑ PIC 110. GOD: The Science, The Evidence—The Dawn of a Revolution, by Michel-Yves Bolloré and Olivier Bonnassies (12/3/2025) - *CUSTOMER BUCKET*

**\*TOP-10 BOOK**

### **#3. THE STRATEGY BUCKET** (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

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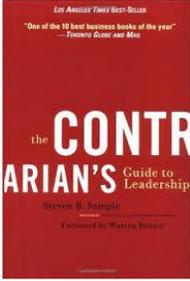
❑ 1. Good to Great and the Social Sectors  
Collins, Jim (8/28/2006)

❑ 47. What Were They Thinking? Unconventional Wisdom About Management  
Pfeffer, Jeffrey (7/30/2007)

❑ 85. Simply Strategic Stuff: Help for Leaders Drowning in the Details of Running a Church  
Stevens, Tim & Morgan, Tony (4/21/2008)

- ☐ 94. The Prince  
Machiavelli, Niccolo (translated by Peter Constantine) (6/30/2008)
  
- ☐ 100. \*Six Disciplines® Execution Revolution: Solving the One Business Problem That Makes Solving All Other Problems Easier - Harpst, Gary (8/11/2008) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ☐ 140. 101 Mission Statements From Top Companies: Plus Guidelines for Writing Your Own Mission Statement - Abrahams, Jeffrey (5/19/2009)
  
- ☐ 147. Being Indian: The Truth About Why the 21st Century Will Be India's  
Varma, Pavan K. (7/16/2009)
  
- ☐ 151. Harvard Business Review on Managing Through a Downturn (collection of 7 articles)  
Harvard Business Review (8/12/2009)
  
- ☐ 159. Well Connected: Releasing Power, Restoring Hope Through Kingdom Partnerships  
Butler, Phill (10/14/2009)
  
- ☐ 160. The Longview: Lasting Strategies for Rising Leaders  
Parrott, Roger (10/23/2009)
  
- ☐ 179. Driving Strategic Planning: A Nonprofit Executive's Guide (Second Edition)  
Waechter, Susan A. (4/1/2010)
  
- ☐ 182. Visioneering: God's Blueprint for Developing and Maintaining Personal Vision  
Stanley, Andy (4/26/2010)
  
- ☐ 185. In the Shadow of the Moon (DVD – documentary)  
Sington, David (Director) (5/24/2010)
  
- ☐ 188. Good to Great: Why Some Companies Make the Leap...and Others Don't  
Collins, Jim (6/28/2010)
  
- ☐ 217. \*Little Bets: How Breakthrough Ideas Emerge From Small Discoveries  
Sims, Peter (5/13/2011) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ☐ 225. Jesus Calling: Enjoying Peace in His Presence  
Young, Sarah (8/4/2011)
  
- ☐ 235. \*Great by Choice: Uncertainty, Chaos, and Luck—Why Some Thrive Despite Them All  
Collins, Jim and Hansen, Morten T. (11/8/2011) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ☐ 251. Beyond Performance Management: Why, When and How to Use 40 Tools and Best Practices for Superior Business Performance - Hope, Jeremy and Player, Steve (6/12/2012)
  
- ☐ 257. \*Nonprofit Financial Sustainability: Making Strategic Decisions for Financial Viability  
Bell, Jeanne; Masaoka, Jan and Zimmerman, Steve (9/30/2012) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ☐ 261. \*Thinkpak: A Brainstorming Card Deck  
Michalko, Michael (11/26/2012) **Top-10 Book**

- ❑ 270. The Pope & The CEO: John Paul II's Leadership Lessons to a Young Swiss Guard  
Widner, Andreas (2/28/2013)
  
- ❑ 278. Rumsfeld's Rules: Leadership Lessons in Business, Politics, War, and Life  
Rumsfeld, Donald (5/31/2013) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 280. HBR's 10 Must Reads on Strategy (including the featured article "What Is Strategy?")  
Porter, Michael E. (6/23/2013)
  
- ❑ 289. David and Goliath: Underdogs, Misfits, and the Art of Battling Giants  
Gladwell, Malcolm (12/4/2013) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 303A. Nonprofit Kit for Dummies® (4th Edition)  
by Stan Hutton and Frances N. Phillips (includes a CD-ROM with 100+ documents) – (7/12/2014)
  
- ❑ 307. The Leader's SEECret: Asking the Right Questions and Embracing God's Answers  
by Skip Garmo (9/13/2014)
  
- ❑ 319. Breakthrough: Unleashing the Power of a Proven Plan,  
by Randon A. Samelson (3/13/15) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 330C. Better Together: Discovering the Dynamic Results of Cooperation, by Paul Fleischmann (8/26/15)
  
- ❑ 332. The Attacker's Advantage: Turning Uncertainty Into Breakthrough Opportunities,  
by Ram Charan (11/5/15) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 334A. Playing to Win: How Strategy Really Works,  
by A.G. Lafley and Roger L. Martin (12/3/15)
  
- ❑ 334B. The Big Lie of Strategic Planning,  
by Roger L. Martin (Harvard Business Review) – (12/3/15)
  
- ❑ 337A. 5: Where Will You Be Five Years from Today?  
by Dan Zadra (1/20/16)
  
- ❑ 345. Team of Teams: New Rules of Engagement for a Complex World  
by Gen. Stanley McChrystal with Tantum Collins, David Silverman, and Chris Fussell (6/28/16) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 357. Managing Transitions: Making the Most of Change (25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition),  
by William Bridges (4/5/17) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 359. Barna Trends 2017: What's New and What's Next at the Intersection of Faith and Culture, by Barna  
(Roxanne Stone, Editor-in-Chief) (5/12/17) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 365. Leading the Other Way: How to Change the Church Planting World  
JD Pearring (8/8/17)



**The Contrarian's Guide to Leadership,**  
by Steven Sample (former president of USC):

*From John Pearson's review:*

"Addicted to newspapers, he once went six months without reading one—but stayed current through the art of listening. This chapter is worth the price of the book. It's contrarian and refreshing. It changed my thinking. How often does a book do that for you?"

❑ 368, 369A, 370. Illuminate: Ignite Change Through Speeches, Stories, Ceremonies, and Symbols, by Nancy Duarte and Patti Sanchez (9/13/17, 9/27/17, 10/11/17) **Top-10 Book**

❑ 381. The Book of Mistakes, by Corinna Luyken (3/30/18)

❑ 391A. Barna Trends 2018: What's New and What's Next at the Intersection of Faith and Culture, by Barna (9/28/18).

▶ **2018 Book-of-the-Year**

❑ 395. \*Scaling Up: How a Few Companies Make It...and Why the Rest Don't – Mastering the Rockefeller Habits 2.0, by Verne Harnish (12/14/18)

❑ 404. Turning the Flywheel: A Monograph to Accompany Good to Great (Why Some Companies Build Momentum and Others Don't), by Jim Collins (3/19/19) **Top-10 Book**

❑ 411. StrategyMan vs. the Anti-Strategy Squad: Using Strategic Thinking to Defeat Bad Strategy and Save Your Plan, by Rich Horwath (8/6/19) **Top-10 Book**

❑ 417. The Divine Plan: John Paul II, Ronald Reagan, and the Dramatic End of the Cold War, by Paul Kengor and Robert Orlando (11/6/19)

❑ 431. Fearless Innovation: Going Beyond the Buzzword to Continuously Drive Growth, Improve the Bottom Line, and Enact Change (A No-Nonsense Guide), by Alex Goryachev (3/14/2020)

❑ 434. Upstream: The Quest to Solve Problems Before They Happen, by Dan Heath (4/15/2020)

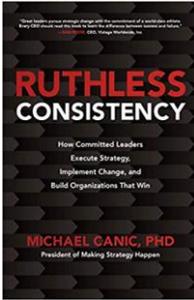
**\*TOP-10 BOOK**

❑ 436A. Non Obvious Megatrends: How to See What Others Miss and Predict the Future, by Rohit Bhargava (5/6/2020) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**

❑ 442. "Embracing Redemptive Disruption," by David Schmidt, features a 9-page PDF with three pandemic paths for nonprofits (7/9/2020)

❑ 446. The Vision Driven Leader: 10 Questions to Focus Your Efforts, Energize Your Team, and Scale Your Business, by Michael Hyatt (8/20/2020) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**

❑ 454. Ruthless Consistency: How Committed Leaders Execute Strategy, Implement Change, and Build Organizations That Win, by Michael Canic (11/30/2020) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**



**Michael Canic, the creative author of *Ruthless Consistency*, says that “constructive accountability and compassion are not mutually exclusive.” My suggestion: his five powerful principles for holding team members constructively accountable should be posted on every office wall (and visible during Zoom calls!). He urges all leaders and managers to change their mindsets: “You’re Not a Manager; You’re a Coach” (Chapter 11). He preaches, “Look in the mirror, Coach. It starts with you.”**

- 456. Money Games: The Inside Story of How American Dealmakers Saved Korea's Most Iconic Bank, by Weijian Shan (12/15/2020)
- 467A. The Tragedy of Patton: A Soldier's Date With Destiny — Could World War II's Greatest General Have Stopped the Cold War? by Robert Orlando (3/27/2021)
- 467B. Silence Patton (film), directed by Robert Orlando, 2018 (1 hour, 25 minutes) – (3/27/2021)
- 476A. Citizen Trump: A One Man Show, by Robert Orlando (6/15/2021)
- 476B. Citizen Trump: A One Man Show (film), directed by Robert Orlando (1 hour, 13 minutes) – (6/15/2021)
- 479. Next Job, Best Job: A Headhunter's 11 Strategies to Get Hired Now, by Rob Barnett (7/6/2021)  
**\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- 497. Jump: Dare to Do What Scares You in Business and Life, by Kim Perell (12/8/2021)
- 518. Zero to IPO: Over \$1 Trillion of Actionable Advice from the World's Most Successful Entrepreneurs, by Frederic Kerrest (5/25/2022)
- 523A. The Crux: How Leaders Become Strategists, by Richard P. Rumelt (7/16/2022) –SPECIAL MENTION
- 523B. What Is Strategy? An Illustrated Guide to Michael Porter, by Joan Magretta and Emile Holmewood, Illustrator (7/16/2022)
- 523C. HBR's 10 Must Reads on Strategy (including What Is Strategy? by Michael E. Porter) – (7/16/2022)
- 523D. Talent, Strategy, Risk: How Investors and Boards Are Redefining TSR, by Bill McNabb, Ram Charan, and Dennis Carey (7/16/2022)
- 533. Leadership: Six Studies in World Strategy (Part 1 of 2), by Henry Kissinger (10/28/2022) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- 534. Leadership: Six Studies in World Strategy (Part 2 of 2), by Henry Kissinger (11/2/2022) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- 540. In the Kingdom of Ice: The Grand and Terrible Polar Voyage of the USS Jeannette, by Hampton Sides (12/20/2022) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- 548. Grace Ambassador: Bringing Heaven to Earth, by Dr. John Jackson (2/21/2023) – *STRATEGY BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**

- ❑ 559B. [Repeat from Issue No. 159, 10/14/2009] Well Connected: Releasing Power, Restoring Hope Through Kingdom Partnerships, by Phill Butler (5/11/2023) – Includes a Tribute to Author Phill Butler (1936-2023) – *STRATEGY BUCKET*
- ❑ 565. The Experience Mindset: Changing the Way You Think About Growth, by Tiffani Bova (6/21/2023) – *STRATEGY BUCKET*
- ❑ 592A. That's Not How We Do It Here! A Story about How Organizations Rise and Fall—and Can Rise Again, by John Kotter and Holger Rathgeber (1/24/2024) – *STRATEGY BUCKET*
- ❑ 592B. Our Iceberg Is Melting: Changing and Succeeding Under Any Conditions, by John Kotter and Holger Rathgeber (1/24/2024) - *STRATEGY BUCKET*
- ❑ 593. Jesus: Camp Director—5,000 Campers, 12 Interns, 0 Kitchen Staff, by Dan Bolin (1/31/2024) - *STRATEGY BUCKET*
- ❑ 604. Survive, Reset, Thrive: Leading Breakthrough Growth Strategy in Volatile Times, by Rebecca Homkes (4/18/2024) – *STRATEGY BUCKET*
- ❑ 612. The Power of One: Reaching Every Person on Earth, by Billy Wilson (6/26/2024) - *STRATEGY BUCKET*
- ❑ 626. Becoming a Future-Ready Church: 8 Shifts to Encourage and Empower the Next Generation of Leaders, by Daniel Yang, Adelle M. Banks, and Warren Bird (11/1/2024) – *STRATEGY BUCKET* \*TOP-10 BOOK
- ❑ 646. The 10-Second Rule: Following Jesus Made Simple, by Clare De Graaf (5/17/2025) – *STRATEGY BUCKET* \*TOP-10 BOOK

### **PAILS IN COMPARISON (PIC):**

- ❑ PIC 7. The Synergy Solution: How Companies Win the Mergers and Acquisitions Game, by Mark Sirower and Jeff Weirens (4/7/2022) – *STRATEGY BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 11. Access Rules: Freeing Data from Big Tech for a Better Future, by Viktor Mayer-Schönberger and Thomas Ramege (5/26/2022) – *STRATEGY BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 35. Future Normal: How We Will Live, Work and Thrive in the Next Decade, by Rohit Bhargava and Henry Coutinho-Mason (3/13/2023) – *STRATEGY BUCKET*



“Indeed, neither of us spends much time looking at futurist scenarios at all. Our energy is focused on the present. As now-ists rather than futurists, we stay on top of business innovations because they so often spark insights into what our future normal will look like. Any new business innovation—whether an entirely new brand or startup, or a new product, service, or initiative from an existing brand—is a bet on the future.”

❑ PIC 60. *Venture Meets Mission: Aligning People, Purpose, and Profit to Innovate and Transform Society*, by Arun Gupta, Gerard George, and Thomas Fewer (1/27/2024) – *STRATEGY BUCKET*

❑ PIC 75. *Pattern Breakers: Why Some Start-Ups Change the Future*, by Mike Maples Jr. and Peter Ziebelman (7/10/2024) - *STRATEGY BUCKET*

❑ PIC 83. *Mindshift: Transform Leadership, Drive Innovation, and Reshape the Future*, by Brian Solis (10/17/2024) - *STRATEGY BUCKET*

#### **#4. THE DRUCKER BUCKET** (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

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❑ 20. *The Effective Executive: The Definitive Guide to Getting the Right Things Done*  
Drucker, Peter (1/15/2007)

❑ 31. *The Temptation to Do Good*  
Drucker, Peter (4/2/2007)

❑ 61. *Breakfast With Fred*  
Smith, Sr., Fred (11/5/2007)

#### **▶2008 Book-of-the-Year**

❑ 87. *\*The Five Most Important Questions You Will Ever Ask About Your Organization*  
Drucker, Peter (plus Collins, Kotler, Kouzes, Rodin, Rangan and Hesselbein) - (5/5/2008)

❑ 154. *Myself and Other More Important Matters*  
Handy, Charles (9/2/2009)

❑ 178. *The Daily Drucker: 366 Days of Insight and Motivation for Getting the Right Things Done*  
Drucker, Peter F. and Maciariello, Joseph A. (3/25/2010)

❑ 215. *Leadership Smarts: Inspiration and Wisdom from the Heart of a Leader*  
Blanchard, Ken (4/21/2011)

❑ 243. *A Class With Drucker: The Lost Lessons of the World's Greatest Management Teacher*  
Cohen, William (2/10/2012)

❑ 281. *The Temptation to Do Good*  
Drucker, Peter (7/7/2013) – *Summer Classic Book Series*, repeated from Issue 31

❑ 283. *Wisdom from Lyle E. Schaller: The Elder Statesman of Church Leadership*  
Bird, Warren (8/4/2013)

❑ 288. *Bring TIM: Time Is Money—the Meeting Cost Calculator*  
Manufactured by Bring Tim LLC (11/9/2013)

❑ 292. *The Practical Drucker: Applying the Wisdom of the World's Greatest Management Thinker*  
by William A. Cohen (1/15/2014)

☐ 298. Drucker & Me: What a Texas Entrepreneur Learned from the Father of Modern Management by Bob Buford (4/24/14) **Top-10 Book**

▶ **2014 Book-of-the-Year**

☐ 301. Xenophon's Cyrus the Great: The Arts of Leadership and War by Xenophon (Larry Hedrick, Editor) – (6/11/14)

☐ 316. A Year With Peter Drucker: 52 Weeks of Coaching for Leadership Effectiveness, by Joseph A. Maciariello (1/6/15) **Top-10 Book**

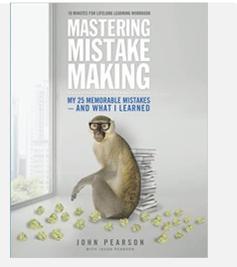
- Note: Visit the blog posts of 52 guest writers for their color commentaries on all 52 chapters **[to be reposted in 2026]**

☐ 331A. \*Peter Drucker's Five Most Important Questions: Enduring Wisdom for Today's Leaders, by Peter F. Drucker, Frances Hesselbein, and Joan Snyder Kuhl (10/14/15) **Top-10 Book**

☐ 346. The Presidents Club: Inside the World's Most Exclusive Fraternity (Summer Rerun from Issue 252) by Nancy Gibbs and Michael Duff (7/12/16)

☐ 475B. Mastering Mistake-Making: My 25 Memorable Mistakes—And What I Learned (10 Minutes for Lifelong Learning Workbook), by John Pearson with Jason Pearson (6/10/2021)

Download the Introduction and Table of Contents at:  
<https://www.managementbuckets.com/mistakes>



☐ 510. CEO Excellence: The Six Mindsets That Distinguish the Best Leaders from the Rest, by Carolyn Dewar, Scott Keller, and Vikram Malhotra (3/22/2022)

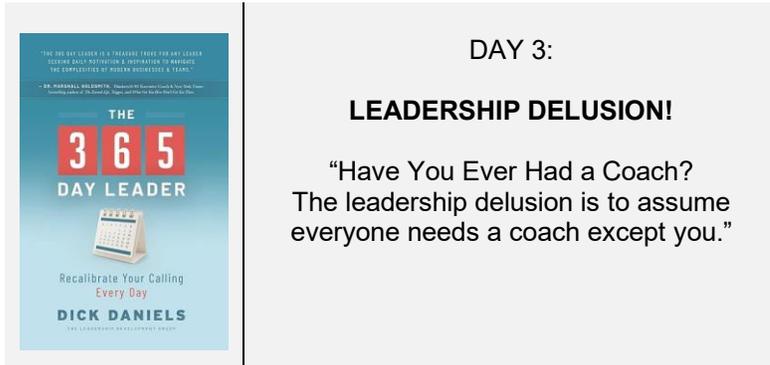
☐ 515. The Gift of Disillusionment: Enduring Hope for Leaders After Idealism Fades, by Peter Greer and Chris Horst, with Brianna Lapp and Jill Heisey (4/25/2022) – **Special Mention**

☐ 525A. A New Way to Think: Your Guide to Superior Management Effectiveness, by Roger L. Martin (8/9/2022)

☐ 558. Beyond Disruption: Innovate and Achieve Growth without Displacing Industries, Companies, or Jobs, by W. Chan Kim and Renée A. Mauborgne (5/3/2023) – *DRUCKER BUCKET*

☐ 570. True North: Leading Authentically in Today's Workplace, Emerging Leader Edition, by Zach Clayton and Bill George (7/26/2023) – *DRUCKER BUCKET*

- ❑ 615. **The 365 Day Leader: Recalibrate Your Calling Every Day**, by Dick Daniels (7/24/2024) - *DRUCKER BUCKET* **TOP-10 BOOK**



- ❑ 658. **A CEO for All Seasons: Mastering the Cycles of Leadership**, by Carolyn Dewar, Scott Keller, Vikram Malhotra, and Kurt Strovink (10/3/2025) – *DRUCKER BUCKET*

- ❑ **665. THE QUESTIONS ISSUE! 6 Books & Hundreds of Questions!**  
(12/10/2025) – *DRUCKER BUCKET*



- ❑ 665-1: **The Art of Asking Better Questions: Pursuing Stronger Relationships, Healthier Leadership, and Deeper Faith**, by J.R. Briggs
- ❑ 665-2: **Now That's a Good Question! How to Lead Quality Bible Discussions (Updated and Expanded)**, by Terry Powell
- ❑ 665-3: **Better Decisions, Fewer Regrets: 5 Questions to Help You Determine Your Next Move**, by Andy Stanley

- ❑ 665-4: **Great Questions for Leading Well**, by Steve A. Brown
- ❑ 665-5: **God in the Marketplace: 45 Questions Fortune 500 Executives Ask About Faith, Life, and Business**, by Henry Blackaby and Richard Blackaby
- ❑ 665-6: **The Questions Christians Hope No One Will Ask (With Answers)**, by Mark Mittelberg, with a foreword by Lee Strobel

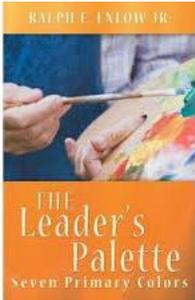
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## #5. THE BOOK BUCKET (By Issue Number and Book Review Date) – “The Catch-all Bucket”

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- ❑ 3. **You Can't Win a Fight With Your Boss & 55 Other Rules For Success**  
Markert, Tom (9/11/2006)
- ❑ 5. **A Diary of Private Prayer**  
Baillie, John (9/25/2006)
- ❑ 13. **TrueFaced: Trust God and Others With Who You Really Are**  
Thrall, Bill; McNicol, Bruce and Lynch, John (11/20/2006)
- ❑ 16. **Taking the Lead: Following the Example of Paul, Timothy and Silvanus**  
Jenson, Ron (12/11/2006)

- 17. *Fit After 40: 3 Keys to Looking Good & Feeling Great*  
Nava, Don (12/18/2006)
- 18. *The Life You've Always Wanted: Spiritual Disciplines for Ordinary People*  
Ortberg, John (1/2/2007)
- 22. *The Best Question Ever: A Revolutionary Approach to Decision-making*  
Stanley, Andy (1/29/2007)
- 25. *Balancing Life's Demands: A New Perspective on Priorities*  
Howard, J. Grant (2/19/2007)



**The Leader's Palette, by Ralph E. Enlow, Jr.**

- "You can't make up in training what you lack in selection."
- "Leaders ignore culture at their peril."
- "The responsibility of every godly leader is to resist the subtle temptations to convert their credibility into celebrity."

- 30. *Winning: The Answers--Confronting 74 of the Toughest Questions in Business Today*  
Welch, Jack and Suzy (3/26/2007)
- 41. *Tales from Q School: Inside Golf's Fifth Major*  
Feinstein, John (6/11/2007)
- 42. *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction*  
Peterson, Eugene H. (6/18/2007)
- 45. *Zing! Five Steps and 101 Tips for Creativity on Command*  
Harrison, Sam (7/16/2007)
- 56. *Gilead*  
Robinson, Marilynne (10/1/2007)
- 63. *The Mulligan: Everyone Needs a Second Chance in Golf and in Life*  
Armstrong, Wally and Blanchard, Ken (11/19/2007)
- 76. *Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing the Will of God*  
Blackaby, Henry T. and King, Claude V. (2/18/2008)
- 79. *Brain Rules: 12 Principles for Surviving and Thriving at Work, Home and School*  
Median, John (3/10/2008)
- 80. *Devotional Classics: Selected Readings for Individuals and Groups (2005 Revised Edition)*  
Foster, Richard J. and Smith, James Bryan (3/17/2008)

- ❑ 81. The Contrarian's Guide to Leadership  
Sample, Steven (3/24/2008)
  
- ❑ 90. \*Same Kind of Different As Me: A Modern-Day Slave, an International Art Dealer, and the Unlikely Woman Who Bound Them Together - Hall, Ron and Moore, Denver (5/27/2008) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 95. Put Down the Duckie (DVD)  
Sesame Street (7/8/2008)
  
- ❑ 108. The Essential Bible Guide: 100 Readings Through the World's Most Important Book  
Kuniholm, Whitney (10/8/2008)
  
- ❑ 112. Operation World: When We Pray God Works (21st Century Edition)  
Johnstone, Patrick (11/4/2008)
  
- ❑ 121. The Message/Remix: Solo: An Uncommon Devotional  
Peterson, Eugene H. (1/6/2009)
  
- ❑ 136. The CIA World Factbook 2009  
CIA (4/22/2009)
  
- ❑ 139. \*The Prodigal God: Recovering the Heart of the Christian Faith  
Keller, Timothy (5/12/2009) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 142. \*The 100 Best Business Books of All Time: What They Say, Why They Matter, and How They Can Help You - Covert, Jack and Sattersten, Todd (6/2/2009) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 143. What Are You Living For? Investing Your Life in What Matters Most  
Williams, Pat (6/10/2009)
  
- ❑ 150. Life Among the Lutherans  
Keillor, Garrison (8/4/2009)
  
- ❑ 165. What Difference Do It Make? Stories of Hope and Healing  
Hall, Ron and Moore, Denver (and Vincent, Lynn) (11/25/2009)
  
- ❑ 193. Leadership Prayers  
Kriegbaum, Richard (8/13/2010)
  
- ❑ 213. \*Chasing Francis  
Cron, Ian Morgan (4/6/2011) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 219. Rules to Live By: 52 Principles for a Better Life  
White, Jerry (6/14/2011)
  
- ❑ 220. The Ambition  
Strobel, Lee (6/22/2011)
  
- ❑ 224. Besides the Bible: 100 Books That Have, Should or Will Create Christian Culture  
Gibson, Dan; Green, Jordan and Pattison, John (7/25/2011)

- ❑ 237. Invisible Neighbors: If You Don't See Them, You're Not Looking  
Ashmen, John (12/13/2011)
  
- ❑ 246. Crafting a Rule of Life: An Invitation to a Well-Ordered Way  
Macchia, Stephen A. (4/6/2012)
  
- ❑ 268. A Stroke of Grace  
Zander, Dieter and Witmer, LaDonna (1/31/2013)
  
- ❑ 275. My Ideal Bookshelf  
Mount, Jane (art) and La Force, Thessaly (editor) (4/19/2013)
  
- ❑ 277. Spiritual Discernment Retreat Guide  
Macchia, Stephen A. (5/23/2013)
  
- ❑ 286. On My Worst Day: Cheesecake, Evil, Sandy Koufax and Jesus  
Lynch, John (10/8/2013) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 290. The Messiah: An Oratorio for Four-Part Chorus of Mixed Voices, Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass Soli and Piano, by Handel, G.F. (12/23/13) - **Merry Christmas!**
  
- ❑ 299. Leadership Prayers  
by Richard Kriegbaum (5/20/14)
  
- ❑ 310A. Monday Morning Atheist: Why You Switch God Off at Work  
by Doug Spada and Dave Scott (10/27/2014)
  
- ❑ 310B. The Switch: Your Monday Revolution (Six Weeks to God's Power on Monday) – Book + Guide + DVD – by  
Doug Spada (10/27/2014)
  
- ❑ 312. Let Your Life Speak: Listening for the Voice of Vocation  
by Parker J. Palmer (11/22/14) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 314. Wellspring: 31 Days to Whole-Hearted Living  
by Stephen Macchia (12/22/14)
  
- ❑ 326. Soul Keeping: Caring for the Most Important Part of You,  
by John Ortberg (6/10/15) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 341. Serve Strong: Biblical Encouragement to Sustain God's Servants  
By Terry Powell (4/13/16)
  
- ❑ 350. The Time of Our Lives  
by Peggy Noonan (9/11/16) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 353B. Steward Leader Meditations: Fifty Devotions for the Leadership Journey  
by R. Scott Rodin (12/23/16)

- ❑ 357B. **Book-of-the-Year Honors: 2008 to 2016** (4/21/17)
- ❑ 389. Hemingway Didn't Say That: The Truth Behind Familiar Quotations, by Garson O'Toole (7/29/18)
- ❑ 394. Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End, by Atul Gawande (11/17/18) **Top-10 Book**
- ❑ 406. Knowing God, by J.I. Packer (4/18/19)
- ❑ 419. Where the Light Divides, by Fred Smith (11/29/19) **Top-10 Book**
- ❑ 435. A Life of Listening: Discerning God's Voice and Discovering Our Own, A Memoir by Leighton Ford (4/22/2020)
- ❑ 437. Mentoring Moments with Myself: Letters to My Younger Self about Life, Faith, Love and Leadership, by Michelle Hoverson (5/18/2020)



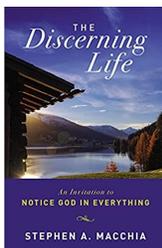
## More Coaching/Mentoring Top Picks

Eugene B. Habecker quotes Henri Nouwen about blind spots:  
**"The interruption...forced me to enter the basement of my soul and look directly at what was hidden there."**

[https://urgentink.typepad.com/my\\_weblog/2020/05/9-mentoring-and-coaching-books.html](https://urgentink.typepad.com/my_weblog/2020/05/9-mentoring-and-coaching-books.html)

- ❑ **20 MENTORING SESSIONS:** What Got You Here Won't Get You There: Discover the 20 Workplace Habits You Need to Break, by Marshall Goldsmith with Mark Reiter **2013 BOOK-OF-THE-YEAR**
  - ❑ **11 MENTORING SESSIONS:** The Softer Side of Leadership: Essential Soft Skills That Transform Leaders and the People They Lead, by Eugene B. Habecker
  - ❑ **8 MENTORING SESSIONS:** Monday Morning Leadership: 8 Mentoring Sessions You Can't Afford to Miss, by David Cottrell -
  - ❑ **10 MENTORING SESSIONS:** The Top 10 Leadership Conversations in the Bible: Practical Insights From Extensive Research on Over 1,000 Biblical Leaders, by Steve Moore
  - ❑ **14-MINUTES TEDx TALK!** The Advice Trap: Be Humble, Stay Curious & Change the Way You Lead Forever, by Michael Bungay Stanier
  - ❑ **STOP WORKING SO HARD!** The Coaching Habit: Say Less, Ask More & Change the Way You Lead Forever, by Michael Bungay Stanier
  - ❑ **LEGACY: 60 LIFE REFLECTIONS FOR THE NEXT GENERATION**, by Steve Macchia. The author wrote 60 life lessons upon turning 60. (John Maxwell postponed writing *Leadership Gold* until he was 60. Catch the theme here?) I asked my son, Jason (not yet 60!), for his review of Macchia's mentoring book.
  - ❑ **THIS. CUSTOMIZABLE JOURNAL: 52 WAYS TO SHARE YOUR WORLD WITH THOSE YOU LOVE**, by Jason Pearson and Doug Fields. While you're in your bunker this month, it's the perfect time to invest in your family (children and grandchildren) by completing this fun and meaningful journal.
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- ❑ 440. Practicing the Present: The Neglected Art of Living in the Now, by John Koessler (6/25/2020)
  - ❑ 443. How Will You Measure Your Life? by Clayton M. Christensen, James Allworth, and Karen Dillon (7/18/2020)  
**\*TOP-10 BOOK**

- ☐ 445. The Little Guide to Your Well-Read Life: How to Get More Books in Your Life and More Life from Your Books, by Steve Leveen (8/10/2020) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- ☐ 449. Citizen Trump (documentary film), by Robert Orlando (10/1/2020) - *Note! Amazon blocked my review of this film!*
- ☐ 451B. Two Roads: A 4-Part Group Study of The Cure - Check out this resource-rich small group combo of book study, video, and audio—perfectly packaged for this COVID-19 season (10/25/2020)
- ☐ 452. Oh God, I'm Dying! How God Redeems Pain for Our Good and for His Glory, by Terry Powell and Mark Smith (11/16/2020) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- ☐ 459. 10 Spiritual Growth Books I'm Reading in 2021 (1/8/2021)
- ☐ 462. 30 Days Unplugged: How a Catholic Priest Turned Off His iPhone and Took a Call From God, by Father Darrin Merlino, CMF (1/28/2021) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- ☐ 487. Waiting for the Train: Biblical Food for Growing Before Going, by S. Tory Teller (foreword by Josh McDowell) – (9/11/2021)
- ☐ 491. Better Decisions, Fewer Regrets: 5 Questions to Help You Determine Your Next Move, by Andy Stanley (10/14/2021)
- ☐ 505. The Babylon Bee Guide to Wokeness, by Kyle Mann, Ethan Nicolle, Joel Berry, and Gavin Yee (2/8/2022)
- ☐ 506. Fit at Last: Look and Feel Better Once and for All, by Ken Blanchard and Tim Kearin (2/17/2022)



## 2022 BOOK-OF-THE-YEAR

- ☐ 509. **The Discerning Life:  
An Invitation to Notice God in Everything**  
by Stephen Macchia  
(3/15/2022, updated on 12/29/2022)

Review: <https://urgentink.blogspot.com/2025/12/the-discerning-life.html>

- ☐ 513. The Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers & Devotions, by Arthur Bennett, Editor (4/13/2022)
- ☐ 529. Mastering 100 Must-Read Books: Brief Book Reviews on Leadership, Management, Governance, and Life, by John Pearson with Jason Pearson (9/20/2022)
- ☐ 536D. THIS. 52 Ways to Share Your World With Those You Love, by Jason Pearson and Doug Fields. (11/15/2022)
- ☐ 541. 2022 Book-of-the-Year and Top-10 Books of 2022 (12/31/2022)
- ☐ 543. Praying With the Early Christians: A Year of Daily Prayers and Reflections on the Words of the Early Christians (Praying With the Bible series), by Eugene H. Peterson (1/12/2023) – *BOOK BUCKET*

❑ 554B. *Contagious Faith: Discover Your Natural Style for Sharing Jesus with Others*, by Mark Mittelberg and foreword by Lee Strobel (4/7/2023) – *BOOK BUCKET*

❑ 569. *The One Year® Book of Hymns: 365 Devotions Based on Popular Hymns*, compiled and edited by Robert K. Brown and Mark R. Norton; devotions written by William J. Petersen and Randy Petersen (7/19/2023) – *BOOK BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**

❑ 584A. *The Shroud: Face to Face*, by Robert Orlando (11/21/2023) – *BOOK BUCKET*



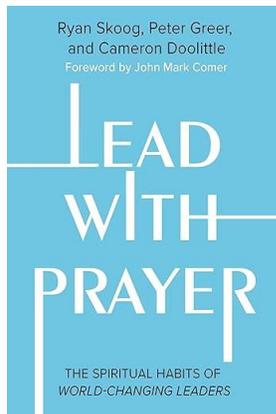
Watch for the film, *The Shroud: Face to Face*, Directed by Robert Orlando (Nov. 2023)

❑ 584B. *Is God Real? Exploring the Ultimate Question of Life*, by Lee Strobel (11/21/2023) – *BOOK BUCKET*

❑ 588. *Inspirational Books for 2024 - Pick 2!* This issue featured 14 inspirational books to read in 2024. (12/18/2023) – *BOOK BUCKET*

❑ 589. *Book-of-the-Year for 2023, Plus Top-10 Book Recommendations of 2023* (12/31/2023) – *BOOK BUCKET*

❑ 591. *Lead with Prayer: The Spiritual Habits of World-Changing Leaders*, by Ryan Scoog, Peter Greer, and Cameron Doolittle (1/17/2024) – *BOOK BUCKET*



## 2024 BOOK-OF-THE-YEAR

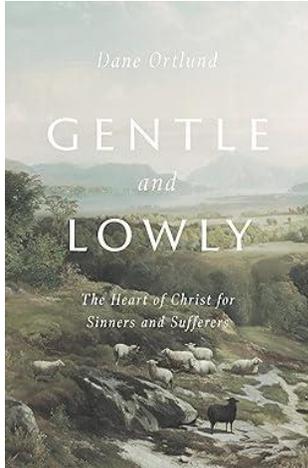
❑ 591. *Lead with Prayer: The Spiritual Habits of World-Changing Leaders*, by Ryan Scoog, Peter Greer, and Cameron Doolittle (1/17/2024) – *BOOK BUCKET*

**THINK AGAIN.** *Lead With Prayer* is not formulaic. *Lead With Prayer* is not a guilt trip. Instead, *Lead With Prayer* will open the doors wide to new possibilities for leaders who know God—and want to summon the Powers of Heaven for their relationships, their to-do lists, and their leadership competencies. Think you know what a book on prayer looks like? Think again. *Oh, my.*

❑ 601. *Six Hours One Friday: Living the Power of the Cross*, by Max Lucado (3/29/2024) – *BOOK BUCKET*

❑ 632. *The Messiah: An Oratorio*, by G.F. Handel (12/25/2024) – *BOOK BUCKET*  
John Pearson shares his Christmas meditation on his 1984 experience at a “Do-It-Yourself *Messiah* Concert.”

❑ 633. *Top-10 Books of 2024 and Book-of-the-Year* (12/31/2024) – *BOOK BUCKET*



## 2025 BOOK-OF-THE-YEAR

❑ 653. **Gentle and Lowly: The Heart of Christ for Sinners and Sufferers**, by Dane Ortlund (7/31/2025) – *BOOK BUCKET*

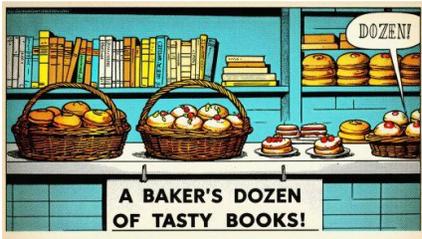
**RUNNING ON FUMES?** The author affirms: “This book is written for the discouraged, the frustrated, the weary, the disenchanting, the cynical, the empty. Those running on fumes. Those whose Christian lives feel like constantly running up a descending escalator.”

Ever wonder if “God’s patience with us is wearing thin” and more? Maybe we love God, “but suspect we have deeply disappointed him.” This book, writes Ortlund, is “for normal Christians. In short, it is for sinners and sufferers.”

❑ 660. **Choosing the Opposite: How the Sermon on the Mount Helps Us Rethink Our Assumptions, Recalibrate Our Instincts, and Rediscover the Way of Jesus**, by Tammy Melchion (10/18/2025) – *BOOK BUCKET*

❑ 662. **Time To Stand Up**, by Bill Hull (11/18/2025) – *BOOK BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**

❑ **666. 12 INSPIRATIONAL RESOURCES: 1 Per Month in 2026!**  
Watch for these reviews in 2026. (12/17/2025) – *BOOK BUCKET*



❑ 666-1: **The Path: What If the Way of Jesus Is Different Than You Thought?** by Robby Angle, Brittany Coulson, Benjamin Crawshaw, and Bruce McNicol

❑ 666-2: **Praying the Parables of Jesus: A 40-Day Devotional Journey in Word and Image**, by Stephen A. Macchia and S. K. Skinner

❑ 666-3: **Praying Like Monks, Living Like Fools: An Invitation to the Wonder and Mystery of Prayer**, by Tyler Staton

❑ 666-4: **Finding Courage: A Four-Week Devotional Journey**, by Steve Brown

❑ 666-5: **Lead Like a Saint: Lessons and Values from the Life of Saint Patrick**, by Carson Pue

❑ 666-6: **Guerrillas of Grace: Prayers for the Battle**, by Ted Loder (40th Anniversary Edition)

❑ 666-7: **Wanderings: 40 Days of Faith Devotional**, published by Free Wheelchair Mission

❑ 666-8: **Discipleship Discussions: 13 Transformative Disciple-making Studies**, by Jeremy Matlock

❑ 666-9: **Ancient Secrets to Project Management: How to Lead and Thrive in Your Professional and Personal Life**, by Robert M. Schraeder

❑ 666-10: **Leadership Prayers**, by Richard Kriegbaum (Note: Previously reviewed in Issue No. 193, Aug. 13, 2010.)

❑ 666-11: **A Diary of Private Prayer**, by John Baillie (Updated and revised by Susanna Wright, with an introduction. Note: Previously reviewed in Issue No. 5, Sept. 5, 2006)

❑ 666-12: **Your God Is Too Small: A Guide for Believers and Skeptics Alike**, by J.B. Phillips

- ❑ 668. Top-10 Books of 2025 & the 2025 Book-of-the-Year!  
(12/31/2025) – *BOOK BUCKET*

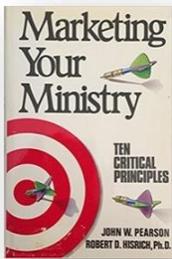
### **PAILS IN COMPARISON (PIC):**

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- ❑ PIC 1. Books Are Tremendous: What They Represent to Some of Those Who Have Written, Read and Loved Them (Life-Changing Classics), by Charlie “Tremendous” Jones, Editor (2/25/2022) – *BOOK BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 25. A Well-Planted Faith in an Uprooted Culture: A 30-Day Devotional with Guided Journal Entries, by Ed McDowell (11/27/2022) – *BOOK BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 37. The Fourth Cup: Unveiling the Mystery of the Last Supper and the Cross, by Scott Hahn (3/27/2023) – *BOOK BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 46. Open This Letter in Ten Years: Life Lessons from Dad’s Love Letters, by Linda DeHoff and Bill Butterworth (7/10/2023) – *BOOK BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 48. Prayer Journal method used by Al Sanders (7/18/2023) – *BOOK BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 61. A Well-Planted Faith in an Uprooted Culture: Praying in the Now (A 30-Day Devotional), by Ed McDowell (2/1/2024) – *BOOK BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 64. Holiness Day by Day: Transformational Thoughts for Your Spiritual Journey, by Jerry Bridges 3/1/2024) - *BOOK BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 80. **SONG:** “Little Is Much When God Is in It” - The rest of the story! (9/14/2024) – *BOOK BUCKET*

## **#6. THE PROGRAM BUCKET** (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

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- ❑ 52. Marketing Your Ministry: Ten Critical Principles, by John Pearson and Robert Hisrich (9/3/2007)

#### Critical Principle #10

“One clever direct mail piece does not a marketing plan make. People buy a total package.”

**Order:** <http://amzn.to/2CxLvKZ>

- ❑ 172. PastorPreneur: Pastors and Entrepreneurs Answer the Call, Jackson, John (1/28/2010)
- ❑ 189. Creators: From Chaucer and Durer to Picasso and Disney, Johnson, Paul (7/6/2010)
- ❑ 205. Entrepreneurship, Hisrich, Robert D.; Peters, Michael P. and Shepherd, Dean A. (12/23/2010)
- ❑ 351. Outrageous: Awake to the Unexpected Adventures of Everyday Faith by Aaron Tredway (10/27/16) **Top-10 Book**

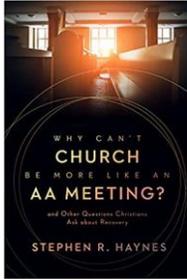
- ❑ 390. \*Before and After Babe Ruth: A Story of the New York Yankees Told Through the Lens of Tickets and Passes, by Dan Busby (8/20/18) **Top-10 Book**
- ❑ 466. Foundations of Chaplaincy: A Practical Guide, by Alan T. Baker (3/9/2021)
- ❑ 521. Next Sunday: An Honest Dialogue About the Future of the Church, by Nancy Beach and Samantha Beach Kiley (6/24/2022)
- ❑ 532. Angel for Higher, by Robert Hendershot with Trevor (10/21/2022)
- ❑ 536B. Faithful: The Robert & Eleanor Palmer Story, by Robert E. Palmer and Eleanor M. Palmer (11/15/2022)
- ❑ 538A. Blueprints: Biblical Designs for Christian Camping—Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow, by Dan Bolin (12/6/2022)
- ❑ 538B. Latin American Voices on Leadership: Their Emergence and Growth, by Lisa Marie Anderson-Umaña (12/6/2022)
- ❑ 538C. Leaders Yet Discovered: Experiential Development for Emerging Leaders, by Greg Robinson and Rob Ribbe (12/6/2022)
- ❑ 559A. Polycentric Mission Leadership: Toward A New Theoretical Model for Global Leadership, by Joseph W. Handley, Jr. (5/11/2023) – *PROGRAM BUCKET*
- ❑ 579. Losing Our Religion: An Altar Call for Evangelical America, by Russell Moore (10/11/2023) – *PROGRAM BUCKET*  



Listen to the “Zoom Review” of *Losing Our Religion* with Jerry Butler, David Schmidt, and John Pearson.
- ❑ 609. May Contain Lies: How Stories, Statistics, and Studies Exploit Our Biases—And What We Can Do About It, by Alex Edmans (5/24/2024) - *PROGRAM BUCKET*
- ❑ 661. Delivering the WOW: Culture as Catalyst for Lasting Success, by Richard Fain (10/27/2025) – *PROGRAM BUCKET*

**PAILS IN COMPARISON (PIC):**

❑ PIC 19. *A Game Maker's Life: A Hall of Fame Game Inventor and Executive Tells the Inside Story of the Toy Industry*, by Jeffrey Breslow with Cynthia Beebe (9/5/2022)



❑ PIC 21.

**Why Can't Church Be More Like an AA Meeting?**  
And Other Questions Christians Ask About Recovery  
by Stephen R. Haynes  
(10/18/2022)

❑ PIC 100. *Marketing Your Ministry: Ten Critical Principles*, by Robert D. Hisrich, Ph.D. (1944-2023) and John W. Pearson (4/28/2025) - *PROGRAM BUCKET*

❑ PIC 104. Remembering John MacArthur and the Junior High Retreat!  
(7/17/2025) - *PROGRAM BUCKET* - (Note: Watch for the review of *Ashamed of the Gospel: When the Church Becomes Like the World* (3rd Edition), by John MacArthur.)

## THE COMMUNITY

To read a book review (and order the book), click on  
<https://urgentink.blogspot.com/>

**Top-10 Book** = Named one of the "Top-10 Books" reviewed in that year by John Pearson  
**PIC** = from the *Pails in Comparison* blog (new in 2022)

**▶Book-of-the-Year** = Named "Book-of-the-Year" by John Pearson  
The 2026 honors will be announced December 31, 2026, in *Your Weekly Staff Meeting* eNews.

### #7. THE PEOPLE BUCKET (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

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- 67. How to Deal With Annoying People: What to Do When You Can't Avoid Them  
Phillips, Bob and Alyn, Kimberly (12/17/2007)
  
- 71. Life's a Campaign: What Politics Has Taught Me About Friendship, Rivalry, Reputation and Success  
Matthews, Chris (1/14/2008)
  
- 105. The Great Connection--A Story That Reveals Life's Most Important Lesson: How to Connect With Others—  
Especially Yourself - Warren, Arnie (9/16/2008)
  
- 115. The Social Styles Handbook: Find Your Comfort Zone and Make People Feel Comfortable With You Wilson  
Learning Library (11/24/2008)
  
- 201. Managing Your Boss (*Harvard Business Review* article)  
Gabarro, John J. and Kotter, John P. (11/8/2010)
  
- 262. \*7 Seconds to Success: How to Effectively Relate to People in an Instant  
Coffey, Gary and Phillips, Bob (12/8/2012) **Top-10 Book**
  
- 271. We Have a Pope (Habemus Papam) - (DVD, English subtitles)  
Moretti, Nanni (Director) - (3/11/2013)
  
- 300. Jesus: A Biography from a Believer  
by Paul Johnson (5/29/2014)
  
- 343. Social Style: The Ah Ha's of Effective Relationships  
by Gerald L. Prince and John R. Myers (5/26/16)
  
- 366. Top Ten Ways to Be a Great Leader  
Hans Finzel (8/18/17)
  
- 385. \*The Softer Side of Leadership: Essential Soft Skills That Transform Leaders and the People They Lead, by  
Eugene B. Habecker (5/16/18) **Top-10 Book**
  
- 420. Emotional Intelligence 2.0 (The World's Most Popular Emotional Intelligence Test), by Travis Bradberry and  
Jean Greaves **Top-10 Book**

- ❑ 426. Talking to Strangers: What We Should Know about the People We Don't Know, by Malcolm Gladwell (1/11/2020) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- ❑ 465. Backable: The Surprising Truth Behind What Makes People Take a Chance on You, by Suneel Gupta with Carlye Adler (3/2/2021)
- ❑ 482. The Unspoken Rules: Secrets to Starting Your Career Off Right, by Gorick Ng (7/29/2021)
- ❑ 498. Brain Rules for Work: The Science of Thinking Smarter in the Office and at Home, by John Medina (12/14/2021) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- ❑ 530. The 6 Types of Working Genius: A Better Way to Understand Your Gifts, Your Frustrations, and Your Team, by Patrick M. Lencioni (9/26/2022) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- ❑ 551. Good Power: Leading Positive Change in Our Lives, Work, and World, by Ginni Rometty (3/16/2023) – *PEOPLE BUCKET*
- ❑ 556. The Anxious Achiever: Turn Your Biggest Fears into Your Leadership Superpower, by Morra Aarons-Mele (4/19/2023) – *PEOPLE BUCKET*
- ❑ 595. Interviewology: The New Science of Interviewing – Are you a Charmer, Challenger, Examiner, or Harmonizer? by Anna Papalia (2/14/2024) - *PEOPLE BUCKET*
- ❑ 608. The Problem with Change: And the Essential Nature of Human Performance, by Ashley Goodall (5/17/2024) - *PEOPLE BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- ❑ 622. Faith for the Curious: How an Era of Spiritual Openness Shapes the Way We Live and Help Others Follow Jesus, by Mark Matlock (9/28/2024) – *PEOPLE BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- ❑ 642. Radical Listening: The Art of True Connection, by Christian van Nieuwerburgh and Robert Biswas-Diene (3/28/2025) – *PEOPLE BUCKET*
- ❑ 647. The Activator Advantage: What Today's Rainmakers Do Differently, by Matthew Dixon, Rory Channer, Karen Freeman, and Ted McKenna (5/26/2025) – *PEOPLE BUCKET*
- ❑ 648. How to Get Along with Anyone: The Playbook for Predicting and Preventing Conflict at Work and at Home, by John Eliot and Jim Guinn (6/9/2025) – *PEOPLE BUCKET*
- ❑ 659. Work How You Are Wired: 12 Data-Driven Steps to Finding a Job You Love, by William Vanderbloemen (10/10/2025) – *PEOPLE BUCKET*

### **PAILS IN COMPARISON (PIC):**

- PIC 17. The Humming Effect: Sound Healing for Health and Happiness, by Jonathan Goldman and Andi Goldman (8/18/2022)
  - PIC 18. Why We Argue and How to Stop: A Therapist's Guide to Navigating Disagreements, Managing Emotions, and Creating Healthier Relationships, by Jerry Manney (8/22/2022)
  - PIC 30. Experiential Intelligence: Harness the Power of Experience for Personal and Business Breakthroughs, by Soren Kaplan (1/26/2023) – *PEOPLE BUCKET*
  - PIC 85. **WORKBOOK:** Be The Unicorn Workbook: 12 Data-Driven Habits that Separate the Best Leaders From the Rest, by William Vanderbloemen (10/28/2024) – *PEOPLE BUCKET* - Note: See the book at Issue No. 583
  - PIC 96. Conflict Resilience: Negotiating Disagreement Without Giving Up or Giving In, by Robert Bordone and Joel Salinas, M.D. (3/24/2025) - *PEOPLE BUCKET*
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### **#8. THE CULTURE BUCKET (BY ISSUE NUMBER AND BOOK REVIEW DATE)**

- 37. The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflict  
Sande, Ken (5/14/2007)
- 74. Heroic Leadership: Best Practices From a 450-Year-Old Company That Changed the World  
Lowney, Chris (2/4/2008)
- 75. Coach Wooden One-on-One: Inspiring Conversations on Purpose, Passion and the Pursuit of Success -  
Wooden, John and Carty, Jay (2/11/2008)
- 126. The Character of Leadership: Nine Qualities That Define Great Leaders  
Iorg, Jeff (2/9/2009)
- 132. Lessons From San Quentin: Everything I Need to Know About Life I Learned in Prison  
Dallas, Bill with Barna, George (3/23/2009)
- 135. The Short List: In a Life Full of Choices, There Are Only Four That Matter  
Butterworth, Bill (4/13/2009)
- 141. Humility  
Murray, Andrew (5/26/2009)
- 177. Leading Across Cultures: Effective Ministry and Mission in the Global Church  
Plueddemann, James E. (3/20/2010)
- 186. \*The Speed of Trust: The One Thing That Changes Everything  
Covey, Stephen M.R. (6/7/2010) **Top-10 Book**

187. \*Delivering Happiness: A Path to Profits, Passion, and Purpose  
Hsieh, Tony (6/16/2010) **Top-10 Book**

192. Kiss, Bow or Shake Hands: The Bestselling Guide to Doing Business in More than 60 Countries  
Morrison, Terri and Conaway, Wayne A. (7/30/2010)

196. \*The Steward Leader: Transforming People, Organizations and Communities  
Rodin, R. Scott (9/16/2010) **Top-10 Book**

203. The Inner Ring  
Lewis, C.S. (12/3/2010)

229. \*The Company Culture Challenge  
Betzel, Robert and Russell, David (9/2/2011) **Top-10 Book**

### ▶ 2012 Book-of-the-Year

245. \*The Advantage: Why Organizational Health Trumps Everything Else in Business  
Lencioni, Patrick (3/23/2012)

254. \*Pursuing God's Will Together: A Discernment Practice for Leadership Groups  
Barton, Ruth Haley (7/24/2012) **Top-10 Book**

258. Make Your Values Mean Something (*Harvard Business Review* article)  
Lencioni, Patrick (10/9/2012)

### ▶ 2013 Book-of-the-Year

269. What Got You Here Won't Get You There: Discover the 20 Workplace Habits You Need to Break  
Goldsmith, Marshall and Reiter, Mark (2/18/2013)

274. The Leader's Palette: Seven Primary Colors  
Enlow, Jr., Ralph E. (4/12/2013) **Top-10 Book**

302. The Student Leadership Challenge: Five Practices for Becoming an Exemplary Leader  
by James M. Kouzes and Barry Z. Posner (6/30/2014)

303B. Leadership for Dummies®  
by Marshall Loeb and Stephen Kindel (7/12/2014)

304. Tales from the Top: 10 Crucial Questions from the World's #1 Executive Coach  
by Graham Alexander (8/11/14)

324. The Power of Passion in Leadership: Lead From Your Heart, Not Just Your Head,  
by Hans Finzel (4/21/15)

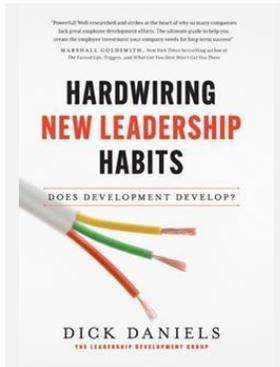
330A. Invisible Neighbors: If You Don't See Them, You're Not Looking, by John Ashmen (8/26/15 – revised)

333. Little Victories: Perfect Rules for Imperfect Living, by Jason Gay (11/25/15)

335. Broken and Whole: A Leader's Path to Spiritual Transformation,  
by Stephen Macchia (12/24/15) **Top-10 Book**

- ❑ 384. \*The Top 10 Leadership Conversations in the Bible: Practical Insights From Extensive Research on Over 1,000 Biblical Leaders, by Steve Moore (5/8/18) **Top-10 Book**
- ❑ 403. Knight of the Holy Ghost: A Short History of G. K. Chesterton, by Dale Ahlquist (3/1/19) **Top-10 Book**
- ❑ 405. Unplanned: The Dramatic True Story of a Former Planned Parenthood Leader's Eye-Opening Journey Across the Life Line [book and movie], by Abby Johnson
- ❑ 408. The Four Gifts of the King: A Novel, by R. Scott Rodin (6/14/19)
- ❑ 429A. Servant of All: Reframing Greatness and Leadership through the Teachings of Jesus, by Ralph E. Enlow, Jr.(2/16/2020) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- ❑ 430. What Got You Here Won't Get You There: Discover the 20 Workplace Habits You Need to Break, by Marshall Goldsmith with Mark Reiter (2/28/2020) - **2013 BOOK-OF-THE-YEAR** (Repeat from Issue No. 269)
- ❑ 438. Faith for Exiles: 5 Ways for a New Generation to Follow Jesus in Digital Babylon, by David Kinnaman and Mark Matlock (5/28/2020)
- ❑ 450B. Connection Culture: The Competitive Advantage of Shared Identity, Empathy, and Understanding at Work (Second Edition), by Michael Lee Stallard, Todd W. Hall, Katharine P. Stallard, and Jason Pankau (10/13/2020)
- ❑ 455. The Great Successor: The Divinely Perfect Destiny of Brilliant Comrade Kim Jong Un, by Anna Fifield (12/5/2020)
- ❑ 461. (Part 1 of 2): Fight House: Rivalries in the White House from Truman to Trump, by Tevi Troy (Part 1 of 2 reviews) – (1/21/2021) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- ❑ 463. (Part 2 of 2): "POTUS Pop Quiz" - Fight House, by Tevi Troy (2/10/2021)
- ❑ 488. Collision Course: Carlos Ghosn and the Culture Wars That Upended an Auto Empire, by Hans Greimel and William Sposato (9/17/2021) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- ❑ 508. American Happiness and Discontents: The Unruly Torrent, 2008-2020, by George F. Will (3/10/2022)
- ❑ 514. Road to Flourishing: Eight Keys to Boost Employee Engagement and Well-Being, by Al Lopus with Cory Hartman (4/19/2022) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- ❑ 527. Before and After Jackie Robinson, A Story of the Brooklyn Dodgers Told Through the Lens of Tickets and Passes, by Dan Busby (9/2/2022) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- ❑ 536C. YOUquation: Living Your Dream—Your Happiness + Your Success, by Thomas M. Dean and Linda B. Awar (11/15/2022)

- ❑ 546. **Hardwiring New Leadership Habits: Does Development Develop?** by Dick Daniels (2/10/2023) – *CULTURE BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**



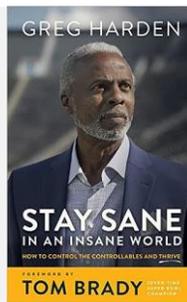
**Hardwiring New Leadership Habits: Does Development Develop?** is jam-packed with ready-to-use action steps and insights—coupled with a memorable metaphor: how to connect three “wires” to hardwire new leadership habits. Dick Daniels’ book is short and crisp and brings a holistic clarity to that pesky question: does development develop? *Dick Daniels is also the author of two book-of-the-year picks!*

- ❑ 318. **Leadership Briefs: Shaping Organizational Culture to Stretch Leadership Capacity** (2015 Book-of-the-Year)
- ❑ 460. **Leadership Core: Character, Competence, Capacity (Leadership Multipliers)** - (2021 Book-of-the-Year)

- ❑ 555A. **The Screwtape Letters**, by C.S. Lewis (4/13/2023) – *CULTURE BUCKET*

- ❑ 572. **Attitude Is a Choice—So Pick a Good One: Practical Steps to a Positive Outlook**, by Bob Phillips (8/8/2023) – *CULTURE BUCKET*

- ❑ 575. **Stay Sane in an Insane World: How to Control the Controllables and Thrive**, by Greg Harden with Steve Hamilton (9/6/2023) – *CULTURE BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**



With 37 short chapters, this is a no-brainer resource for the next 37 weeks of your weekly staff meetings. I couldn’t find any fluff in any of the 37 relevant topics. Your coworkers and direct reports will love this book too. Greg Harden’s insights will enrich your leadership and your one-on-one coaching. (If you’re a wanna-be author, you’ll borrow the book’s brilliant format.)

- ❑ 578. **How Trust Works: The Science of How Relationships Are Built, Broken, and Repaired**, by Peter H. Kim, Ph.D. (10/6/2023) – *CULTURE BUCKET*

- ❑ 590. **When Everyone Leads: How the Toughest Challenges Get Seen and Solved**, by Ed O’Malley and Julia Fabris McBride (1/10/2024) – *CULTURE BUCKET*

- ❑ 599. **Irreplaceable: How to Create Extraordinary Places that Bring People Together**, by Kevin Ervin Kelley (3/13/2024) - *CULTURE BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**

- ❑ 610. **How Leaders Learn: Master the Habits of the World’s Most Successful People**, by David Novak with Lari Bishop (6/6/2024) - *CULTURE BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**

- ❑ 619. **Leadership and Self-Deception, Fourth Edition: The Secret to Transforming Relationships and Unleashing Results**, by The Arbinger Institute (9/3/2024) - *CULTURE BUCKET*

- ❑ 623. **Restoring Our Sanity Online: A Revolutionary Social Framework**, by Mark Weinstein (10/5/2024) - *CULTURE BUCKET*

- ❑ 627. Uncommon Graces: Christlike Responses to a Hostile World, by John Vawter (11/19/2024) - *CULTURE BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- ❑ 639. Superhabits: The Universal System for a Successful Life, by Andrew V. Abela (2/28/2025) - *CULTURE BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- ❑ 640. Qualified: How Competency Checking and Race Collide at Work, by Shari Dunn (3/13/2025) - *CULTURE BUCKET*
- ❑ 644. When Culture Hates You: Persevering for the Common Good as Christians in a Hostile Public Square, by Natasha Crain (4/24/2025) - *CULTURE BUCKET*
- ❑ 657. How Leaders Lose Their Way: And How to Make Sure It Doesn't Happen to You, by Peter Greer and Jill Heisey (9/17/2025) - *CULTURE BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**

### **PAILS IN COMPARISON (PIC):**

- ❑ PIC 3. Connectable: How Leaders Can Move Teams From Isolated to All In, by Ryan Jenkins and Steven Van Cohen (3/1/2022)
- ❑ PIC 8. The New Extraordinary Leader: Turning Good Managers into Great Leaders (3rd Edition), by John Zenger and Joseph Folkman (4/11/2022)
- ❑ PIC 12. God Loves Your Work: Discover Why He Sends You to Do What You Do, by Larry Peabody (6/9/2022)
- ❑ PIC 23. When Women Lead: What They Achieve, Why They Succeed, and How We Can Learn from Them, by Julia Boorstin (11/8/2022)
- ❑ PIC 31. Culture Is the Way: How Leaders at Every Level Build an Organization for Speed, Impact, and Excellence, by Matt Mayberry (2/2/2023) - *CULTURE BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 38. The Empathy Advantage: Leading the Empowered Workforce, by Heather E. McGowan and Chris Shipley (3/30/2023) - *CULTURE BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 42. Turnaround Time: Uniting an Airline and Its Employees in the Friendly Skies, by Oscar Munoz with Brian DeSplinter (5/7/2023) - *CULTURE BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 51. A Failure of Nerve in 52 Weeks: A Yearlong Leadership Planner, based on the book by Edwin H. Friedman (9/26/2023) - *CULTURE BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 63. Rome Sweet Home: Our Journey to Catholicism, by Scott and Kimberly Hahn (2/16/2024) - *CULTURE BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 76. **TEAM RESOURCE:** Team Retreat Engagement Plan: 4 Books by Dick Daniels (7/22/2024) - *CULTURE BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 78. **FILM:** "The Forge Movie" (8/28/2024) - *CULTURE BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 93. The Courage Gap: Five Steps to Braver Action, by Margie Warrell, PhD (2/17/2025) - *CULTURE BUCKET*

PIC 98. Faithfully Different: Regaining Biblical Clarity in a Secular Culture, by Natasha Crain (4/24/2025) - *CULTURE BUCKET*

PIC 102. Picture Bride Stories, by Barbara F. Kawakami (6/11/2025) - *CULTURE BUCKET*

## **#9. THE TEAM BUCKET** (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

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2. A Tale of Three Kings: A Study in Brokenness  
Edwards, Gene (9/4/2006)

4. Now, Discover Your Strengths  
Buckingham, Marcus & Clifton, Donald (9/18/2006)

15. Becoming a Healthy Team: 5 Traits of Vital Leadership  
Macchia, Stephen A. (12/4/2006)

33. For Your Improvement: A Guide for Development and Coaching  
Lombardo, Michael M. and Eichinger, Robert W. (4/16/2007)

46. StrengthsFinder 2.0  
Rath, Tom (7/23/2007)

48. Cure for the Common Life: Living in Your Sweet Spot  
Lucado, Max (8/6/2007)

54. Twelve O'clock High (DVD, 1949)  
King, Henry (Director) - (9/18/2007)

55. Ten Thousand Horses: How Leaders Harness Raw Potential for Extraordinary Results  
Stahl-Wert, John and Jennings, Ken (9/24/2007)

62. Choosing to Cheat: Who Wins When Family and Work Collide  
Stanley, Andy (11/12/2007)

65. Leadership Is an Art  
De Pree, Max (12/4/2007)

66. Building Successful Teams  
Butterworth, Bill (12/10/2007)

73. Leaders at All Levels: Deepening Your Talent Pool to Solve the Succession Crisis  
Charan, Ram (1/28/2008)

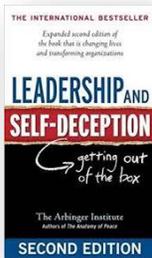
77. Fired Up or Burned Out: How to Reignite Your Team's Passion, Creativity and Productivity  
Stallard, Michael Lee (2/25/2008)

82. It's Your Ship: Management Techniques from the Best Damn Ship in the Navy  
Abrashoff, Capt. D. Michael (3/31/2008)

- 96. \*The Prince of Darkness: 50 Years Reporting in Washington  
Novak, Robert D. (7/14/2008) **Top-10 Book**
  
- 98. LeaderShift: Letting Go of Leadership Heresies  
Cousins, Don (7/29/2008)
  
- 110. The Truth About Managing People and Nothing But the Truth  
Robbins, Stephen P. (10/20/2008)
  
- 111. Margin: Restoring Emotional, Physical, Financial and Time Reserves to Overloaded Lives  
Swenson M.D., Richard A. (10/27/2008)
  
- 122. \*Strengths Based Leadership: Great Leaders, Teams and Why People Follow  
Rath, Tom and Conchie, Barry (1/12/2009) **Top-10 Book**
  
- 124. Not Quite What I was Planning: Six-Word Memoirs by Writers Famous and Obscure  
Fershleiser, Rachel and Smith, Larry (editors) (1/27/2009)
  
- 138. Leadership RE:Vision - Looking at Leadership With a New Set of Eyes  
Seybert, Jim (5/6/2009)
  
- 145. Transforming Together: Authentic Spiritual Mentoring  
Parrott, Ele (6/25/2009)
  
- 156. Bo's Café: A Novel  
Lynch, Bill; Thrall, Bill and McNicol, Bruce (9/25/2009)
  
- 161. The Joseph Road: Choices That Determine Your Destiny  
White, Jerry (10/31/2009)
  
- ▶2009 Book-of-the-Year**
- 168 & 181. \*Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership: Seeking God in the Crucible of Ministry  
Barton, Ruth Haley (12/23/2009, 4/17/2010)
  
- ▶2010 Book-of-the-Year**
- 191 & 328. \*The First 90 Days: Critical Success Factors for New Leaders at All Levels  
Watkins, Michael (7/23/2010)
  
- 194. King Vidor's Our Daily Bread (DVD)  
Vidor, King (Director) - (8/24/2010)
  
- 209. \*The Talent Masters: Why Smart Leaders Put People Before Numbers  
Conaty, Bill and Charan, Ram (2/22/2011) **Top-10 Book**
  
- 223. Managing Your Boss (*Harvard Business Review* article)  
Gabarro, John J. and Kotter, John P. (7/14/2011)
  
- 231. The Gift of Rest: Rediscovering the Beauty of the Sabbath  
Lieberman, Joe (9/22/2011)

- ❑ 238. \*The Cure: What If God Isn't Who You Think He Is and Neither Are You  
Lynch, John; McNicol, Bruce and Thrall, Bill (12/23/2011) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 241. \*Eat That Frog! 21 Great Ways to Stop Procrastinating and Get More Done in Less Time  
Tracy, Brian (1/19/2012) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 250. Heroes: From Alexander the Great and Julius Caesar to Churchill and De Gaulle  
Johnson, Paul (5/31/2012)
  
- ❑ 264. First Aid for Enablers: Ten Treatments for Enablers and the Addicts They Love  
Curry, David (12/24/2012)
  
- ❑ 267. I've Got Your Back: A Leadership Parable — Biblical Principles for Leading and Following Well  
Galvin, James C. (1/22/2013) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 233A. What You Do Best in the Body of Christ: Discover Your Spiritual Gifts, Personal Style and God-Given  
Passion - Bugbee, Bruce (10/13/2011)
  
- ❑ 233B. Discover Your Spiritual Gifts: The Easy-to-Use Guide That Helps You Identify and Understand Your God-  
Given Spiritual Gifts - Wagner, C. Peter (10/13/2011)
  
- ❑ 296. To Be a Friend: Building Deep and Lasting Relationships  
by Jerry and Mary White (4/9/2014) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 303C. Managing for Dummies®  
Bob Nelson and Peter Economy (7/12/2014)
  
- ❑ 309. Entrepreneurial StrengthsFinder  
by Jim Clifton and Sangeeta Bharadwaj Badal, Ph.D. (10/17/2014) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 313. The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics  
by Daniel James Brown (11/29/14) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 320. Great Questions for Leading Well,  
by Steve Brown (3/20/15)
  
- ❑ 322. Leaders Eat Last: Why Some Teams Pull Together and Others Don't,  
by Simon Sinek (4/8/15) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 328. The First 90 Days: Critical Success Factors for New Leaders at All Levels  
Watkins, Michael (rerun: 7/7/15 - See Issue 191, 7/23/2010) **2010 Book-of-the-Year**
  
- ❑ 329. Connection Culture: The Competitive Advantage of Shared Identity, Empathy, and Understanding at Work,  
by Michael Lee Stallard, Jason Pankau, and Katharine P. Stallard (7/29/15) **Top-10 Book**  
**Note: See 2020 Second Edition (Issue No. 450B)**
  
- ❑ 337B. Listen to My Life: Maps for Recognizing and Responding to God in My Story  
by Sibyl Towner and Sharon Swing (1/20/16)

- ☐ 338. *The Coaching Habit: Say Less, Ask More & Change the Way You Lead Forever* by Michael Bungay Stanier, (1/27/16) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ☐ 339. *Leading Me: Eight Practices for a Christian Leader's Most Important Assignment* by Steve A. Brown (3/5/16) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ☐ 344. *The Ideal Team Player: How to Recognize and Cultivate the Three Essential Virtues* by Patrick Lencioni (6/20/16) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ☐ 349B. [Video]: "Everybody Needs a Coach" (StrengthsFinder) by The Gallup Organization (9/1/16)
  
- ☐ 358. *Make Your Bed: Little Things That Can Change Your Life...and Maybe the World* Admiral William H. McRaven (U.S. Navy Retired) (4/22/17)
  
- ☐ 360. *Overcoming Conflict: How to Deal with Difficult People and Situations* Bob Phillips (5/20/17)
  
- ☐ 382A. \**Leadership and Self-Deception: Getting Out of the Box* (Second Edition), by The Arbinger Institute (4/18/18) **Top-10 Book**



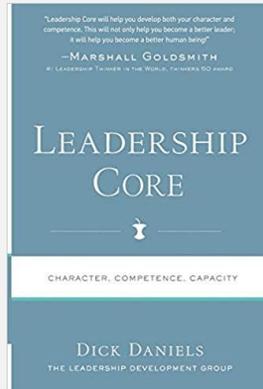
***From John Pearson's book review with five reasons why you should read this book:***

**Reason #3: The "box" metaphor.** Powerful. Trust me—read and study this book with your team (and family) and you'll be using the "box" metaphor within an hour. The second edition of *Leadership and Self-Deception* includes a short section on how to maximize the book's impact. The authors list stunning (stunning!) examples of how the principles have transformed organizations (nonprofit and for-profit) and even police departments. In Japan, a word-of-mouth movement has launched "out-of-the-box" clubs.

- 386. *Leaders Eat Last: Why Some Teams Pull Together and Others Don't* (Rerun: Issue 322), by Simon Sinek (5/28/18)
  
- ☐ 388A. "How CEOs Manage Time" (*Harvard Business Review*, July-August 2018), by Michael E. Porter and Nitin Nohria (7/10/18)
  
- ☐ 393. *Living Your Strengths: Discover Your God-Given Talents and Inspire Your Community*, by Albert L. Winseman, Donald O. Clifton, and Curt Liesveld (11/10/18)
  
- ☐ 422B. THIS. *52 Ways to Share Your World With Those You Love*, by Jason Pearson and Doug Fields (12/16/19)

❑ 460.  
**Leadership Core:  
Character, Competence,  
Capacity**  
(Leadership Multipliers)  
by Dick Daniels  
(1/15/2021)

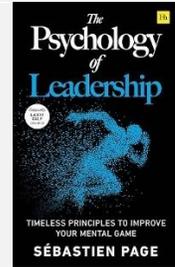
**2021  
BOOK-OF-THE-YEAR**



- ❑ 475A. Anxiety at Work: 8 Strategies to Help Teams Build Resilience, Handle Uncertainty, and Get Stuff Done, by Adrian Gostick and Chester Elton with Anthony Gostick (6/10/2021)
- ❑ 492. Impact Players: How to Take the Lead, Play Bigger, and Multiply Your Impact, by Liz Wiseman (10/19/2021)
- ❑ 501. Born to Build: How to Build a Thriving Startup, a Winning Team, New Customers and Your Best Life Imaginable, by Jim Clifton and Sangeeta Badal, Ph.D. (1/7/2022)
- ❑ 507. Talent: The Market Cap Multiplier, by Ram Charan and Anish Batlaw (2/23/2022)
- ❑ 539. Don't Miss Your Life: The Secret to Significance, by Aaron Tredway (12/14/2022) **Top-10 Book**
- ❑ 549. Rising Together: How We Can Bridge Divides and Create a More Inclusive Workplace, by Sally Helgesen (3/2/2023) – *TEAM BUCKET*
- ❑ 567. How to Work with (Almost) Anyone: Five Questions for Building the Best Possible Relationships, by Michael Bungay Stanier (7/3/2023) – *TEAM BUCKET*
- ❑ 580. Belonging Rules: Five Crucial Actions That Build Unity and Foster Performance, by Brad Deutser (10/18/2023) – *TEAM BUCKET*
- ❑ 597. Expecting the Unexpected: What to Anticipate As a Leader, by JD Pearing (2/28/2024) - *TEAM BUCKET*
- ❑ 598. Two Paths: Discover the Way That Leads to Life, by Craig W. Douglas (3/6/2024) - *TEAM BUCKET*
- ❑ 602 - The Gift of Rest: Rediscovering the Beauty of the Sabbath, by Senator Joe Lieberman (4/3/2024) – *TEAM BUCKET*. Note: This is an updated review of Issue No. 231, with a tribute to Senator Liberman (1942-2024).

❑ 611. *The Transformational Leader: How the World's Best Leaders Build Teams, Inspire Action, and Achieve Lasting Success*, by Matt Mayberry (6/18/2024) – *TEAM BUCKET*

❑ 645. *The Psychology of Leadership: Timeless Principles to Improve Your Management of Individuals, Teams... and Yourself!* by Sébastien Page (5/10/2025) – *TEAM BUCKET*



**Principle 1 of 18: Don't Die on Everest—Beware of the Side Effects of Measurable Goals.**

- Sébastien Page warns that “goal-induced blindness happens when you’re so obsessed with reaching a goal that you don’t see the negative consequences of your actions.” He adds, “like medicine, goals can have side effects.”
- Example: Over the last 30 years, says the author, four of every 100 climbers attempting to reach the summit of Mount Everest have died!

❑ 652. *The Science of Leadership: Nine Ways to Expand Your Impact*, by Jeffrey Hull and Margaret Moore (7/18/2025) – *TEAM BUCKET*

**FAILS IN COMPARISON (PIC):**

❑ PIC 6. *Take Charge of You: How Self-Coaching Can Transform Your Life and Career*, by David Novak and Jason Goldsmith (3/30/2022) – *TEAM BUCKET*

❑ PIC 10. *Arrive and Thrive: 7 Impactful Practices for Women Navigating Leadership*, by Susan MacKenty Brady, Janet Foutty, and Lynn Perry Wooten (5/9/2022) – *TEAM BUCKET*

❑ PIC 14. *Tour de France for Dummies®*, by Phil Liggett, James Raia, and Sammarye Lewis (7/15/2022) – *TEAM BUCKET*

❑ PIC 26. *The Burnout Challenge: Managing People's Relationships with Their Jobs*, by Christina Maslach and Michael P. Leiter (12/12/2022) – *TEAM BUCKET*

❑ PIC 57. *Everyday Influence*, by Bill Butterworth (12/16/2023) – *TEAM BUCKET*

❑ PIC 66. *The Neurodiversity Edge: The Essential Guide to Embracing Autism, ADHD, Dyslexia, and Other Neurological Differences for Any Organization*, by Maureen Dunne (3/28/2024) – *TEAM BUCKET*



❑ PIC 82. **FILM:** *It All Begins with a Song: The Story of the Nashville Songwriter* (10/2/2024) - *TEAM BUCKET*

☐ PIC 99. **TIME MANAGEMENT BOOK SERIES** (if you have time)! **Inspire Your Team to Read a “Book-a-Month” on Time Management** (12 recommendations), including *How to Live on Twenty-Four Hours a Day*, by Arnold Bennett (4/26/2025) - *TEAM BUCKET*

→TIMELY NOTE! **BOOK #1 OF 12 IN THE TIME MANAGEMENT SERIES** was featured in *Your Weekly Staff Meeting* Issue No. 646: *The 10-Second Rule: Following Jesus Made Simple*, by Clare De Graaf (5/17/2025) – *STRATEGY BUCKET*

☐ PIC 101. *Tyranny of the Urgent (Revised & Expanded)*, by Charles E. Hummel (6/5/2025) - *TEAM BUCKET* **(BOOK #2 OF 12 IN THE TIME MANAGEMENT SERIES!)**

☐ PIC 105. *Crazy Busy: A (Mercifully) Short Book about a (Really) Big Problem*, by Kevin DeYoung (7/29/2025) - *TEAM BUCKET* **(BOOK #3 OF 12 IN THE TIME MANAGEMENT SERIES!)**

☐ PIC 107. *Margin: Restoring Emotional, Physical, Financial, and Time Reserves to Overloaded Lives*, by Richard A. Swenson, MD (8/29/2025) - *TEAM BUCKET* **(BOOK #4 OF 12 IN THE TIME MANAGEMENT SERIES!)**

→Note: See the review in *Your Weekly Staff Meeting* Issue No. 111 (10/27/2008).

☐ PIC 111. *Now That's a Good Question! How to Lead Quality Bible Discussions*, by Terry Powell (12/10/2025) - *TEAM BUCKET*

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## #10. THE *HOOPLA!* BUCKET (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

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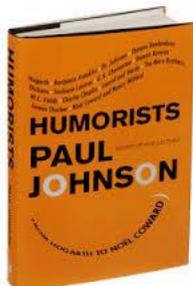
☐ 36. *The Carrot Principle: How the Best Managers Use Recognition to Engage Their People, Retain Talent, and Accelerate Performance* - Gostick, Adrian and Elton, Chester (5/7/2007)

☐ 129. *Monday Morning Leadership: 8 Mentoring Sessions You Can't Afford to Miss* Cottrell, David (3/3/2009)

☐ 180. *In Search of Excellence: Lessons from America's Best-Run Companies* Peters, Thomas J. & Waterman, Robert H. (4/11/2010)

☐ 294. *A Nice Little Place on the North Side: Wrigley Field at One Hundred* by George F. Will (3/3/2014)

☐ 321. *Humorists: From Hogarth to Noel Coward*, by Paul Johnson (4/1/2015)



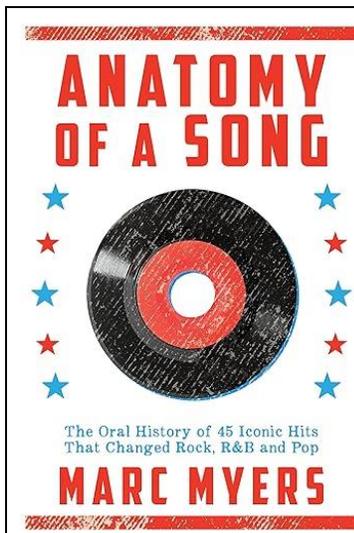
**3 CLERGY WALK INTO A BAR.** If you're looking for a joke book, this is not it. If you'd enjoy a deep dive into a British historian's hunches on humor—have at it.

Johnson profiles 15 humorists including Benjamin Franklin, G.K. Chesterton, Toulouse-Lautrec, W.C. Fields, Laurel and Hardy, The Marx Brothers, James Thurber, Noel Coward, and others. He includes Groucho's famous line, **“I don't want to belong to a club which would have me as a member.”**

- ❑ 364. The Cubs Way: The Zen of Building the Best Team in Baseball and Breaking the Curse  
Tom Verducci (7/13/17) **Top-10 Book**

### ▶ 2017 Book-of-the-Year

- ❑ 372. The Power of Moments: Why Certain Experiences Have Extraordinary Impact  
Chip Heath and Dan Heath (11/25/17)
- ❑ 412. Anything for a Golf Ball: The Art of Finding Lost Golf Balls, by John Vawter (8/24/19)
- ❑ 480A. A Comedian's Prayer Book, by Frank Skinner (7/14/2021)
- ❑ 480B. Laughter Therapy: Good Medicine to Make Your Heart Glad, by Jonny Hawkins and Bob Phillips  
(7/14/2021)
- ❑ 517A. Humor, Seriously: Why Humor Is a Secret Weapon in Business and Life (And how anyone can harness it.  
Even you.), by Jennifer Aaker and Naomi Bagdona (5/17/2022)
- ❑ 517B. Simple Sabotage Field Manual, by United States Office of Strategic Services (5/17/2022)
- ❑ 520. Diplomatic Gifts: A History in Fifty Presents, by Paul Brummell (6/14/2022)
- ❑ 542. I Wouldn't Do That If I Were Me: Modern Blunders and Modest Triumphs (but Mostly Blunders),  
by Jason Gay (1/5/2023) – *HOOPLA! BUCKET*
- ❑ 577. Oak Street Treehouse: The Day They Had a Party, by Dick Daniels and Mollie Bozarth, Illustrator  
(9/27/2023) – *HOOPLA! BUCKET*
- ❑ 586. Anatomy of a Song: The Oral History of 45 Iconic Hits That Changed Rock, R&B and Pop, by  
Marc Myers (12/5/2023) – *HOOPLA! BUCKET*



### 2024 BONUS BLOG!

Guest bloggers share their color commentary on their  
favorite iconic hits that changed  
**Rock, R&B, and Pop.**

Visit

**Johnny Be Good**

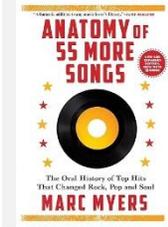
[Note: This will be reposted in 2026.]

45 Songs/45 Short Blogs

*"Where were you when you first heard this song?"*

- ❑ 594. Saint Valentine the Kindhearted: The History and Legends of God's Brave and Loving  
Servant, by Ned Bustard (2/7/2024) – *HOOPLA! BUCKET*

❑ 606. Moo Hoo: Everything Makes Milton Cry!, by Audrey Perrott and illustrated by Ross Burach (5/1/2024) – *HOOPLA! BUCKET*



❑ 638. Anatomy of 55 More Songs: The Oral History of Top Hits That Changed Rock, Pop and Soul, by Marc Myers (2/18/2025) – *HOOPLA! BUCKET*

❑ 667. Hallelujah! (Christmas issue featuring the “Become New Podcast with John Ortberg,” and a repeat of my 1984 essay singing in the “Do-It-Together Messiah” concert.) (12/24/2025) – *HOOPLA! BUCKET*

### PAILS IN COMPARISON (PIC):

❑ PIC 28. Cartoons from The New Yorker 2023 Day-to-Day Calendar (1/9/2023) – *HOOPLA! BUCKET*

❑ PIC 33. Tributes: Black People Whose Names Grace Seattle Sites, by Mary T. Henry and illustrated by Marilyn Hasson Henry (2/23/2023) – *HOOPLA! BUCKET*

❑ PIC 39. Michelangelo's Sacred Art of the Sistine Chapel Ceiling: A Coloring Book Exploration, by Jason Pearson (4/6/2023) – *HOOPLA! BUCKET*

❑ PIC 44. Feherty: The Remarkably Funny and Tragic Journey of Golf's David Feherty, by John Feinstein (6/6/2023) – *HOOPLA! BUCKET*

❑ PIC 45B. **[PART 2 OF 3 REVIEWS: “AI Mimics John Pearson’s Buckets Blog!”]** Decision Sprint: The New Way to Innovate into the Unknown and Move from Strategy to Action, by Atif Rafiq (6/27/23) – *HOOPLA! BUCKET*



❑ PIC 58. **CALENDAR:** Cartoons from The New Yorker 2024 Day-to-Day Calendar (1/2/2024) – *HOOPLA! BUCKET*

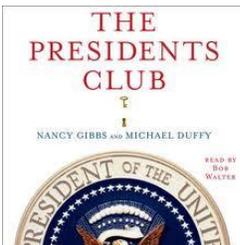
❑ PIC 89. **SONGS:** Two Christmas Songs (12/19/2024) – *HOOPLA! BUCKET*

❑ PIC 91. Tribute to U.S. President Jimmy Carter (1924-2024): “The Seattle Times Published My ‘News Release!’” This blog gives the background for a Nov. 19, 1978, ombudsman column in *The Seattle Times* which featured John Pearson’s “news release” about the 10th anniversary of his first date with Joanne! (1/5/2025 – see also PIC 90) – *HOOPLA! BUCKET*

## #11. THE DONOR BUCKET (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

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- 10. 40 Day Spiritual Journey to a More Generous Life  
Kluth, Brian (10/30/2006)
  
- 14. Major Donor Game Plan: Rounding 3rd and Heading Home  
McLaughlin, Patrick (11/27/2006)
  
- 26. The Treasure Principle: Unlocking the Secret of Joyful Giving  
Alcorn, Randy (2/26/2007)
  
- 35. The 7 Deadly Sins of Christian Fundraising  
Rodin, R. Scott (4/30/2007)
  
- 89. \*Revolution in Generosity: Transforming Stewards to Be Rich Toward God  
Willmer, Wesley K (general editor) (5/19/2008) **Top-10 Book**
  
- 104. Made to Stick: Why Some Ideas Survive and Others Die  
Heath, Chip (9/8/2008)
  
- 113. The One Year Mini for Leaders  
Seybert, Jim (11/10/2008)
  
- 125. Passing the Plate: Why American Christians Don't Give Away More Money  
Emerson, Michael O. and Snell, Patricia (2/2/2009)
  
- 128. The Giving Journey: A Guide to the Joy of Generosity  
MacDonald, Gordon and Johnson, Patrick (2/24/2009)
  
- 134. \*The Hole in Our Gospel: What Does God Expect of Us? The Answer That Changed My Life and Might Just Change the World - Stearns, Richard (4/6/2009) **Top-10 Book**
  
- 157. The Hole in Our Gospel: Personal Action Journal  
CrossSection (9/30/2009)
  
- 166. Being Generous  
Malloch, Theodore Roosevelt (12/4/2009)

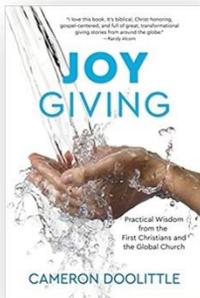


### **George H.W. Bush upon losing the election to Bill Clinton:**

“...at five the next morning [Bush] got out his list of several hundred people he needed to thank and reached for the phone. He got off sixteen hours later.”

- 171. Spiritual Enterprise: Doing Virtuous Business  
Malloch, Theodore Roosevelt (1/20/2010)

- ☐ 197. \*The Sower: Redefining the Ministry of Raising Kingdom Resources  
Rodin, R. Scott and Hoag, Gary G. (9/27/2010) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ☐ 218. \*The Third Conversion  
Rodin, R. Scott (5/19/2011) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ☐ 234. Igniting a Life of Generosity  
McDaniel, Chris (10/24/2011)
  
- ☐ 248. \*The Million-Dollar Dime (A Novelette)  
Rodin, R. Scott (5/9/2012) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ☐ 263. Giving & Getting in the Kingdom: A Field Guide  
Dillon, R. Mark (12/15/2012)
  
- ☐ 287. Stewardship as a Lifestyle: Seeking to Live as a Steward and Disciple  
Frank, John R. (10/18/2013)
  
- ☐ 327A. Development 101: Building a Comprehensive Development Program on Biblical Values,  
by John Frank and R. Scott Rodin (6/23/15)
  
- ☐ 327B. Ignite Your Generosity: A 21-Day Experience in Stewardship,  
by Chris McDaniel (6/23/15) - (Note: revised and published by IVP in 2015)
  
- ☐ 340B. The Guide to Charitable Giving for Churches and Ministries  
By Dan Busby, Michael Martin, and John Van Drunen (3/21/16)
  
- ☐ 353A. The Seventh Key: Unlocking the Life God Created You to Live (A Novelette)  
by R. Scott Rodin (12/23/16) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ☐ 383. \*Joy Giving: Practical Wisdom from the First Christians and the Global Church, by Cameron Doolittle  
(4/23/18) **Top-10 Book**



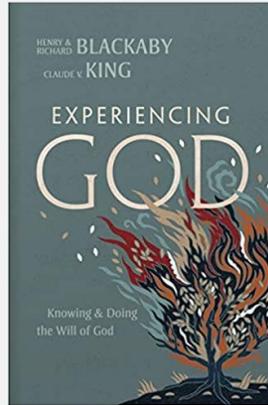
**Cameron Doolittle writes**, “At our church, when our pastor, Jimmy, teaches about giving, he sometimes asks those who have a financial need to come forward for prayer. Then he asks those who have extra, and who feel led, to come forward and give them money. It’s risky and a little wild, right there in front of everyone in the church. And it’s a lot like Acts 2:42-47. The family takes care of the family.”

Read pages 111-112 about the guy in the yellow shirt.  
**Wow.**

- ❑ 428. *Stuff and Soul: Mastering the Critical Connection*, by Wesley K. Willmer with Micah Hogan (1/22/2020)

❑ **496. Experiencing God (2021 Edition): Knowing and Doing the Will of God**, by Henry Blackaby, Richard Blackaby, and Claude King (12/1/2021)

**2021  
BOOK-OF-THE-YEAR**



- ❑ 511. *The Generosity Factor: Discover the Joy of Giving Your Time, Talent, and Treasure*, by Ken Blanchard and S. Truett Cathy (3/31/2022)

- ❑ 535. *One Bold Move a Day: Meaningful Actions Women Can Take to Fulfill Their Leadership and Career Potential*, by Shanna A. Hocking (11/8/2022)

- ❑ 563. *Turning Donors into Partners: Principles for Fundraising You'll Actually Enjoy*, by Brad Layland (6/10/2023) – *DONOR BUCKET*

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#### **PAILS IN COMPARISON (PIC):**

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❑ PIC 62. *Experiencing God (2021 Edition): Knowing and Doing the Will of God*, by Henry Blackaby, Richard Blackaby, and Claude King (2/13/2024). Note: This is “Part 2 of 2.” To read “Part 1 of 2,” visit Issue No. 496. - *DONOR BUCKET*

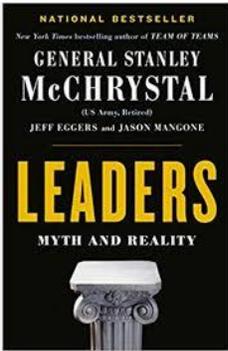
❑ PIC 87. *The Late Great Planet Earth*, by Hal Lindsey with Carole C. Carlson (12/4/2024) – **Remembering Hal Lindsey** (1929-2024) - *DONOR BUCKET*

- ❑ PIC 95. *Personalized: Customer Strategy in the Age of AI*, by Mark Abraham and David C. Edelman (3/14/2025) - *DONOR BUCKET*
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## #12. THE VOLUNTEER BUCKET (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

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- 34. Halftime: Changing Your Game Plan From Success to Significance  
Buford, Bob (4/23/2007)
  
- 60. Forces for Good: The Six Practices of High-Impact Nonprofits  
Crutchfield, Leslie R. and Grant, Heather McLeod (10/29/2007)
  
- 83B. Simply Strategic Volunteers: Empowering People for Ministry  
Morgan, Tony and Stevens, Tim (4/7/2008)
  
- 361. The Gatekeepers: How the White House Chiefs of Staff Define Every Presidency, by Chris Whipple (Part 1 of 2: 6/14/17)
  
- 362. The Gatekeepers: How the White House Chiefs of Staff Define Every Presidency (Part 2 of 2), by Chris Whipple (Part 2 of 2: 6/21/17)
  
- 392. \*Stories of Sheer Pure Grace, by Nancy L. Nelson (10/6/18) **Top-10 Book**



- 410. Leaders: Myth and Reality, by Gen. Stanley McChrystal (US Army, Ret.), Jeff Eggers, and Jason Mangone (8/6/19) **Top-10 Book**  
The authors of **Leaders** also list book recommendations for each of the 13 leaders profiled—a generous bonus.
  - **The Marble Man:** Robert E. Lee
  - **The Founders:** Walt Disney and Coco Chanel
  - **The Geniuses:** Albert Einstein and Leonard Bernstein
  - **The Zealots:** Maximilien Robespierre and Abu Musab Al-Zarqawi
  - **The Heroes:** Zheng He and Harriet Tubman
  - **The Power Brokers:** William Magear “Boss” Tweed and Margaret Thatcher
  - **The Reformers:** Martin Luther and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

- 545. Miracle Wheels: The Story of a Mission to Bring Mobility to the World, by Don Schoendorfer (2/4/2023) – *VOLUNTEER BUCKET*
  
- 561. Bridgebuilders: How Government Can Transcend Boundaries to Solve Big Problems, by William D. Eggers and Donald F. Kettl (5/27/2023) – *VOLUNTEER BUCKET*
  
- 656. The Color of Death: A Novel, by Trey Gowdy and Christopher Greyson (9/9/2025) – *VOLUNTEER BUCKET*

### PAILS IN COMPARISON (PIC):

- PIC 2. Roar: Into the Second Half of Your Life (Before It's Too Late), by Michael Clinton (3/1/2022)



- PIC 34. Jesus Revolution (The Movie, 3/3/2023) – *VOLUNTEER BUCKET*

- PIC 90. Everything to Gain: Making the Most of the Rest of Your Life, by Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter (1/5/2025) - *VOLUNTEER BUCKET*

### #13. THE CRISIS BUCKET (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

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- ☐ 78. Judgment: How Winning Leaders Make Great Calls  
Tichy, Noel M. and Bennis, Warren G. (3/3/2008)
  
- ☐ 137. The Noticer: Sometimes, All a Person Needs Is a Little Perspective  
Andrews, Andy (4/27/2009)
  
- ☐ 155. Fearless: Imagine Your Life Without Fear  
Lucado, Max (9/14/2009)
  
- ☐ 221. Eisenhower 1956: The President's Year of Crisis—Suez and the Brink of War  
Nichols, David A. (6/30/2011)
  
- ☐ 252. \*The Presidents Club: Inside the World's Most Exclusive Fraternity  
Gibbs, Nancy and Duff, Michael (7/5/2012) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ☐ 348. 100 Deadly Skills: The SEAL Operative's Guide to Eluding Pursuers, Evading Capture, and Surviving Any Dangerous Situation, by Clint Emerson, Navy SEAL, Ret. (8/27/16)
  
- ☐ 399. Protected! A True Life Story of God's Word Smuggled Behind the Iron Curtain—and the Influence of a "Tremendous" Man, by Bob Kelly (1/15/19)
  
- ☐ 453. How Ike Led: The Principles Behind Eisenhower's Biggest Decisions, by Susan Eisenhower (11/24/2020)
  
- ☐ 464. Succession: Seven Practices to Navigate Mission-Critical Leadership Transitions, by Peter Greer and Doug Fagerstrom (2/23/2021)
  
- ☐ 468. Roe V. Wade (film), Jon Voight (actor) and Nick Loeb (director and actor) - (1 hour, 51 minutes) – (4/2/2021)
  
- ☐ 477. No Way Home: The Crisis of Homelessness and How to Fix It with Intelligence and Humanity, by Wayne Winegarden, Joseph Tartakovsky, Kerry Jackson, and Christopher F. Rufo (6/22/2021) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
  
- ☐ 478. Live Large! 7 Lasting Lessons for Navigating Life's Twists & Turns, by Bob Lonac (6/29/2021)
  
- ☐ 493A. Harsh Grief, Gentle Hope: From the Agony of a Mother's Greatest Loss on Earth, Comes the Divine Comfort and Hope From Heaven, by Mary White (11/8/2021)
  
- ☐ 493B. A Woman's Journey: Healing from Domestic Abuse (Oasis Bible Study Book One: Restoring Hope and Dignity), by Diane Schnickels (11/8/2021)
  
- ☐ 512. Ending Human Trafficking: A Handbook of Strategies for the Church Today, by Shayne Moore, Sandra Morgan, and Kimberly McOwen Yim (4/5/2022)
  
- ☐ 516. Crazy Ambulance Tales, by Chris Treece (5/3/2022)
  
- ☐ 519. Dead in the Water: A True Story of Hijacking, Murder, and a Global Maritime Conspiracy, by Matthew Campbell and Kit Chellel (6/9/2022)

❑ 522. One Damn Thing After Another: Memoirs of an Attorney General, by William P. Barr (7/9/2022)

**\*TOP-10 BOOK**



*Oh, my!*  
John Pearson reviewed

**13**

**“Crisis Buckets” books in 2022-23!**  
*A sign of the times?*

❑ 526. Paradise Found: A High School Football Team's Rise from the Ashes, by Bill Plaschke (8/29/2022)

**\*TOP-10 BOOK**

❑ 547. Burn the Boats: Toss Plan B Overboard and Unleash Your Full Potential, by Matt Higgins (2/18/2023) – *CRISIS BUCKET*

❑ 553. Fool Me Once: Scams, Stories, and Secrets from the Trillion-Dollar Fraud Industry, by Kelly Richmond Pope (4/1/2023) – *CRISIS BUCKET*

❑ 554A. The Case for Easter: A Journalist Investigates Evidence for the Resurrection, by Lee Strobel (4/7/2023) – *CRISIS BUCKET*

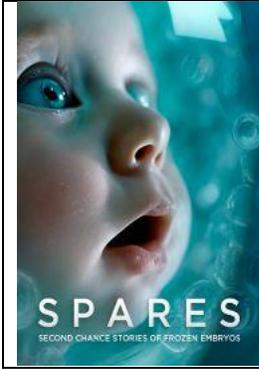
❑ 582. Anansi's Gold: The Man Who Looted the West, Outfoxed Washington, and Swindled the World, by Yepoka Yeebo (11/7/2023) – *CRISIS BUCKET*

❑ 624A. The Journey of Leadership: How CEOs Learn to Lead from the Inside Out, by Dana Maor, Hans-Werner Kaas, Kurt Strovink, and Ramesh Srinivasan (Senior Partners at McKinsey & Company (10/10/2024) - *CRISIS BUCKET*

❑ 624B. Leading People from the Middle: The Universal Mission of Heart and Mind, by William P. Robinson (10/10/2024) - *CRISIS BUCKET*

❑ 624C. Lead Bigger: The Transformative Power of Inclusion, by Anne Chow (10/10/2024) - *CRISIS BUCKET*

❑ 624D. Attentive Church Leadership: Listening and Leading in a World We've Never Known, by Kevin G. Ford and Jim Singleton (10/10/2024) - *CRISIS BUCKET*



❑ 628. John Pearson Interviews Jason Pearson on His New Documentary Film:

### “Spares: Second Chance Stories of Frozen Embryos”

(11/26/2024) – *CRISIS BUCKET*

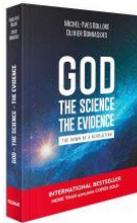
❑ 629. When Kingdom Light Shines: Stories That Inspire Faith, by Mark Ellis (12/3/2024) – *CRISIS BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**

❑ 630. Glad I Didn't Know: Lessons Learned Through Life's Challenges and Unexpected Blessings, by Vonna Laue (12/11/2024) – *CRISIS BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**

❑ 635. The Purpose Code: How to Unlock Meaning, Maximize Happiness, and Leave a Lasting Legacy, by Jordan Grumet, MD (1/17/2025) – *CRISIS BUCKET*

❑ 664. The Shroud of Turin: An Immersive Experience (“review” of my visit to this stunning new museum at the Crystal Cathedral Campus, Garden Grove, Calif.) (12/4/2025) – *CRISIS BUCKET*

➔ **NOTE!** See PIC #110 for the related review of the new book, GOD: The Science, The Evidence—The Dawn of a Revolution, by Michel-Yves Bolloré and Olivier Bonnassies, on the *Pails in Comparison Blog*. **\*TOP-10 BOOK**



#### RATIONAL ARGUMENTS

“The goal of this book is to gather into one volume the most up-to-date rational arguments for the possible existence of a Creator God.”

#### PAILS IN COMPARISON (PIC):

❑ PIC 13. Evangelical Exodus: Evangelical Seminarians and Their Paths to Rome, by Douglas M. Beaumont, Editor, and Francis J. Beckwith, Foreword (6/22/2022) – *CRISIS BUCKET*

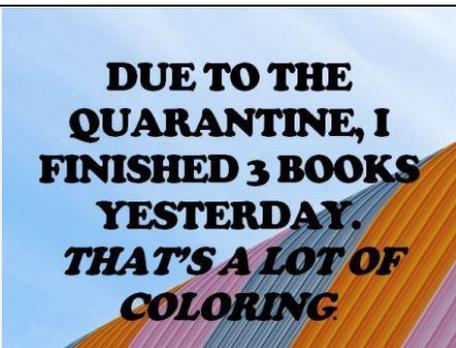
❑ PIC 43. Count Zinzendorf and the Spirit of the Moravians, by Paul Wemmer (6/1/2023) – *CRISIS BUCKET*

❑ PIC 47. Finishing Well, by Ron Cline (7/11/2023) – *CRISIS BUCKET*

- ❑ PIC 56. How Not to Age: The Scientific Approach to Getting Healthier as You Get Older, by Michael Greger, M.D., FACLM (12/5/2023) – *CRISIS BUCKET*
  
- ❑ PIC 71. A Guide to Prayer for Ministers and Other Servants, by Rueben P. Job and Norman Shawchuck (5/15/2024) – [Special Tribute to Tony Danhelka](#) (19xx-2024) - *CRISIS BUCKET*
  
- ❑ PIC 72. Can You See The Cross From There? Grace and Grit For Sufferers and Sinners, by Terry Powell (5/22/2024) - *CRISIS BUCKET*
  
- ❑ PIC 74. The Reckoning: A Novel, by John Grisham (6/27/2024) - *CRISIS BUCKET*
  
- ❑ PIC 81. The House at Channing and Moonsail, by Mark Ellis (9/25/2024) - *CRISIS BUCKET*
  
- ❑ PIC 92. The Purpose Code: How to Unlock Meaning, Maximize Happiness, and Leave a Lasting Legacy, by Jordan Grumet, MD (Jan. 16, 2025) - *CRISIS BUCKET*
  
- ❑ PIC 94. MISTAKE MAKING: 16 BOOKS FEATURED! (Watch for future reviews). Mistakes Leaders Make, by Dave Kraft (2/24/2025) - *CRISIS BUCKET*  
[BOOK #1 OF 16 IN THE MISTAKE-MAKING SERIES](#)
  
- ❑ PIC 106. Mistakes that Made Me a Millionaire: How to Transform Setbacks into Extraordinary Success, by Kim Perell (8/13/2025) - *CRISIS BUCKET*  
[BOOK #2 OF 16 IN THE MISTAKE-MAKING SERIES](#)
  
- ❑ PIC 109. Cracked Vessels: True Stories of Real Life Restoration, by J.P. and Diana Spitz with Mark Ellis (11/21/2025) - *CRISIS BUCKET*

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## “30 Books to Delegate During This Crisis...And the Next Crisis”



During the COVID-19 marathon, John curated a list of **“30 Books to Delegate During This Crisis...And the Next Crisis.”** To download from the Book Bucket, click below.

The nominees include some obvious gems, including *The Checklist Manifesto* and *How the Mighty Fall*, plus a few unexpected picks, such as *The Boys in the Boat* and *Leadership Prayers*. The 12-page PDF includes links to the reviews of all 30 books.

Download the list at: <https://www.managementbuckets.com/book-bucket>

## THE CORPORATION

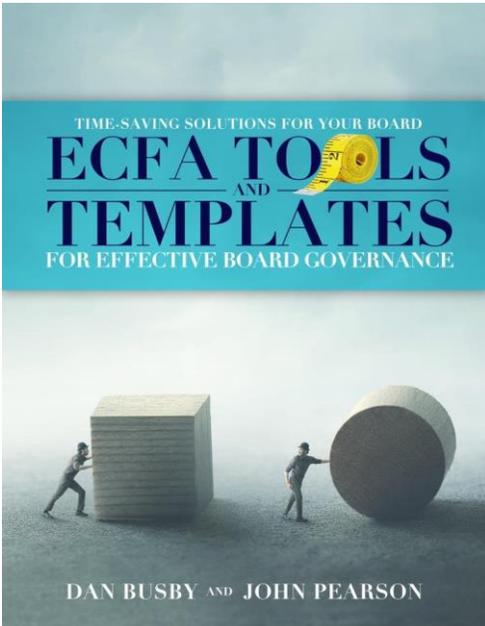
To read a book review (and order the book), click on  
<https://urgentink.blogspot.com/>

**Top-10 Book** = Named one of the "Top-10 Books" reviewed in that year by John Pearson  
**PIC** = from the *Pails in Comparison* blog (new in 2022)

**Book-of-the-Year** = Named "Book-of-the-Year" by John Pearson  
The 2026 honors will be announced December 31, 2026, in *Your Weekly Staff Meeting eNews*.

### #14. THE BOARD BUCKET (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

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**New in 2019 from ECFAPress!**

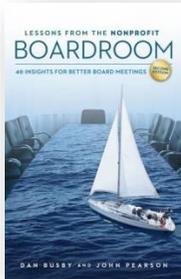
**ECFA Tools and Templates for Effective Board Governance**  
*Time-Saving Solutions for Your Board*  
Dan Busby and John Pearson

"...full of practical, helpful tools to assist in the development of excellent board governance."  
*Patrick C. Clements*

- 11. *The Imperfect Board Member: Discovering the Seven Disciplines of Governance Excellence*  
Brown, Jim (11/6/2006)
  
- 28. *Nonprofit Board Answer Book*  
Andringa, Robert and Engstrom, Ted (3/12/2007)
  
- 50. *Good Governance for Nonprofits: Developing Principles and Policies for an Effective Board*  
Laughlin, Frederic L. and Andringa, Robert C. (8/20/2007)
  
- 58. *Nonprofit Board Answer Book: A Practical Guide for Board Members and Chief Executives (Second Edition)* –  
BoardSource (10/15/2007)
  
- 88. *The Perfect Search: What Every Nonprofit Board Member Needs to Know About Hiring Their Next CEO* -  
Thomas, Tommy with Isbister, Nick and Andringa, Robert C. (5/12/2008)
  
- 123. *The Leader's Legacy*  
McKenna, David L. (1/20/2009)

- ❑ 170 \*Owning Up: The 14 Questions Every Board Member Needs to Ask  
Charan, Ram (1/11/2010) **Top-10 Book**  
→ See John's 14 blogs for the 14 questions at the ECFA Governance Blogsite:  
<https://ecfagovernance.blogspot.com/2020/08/index-to-ram-charans-14-questions-3.html>
  
- ❑ 198. Governance as Leadership: Reframing the Work of Nonprofit Boards  
Chait, Richard P.; Ryan, William P. and Taylor, Barbara E. (10/9/2010)
  
- ❑ 207. Stewards of a Sacred Trust: CEO Selection, Transition and Development for Boards of Christ-centered Organizations - McKenna, David L. (1/28/2011)
  
- ❑ 212. The Hero's Farewell: What Happens When CEOs Retire  
Sonnenfeld, Jeffrey (3/22/2011)
  
- ❑ 226. Boards That Make a Difference: A New Design for Leadership in Nonprofit Organizations  
Carver, John (8/12/2011)
  
- ❑ 240. Boost! 52 Infusions of Wisdom to Revolutionize the Way You Think and Live.  
Curry, Dean (1/6/2012)
  
- ❑ 249. The Nonprofit Board Answer Book: A Practical Guide for Board Members and Chief Executives (3rd Edition)  
BoardSource (5/22/2012)
  
- ❑ 253. Board Member Orientation: The Concise and Complete Guide to Nonprofit Board Service  
Batts, Michael E. (7/12/2012)
  
- ❑ 260. \*ECFA Governance Toolbox Series No. 1: Recruiting Board Members (DVD, Viewing Guide & Facilitator Guide) - ECFA (10/30/2012) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 244. What Makes Great Boards Great (*Harvard Business Review* article)  
Sonnenfeld, Jeffrey (3/15/2012)
  
- ❑ 276. ECFA Governance Toolbox Series No. 2: Balancing Board Roles – Understanding the 3 Board Hats: Governance, Volunteer, Participant (DVD, Viewing Guide & Facilitator Guide) – ECFA (5/8/2013) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 284. Policy vs. Paper Clips: How Using the Corporate Model Makes a Nonprofit Board More Efficient & Effective (3rd Edition), by Eugene H. Fram with Vicki Brown (8/27/2013)
  
- ❑ 295. Boards That Lead: When to Take Charge, When to Partner, and When to Stay Out of the Way  
by Ram Charan, Dennis Carey and Michael Useem (3/28/2014) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ❑ 311A. Serving as a Board Member: Practical Guidance for Directors of Christian Ministries  
by John Pellowe (11/6/14)
  
- ❑ 311B. Best Practices for Effective Boards  
by E. LeBron Fairbanks, Dwight M. Gunter II, and James R. Cauchenour (11/6/14)
  
- ❑ 311C. Board Essentials: 12 Best Practices of Nonprofit Boards  
by David L. Coleman (11/6/14)

- ❑ 311D. Ten Basic Responsibilities of Nonprofit Boards (Second Edition)  
by Richard T. Ingram (11/6/14)
- ❑ 311E. ECFA 3rd Annual Nonprofit Governance Survey  
Published by ECFA (11/6/14)
- ❑ 325A. ECFA Governance Toolbox Series No. 3: Addressing Board and Organizational Conflicts of Interest—  
Avoiding Trouble, Trouble, Trouble With Related-Party Transactions  
Published by ECFA (5/13/15)
- ❑ 325B. The Invisible Gorilla: And Other Ways Our Intuitions Deceive Us,  
by Christopher F. Chabris and Daniel Dimons (5/13/15)
- ❑ 352A. Called to Serve: Creating and Nurturing the Effective Volunteer Board  
by Max De Pree (12/7/16) **Top-10 Book**  
→ Follow John Pearson's 30-blog series from the book at:  
<http://ecfagovernance.blogspot.com/2017/10/called-to-serve-no-board-detail-is-too.html>
- ❑ 352B. Going for Impact: The Nonprofit Director's Essential Guidebook  
by Eugene H. Fram with Vicki Brown (12/7/16)
- ❑ 363. Call of the Chair: Leading the Board of the Christ-centered Ministry  
David L. McKenna (6/28/17) **Top-10 Book**



**Second Edition: Hot-off-the-Press!  
December 2018**

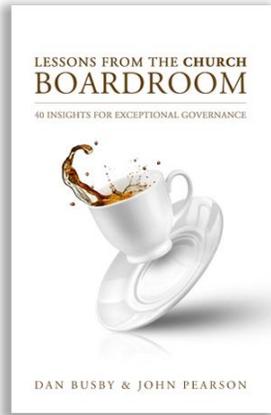
- ❑ 373. Lessons From the Nonprofit Boardroom: 40 Insights for  
Better Board Meetings, by Dan Busby and John Pearson (11/20/17)  
**Top-10 Book**

Follow 40 guest bloggers for “40 Blogs. 40 Wednesdays.”  
<http://nonprofitboardroom.blogspot.com/>

**Order at Amazon:**  
<https://amzn.to/2QVRbKc>

- ❑ 379. \*ECFA Governance Toolbox Series No. 4: Succession Planning – 11 Principles for Successful Successions:  
“Every CEO is an Interim CEO.” Produced by ECFAPress (2/26/18) **Top-10 Book**
- ❑ 382B. Tools and Templates for Effective Board Governance: Time-Saving Solutions for the Nonprofit Board, by  
John Pearson (4/18/18) - (Watch for an updated version in 2019, by Dan Busby and John Pearson)
- ❑ 401. The Council: A Biblical Perspective on Board Governance, by Gary G. Hoag, Wesley K. Willmer, and  
Gregory J. Henson (2/8/19)

- ☐ 402. *Lessons From the Church Boardroom: 40 Insights for Exceptional Governance*, by Dan Busby and John Pearson (2/20/19) **Top-10 Book**



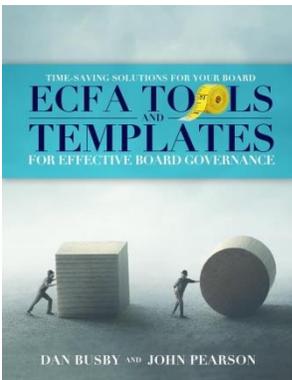
**Second Edition: Hot-off-the-Press! February 2019**

Follow 40 guest bloggers for “40 Blogs. 40 Wednesdays.”  
<https://churchboardroom.blogspot.com/>

**Part 1: The Powerful Impact of Highly Engaged Boards**

- Would you trust a surgeon who stopped learning? How about a church board member who stopped learning? (Lesson 1)
- What’s the “Gold Standard Question” to ask after every board meeting? (Lesson 2)
- Andrew Murray: “Humility is the only soil in which the graces take root; the lack of humility is the sufficient explanation of every defect and failure.” (Lesson 3: Guarding Your Pastor’s Soul—a must-read chapter)

- ☐ 415. *ECFA Tools and Templates for Effective Board Governance: Time-Saving Solutions for Your Board*, by Dan Busby and John Pearson (10/9/19) **Top-10 Book**



**New in 2019 from ECFAPress!**

**Follow the blog: 22 tools and templates**

<https://ecfagovernance.blogspot.com/2020/03/index-to-22-time-saving-governance.html>

- ☐ 421. *More Lessons From the Nonprofit Boardroom: Effectiveness, Excellence, Elephants!* by Dan Busby and John Pearson (12/9/19) **Top-10 Book**



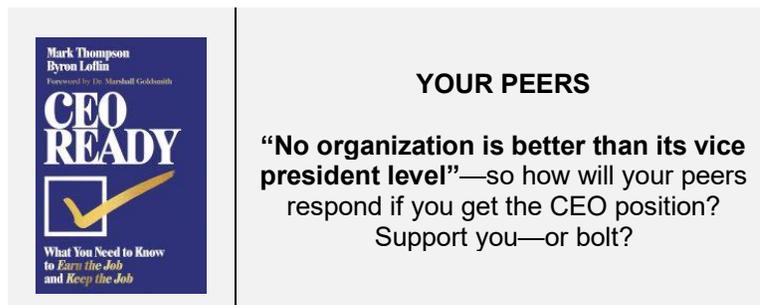
**New in 2019 from ECFAPress!**

**Follow the blog: 40 guest bloggers!**

- Lesson 32: There Are Two Things You Should Never Joke About—#1: Prayer
- Lesson 33: There Are Two Things You Should Never Joke About—#2: Fundraising

<https://morelessonsnonprofitboardroom.blogspot.com/>

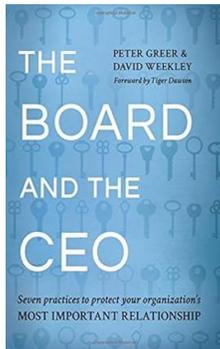
- ❑ 448A. Maximizing Board Effectiveness: A Practical Guide for Adaptive Governance, by James C. Galvin (9/18/2020)
- ❑ 484. Let Us Prey, Revised Edition: The Plague of Narcissist Pastors and What We Can Do About It, by Darrell Puls (8/12/2021)
- ❑ 531. Blog: “Dan Busby’s Legacy of Books: Brief Mention of 7 Noteworthy Books” (10/10/2022)
- ❑ 560. Boundless: The Rise, Fall, and Escape of Carlos Ghosn, by Nick Kostov and Sean McLain (5/22/2023) – *BOARD BUCKET*
- ❑ 583. Be the Unicorn: 12 Data-Driven Habits that Separate the Best Leaders from the Rest, by William Vanderbloemen (11/15/2023) – *BOARD BUCKET*
- ❑ 603. Lost in Transition: Lessons from the Most Disastrous & Successful Ministry Successions, by Steve Woodworth with James Lund (4/11/2024) - *BOARD BUCKET* **TOP-10 BOOK**
- ❑ 620. The Culturally Conscious Board: Setting the Boardroom Table for Impact, by Jennifer M. Jukanovich and Russell W. West (9/9/2024) - *BOARD BUCKET* **TOP-10 BOOK**
- ❑ 663. CEO Ready: What You Need to Know to Earn the Job—and Keep the Job by Mark Thompson and Byron Loflin (11/25/2025) – *BOARD BUCKET* **TOP-10 BOOK**



### **PAILS IN COMPARISON (PIC):**

- ❑ PIC 40. Three Dimensions of Leadership: Practical Insight on Management, Finance, and Boards of Churches and Christian Organizations, by Olan Hendrix, with the foreword by Ted Engstrom and John Maxwell (4/20/23) – Written as a Special Tribute to Olan Hendrix (1931-2023) – *BOARD BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 53. Unhealthy Church Boards: Bringing Health to Unhealthy Ministries (For Churches in Transition, Book 2 of 3), by Dennis Baker, David C. Fisher, and John Vawter (11/14/2023) – *BOARD BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 54. Church Board Training Manual: For Churches in Transition (Book 1 of 3), by Dennis Baker and John Vawter (11/21/2023) – *BOARD BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 55. Transforming Church Boards (For Churches in Transition, Book 3 of 3), by Dennis Baker, David C. Fisher, and John Vawter (11/27/2023) – *BOARD BUCKET*

- ☐ PIC 108. *The Board and the CEO: Seven Practices to Protect Your Organization's Most Important Relationship*, by Peter Greer and David Weekley (9/3/2025) - *BOARD BUCKET*



**18 BEST BOARD BOOKS + ONE!**

Read my review to learn why I added  
***The Board and the CEO*** to my list of  
*18 Best Board Books*.

<https://pailsincomparison.blogspot.com/2025/11/the-board-and-ceo.html>

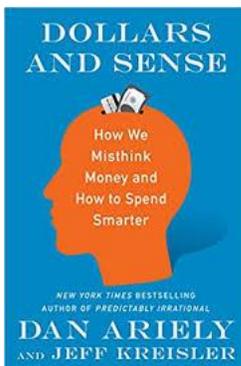
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**#15. THE BUDGET BUCKET** (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

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- ☐ 9. *The Minister's MBA: Essential Business Tools for Maximum Ministry Success*  
Babbes, George S. and Zigarelli, Michael (10/23/2006)
- ☐ 83. *Cents & Sensibility: How Couples Can Agree About Money*  
Palmer, Scott and Bethany (4/7/2008)
- ☐ 91. *Zone of Insolvency: How Nonprofits Avoid Hidden Liabilities and Build Financial Strength*  
Mattocks, Ron (6/2/2008)
- ☐ 106. *The Best Investment Advice I Ever Received*  
Claman, Liz (9/22/2008)
- ☐ 131. *First Comes Love, Then Comes Money: A Couple's Guide to Financial Communication*  
Palmer, Scott and Bethany (3/17/2009)
- ☐ 266A. *Zondervan 2013 Church and Nonprofit Tax & Financial Guide*  
Busby, Dan; Martin, J. Michael and Van Drunen, John (1/16/2013)
- ☐ 266B. *Zondervan 2013 Minister's Tax & Financial Guide*  
Busby, Dan; Martin, J. Michael and Van Drunen, John (1/16/2013)
- ☐ 293A. *Zondervan 2014 Minister's Tax & Financial Guide (for 2013 returns)*, by Dan Busby, CPA, J. Michael Martin, JD, and John Van Drunen, JD, CPA
- ☐ 293B. *Zondervan 2014 Church and Nonprofit Tax & Financial Guide (for 2013 returns)*  
by Dan Busby, CPA, J. Michael Martin, JD, and John Van Drunen, JD, CPA
- ☐ 293C. *The 5 Money Personalities: Speaking the Same Love and Money Language*  
by Scott and Bethany Palmer

- ❑ 317A. Zondervan 2015 Minister's Tax & Financial Guide (for 2014 returns), by Dan Busby, CPA, J. Michael Martin, JD, and John Van Drunen, JD, CPA (2/4/15)
- ❑ 317B. Zondervan 2015 Church and Nonprofit Tax & Financial Guide (for 2014 returns) by Dan Busby, CPA, J. Michael Martin, JD, and John Van Drunen, JD, CPA (2/4/15)
- ❑ 317C. The 5 Money Conversations to Have With Your Kids at Every Age and Stage, by Scott and Bethany Palmer (2/4/15)
- ❑ 331B. ECFA Nonprofit Financial Management Survey 1.0, published by ECFA (10/14/15)  
➔ download at <https://www.ecfa.org/Surveys.aspx>
- ❑ 340C. Zondervan 2016 Church and Nonprofit Tax & Financial Guide for 2015 Returns By Dan Busby, Michael Martin, and John Van Drunen (3/21/16)
- ❑ 340D. Zondervan 2016 Minister's Tax & Financial Guide for 2015 Returns By Dan Busby, Michael Martin, and John Van Drunen (3/21/16)
- ❑ 355A. Zondervan 2017 Church and Nonprofit Tax & Financial Guide for 2016 Returns, by Dan Busby, Michael Martin, and John Van Drunen (2/3/17)
- ❑ 355B. Zondervan 2017 Minister's Tax & Financial Guide for 2016 Returns, by Dan Busby, Michael Martin, and John Van Drunen (2/3/17)
- ❑ 355C. Jesus' Terrible Financial Advice: Flipping the Tables on Peace, Prosperity, and the Pursuit of Happiness, by John Thornton (2/3/17)
- ❑ 374. The God Guarantee: Finding Freedom From the Fear of Not Having Enough, by Jack Alexander (12/6/17)
- ❑ 377A. Dollars and Sense: How We Misthink Money and How to Spend Smarter, by Dr. Dan Ariely and Jeff Kreisler (2/14/18)



**LOL!** What's not to like when the co-author of this book describes himself as "just another Princeton-educated lawyer turned award-winning comedian, author, speaker, and advocate for behavioral economics."

**Here are my two take-aways from this book:**

- #1. I've been misthinking about money. *Yikes*. This book has immediately changed the way I think about how I spend money—and I'm not a spender.
- #2. Besides being well-researched and very practical, this book is hilarious!

- ❑ 377B. Zondervan 2018 Church and Nonprofit Tax and Financial Guide: For 2017 Tax Returns, by Dan Busby, Vonna Laue, Michael Martin, and John Van Drunen (2/14/18)
- ❑ 377C. Zondervan 2018 Minister's Tax and Financial Guide: For 2017 Tax Returns, by Dan Busby, Vonna Laue, Michael Martin, and John Van Drunen (2/14/18)

- ❑ 400A. Zondervan 2019 Church and Nonprofit Tax and Financial Guide: For 2018 Tax Returns, by Dan Busby, Vonna Laue, Michael Martin, and John Van Drunen (1/25/19)
- ❑ 400B. Zondervan 2019 Minister's Tax and Financial Guide: For 2018 Tax Returns, by Dan Busby, Vonna Laue, Michael Martin, and John Van Drunen (1/25/19)
- ❑ 429B. Zondervan 2020 Church and Nonprofit Tax and Financial Guide: For 2019 Tax Returns, by Dan Busby and Michael Martin (2/16/2020)
- ❑ 429C. Zondervan 2020 Minister's Tax and Financial Guide: For 2019 Tax Returns, by Dan Busby and Michael Martin (2/16/2020)
- ❑ 502. Making Numbers Count: The Art and Science of Communicating Numbers, by Chip Heath and Karla Starr (1/12/2022) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- ❑ 574. MoneyZen: The Secret to Finding Your "Enough" by Manisha Thakor (8/30/2023) – *BUDGET BUCKET*
- ❑ 596. The 12-Week MBA: Learn the Skills You Need to Lead in Business Today, by Bjorn Billhardt and Nathan Kracklauer (2/21/2024) – *BUDGET BUCKET*

#### **PAILS IN COMPARISON (PIC):**

- ❑ PIC 9A. 2022 Church & Nonprofit Tax & Financial Guide (for 2021 returns), by Michael Martin (4/15/2022)
- ❑ PIC 9B. 2022 Minister's Tax & Financial Guide (for 2021 returns), by Michael Martin (4/15/2022)
- ❑ PIC 79. Experiencing The American Dream: How to Invest Your Time, Energy, and Money to Create an Extraordinary Life, by Mark Matson (9/2/2024) - *BUDGET BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 68. Nonprofit Financial Oversight: The Concise and Complete Guide for Boards and Finance Committees, by Michael E. Batts CPA (4/4/2024) - *BUDGET BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 73. **Special Tribute to Pat Clements**, who was also the author of two books: *Proven Concepts of Church Building and Finance* and *Financial Freedom: More Than Being Debt Free—Tools for Managing Your Personal Finances* (6/26/2024) - *BUDGET BUCKET*

## #16. THE DELEGATION BUCKET (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

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- ☐ 7. Joy at Work: A Revolutionary Approach to Fun on the Job  
Bakke, Dennis (10/9/2006) **BOOK-OF-THE-YEAR**
  
- ☐ 12. The One Minute Manager Meets the Monkey  
Blanchard, Ken and Oncken Jr., William (11/13/2006)
  
- ☐ 119. Mastering the Management Buckets: 20 Critical Competencies for Leading Your Business or Nonprofit -  
Pearson, John (12/22/2008)
  
- ☐ 153. Spiritual Leadership: Principles of Excellence for Every Believer  
Sanders, J. Oswald (8/26/2009)
  
- ☐ 202. A Message to Garcia  
Hubbard, Elbert (11/24/2010)
  
- ☐ 272. The Decision Maker: Unlock the Potential of Everyone in Your Organization One Decision at a Time Bakke,  
Dennis (3/28/2013) **Top-10 Book**
  
- ☐ 273. How to Delegate (CD, 39 min.)  
Mackenzie, Alec (4/2/2013)
  
- ☐ 356A. Time Management Made (Stupidly) Easy: A Modestly Simple Guide to Time Management  
Michael R. Clarke (3/2/17)
  
- ☐ 356B (reminder!). How to Delegate (CD, 39 min.)  
Mackenzie, Alec (4/2/2013)
  
- ☐ 366. Top Ten Ways to Be a Great Leader, by Hans Finzel (8/18/17)
  
- ☐ 388B. "What Do CEOs Actually Do?" (*Harvard Business Review*, July-August 2018), by Michael E. Porter and  
Nitin Nohria (7/10/18)
  
- ☐ 414. The ONE Thing: The Surprisingly Simple Truth Behind Extraordinary Results - (Rerun: Issue 342), by Gary  
Keller with Jay Papasan (9/16/19)
  
- ☐ 418. No! A Guide for Busy People: Banish Busyness and Focus on What Matters Most, by Doug Fields (11/11/19)  
**Top-10 Book**



## 2020 Book-of-the-Year!

❑ Issue No. 432 (3/26/2020)

### THE ADVICE TRAP

**Be Humble, Stay Curious & Change the Way You Lead Forever**

by Michael Bungay Stanier

*DELEGATION BUCKET*

Michael Bungay Stanier says “Your job is to make your coaching an everyday interaction.” He quotes a colleague, “**Coaching is no longer an event. It’s a way of being with each other.**” And get this: “Coaching is no longer a one-off, occasional, ‘come into my office so I can coach you’ way of managing someone.”

During this current COVID-19 crisis (and the next crisis, and the next crisis...), *The Advice Trap* is absolutely the first book you and your team should read. Now. Today. The author’s coaching principles are easy-to-remember:

1. **Be Lazy** (“...about jumping in and solving other people’s problems for them Just stop it!”)
2. **Be Curious** (Tame your Advice Monster by “staying curious and managing the process of the conversation.” This is the essential principle.)
3. **Be Often** (You can be more coach-like outside of the “hierarchical, formal event.” Think meetings, phone calls, Zoom calls, email—all forms of communication.)

❑ 481. *The Motive: Why So Many Leaders Abdicate Their Most Important Responsibilities*, by Patrick M. Lencioni (7/22/2021) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**

❑ 552. *You're the Leader. Now What? Leadership Lessons from Mayo Clinic*, by Dr. Richard Winters (3/24/2023) – *DELEGATION BUCKET*

❑ 605. *Uptime: A Practical Guide to Personal Productivity and Wellbeing*, by Laura Mae Martin (4/24/2024) - *DELEGATION BUCKET*

❑ 651. *The Guns of August: The Pulitzer Prize-Winning Classic About the Outbreak of World War I*, by Barbara W. Tuchman (7/11/2025) – *DELEGATION BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**

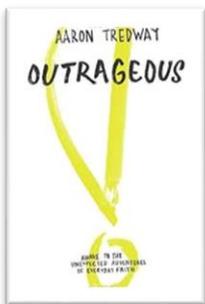
### PAILS IN COMPARISON (PIC):

❑ PIC 86. *ChatGPT and the Future of AI: The Deep Language Revolution*, by Terrence J. Sejnowski (11/21/2024) - *DELEGATION BUCKET*

## #17. THE OPERATIONS BUCKET (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

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- 21. The Starfish and the Spider: The Unstoppable Power of Leaderless Organizations  
Brafman, Ori and Beckstrom, Rod A. (1/22/2007)
  
- 38. If You Haven't Got the Time to Do It Right...When Will You Find the Time to Do It Over?  
Mayer, Jeffrey J. (5/21/2007)
  
- 43. The Unnatural Act of Management: When the Great Leader's Work Is Done, the People Say "We Did It Ourselves" - Suters, Everett T. (6/25/2007)
  
- 59. Wikinomics: How Mass Collaboration Changes Everything  
Tapscott, Don and Williams, Anthony D. (10/22/2007)
  
- 64. Managing Transitions: Making the Most of Change  
Bridges, William (11/26/2007)
  
- 114. The Essential Engstrom: Proven Principles of Leadership  
Engstrom, Ted W. (11/17/2008)
  
- 152. Success Scenarios (24 core professional skills training sessions)  
Russell, David (8/19/2009)
  
- 195. \*Operation Mincemeat: How a Dead Man and a Bizarre Plan Fooled the Nazis and Assured an Allied Victory - Macintyre, Ben (9/7/2010) **Top-10 Book**
  
- 230. The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People  
by Stephen R. Covey (9/12/2011)
  
- 347. Be the Director I Could Follow  
by Earl D. Taylor (8/3/16)
  
- 387. Operation Mincemeat: How a Dead Man and a Bizarre Plan Fooled the Nazis and Assured an Allied Victory (Rerun: Issue 195), by Ben Macintyre (6/6/18)



### **Outrageous, by Aaron Tredway**

LOOK UP! Do you tilt toward anonymity—head down, To-Do list imperatives, yet perhaps miss the people God has put in your path? Look up and read Chapter 6, “Ben’s Bunnies,” (hilarious!) and don’t miss Tredway’s quote from Os Guinness (the great-great-great-grandson of the brewer):

**“Our problem is not that we aren’t where we should be, but that we aren’t what we should be where we are.”**

- 448B. From the Inside Out: Leading Where it Matters Most—The How-to Guide to Leading Nonprofits for Impact, by Tom Okarma (9/18/2020)

- ❑ 469. L.A. Cop: Peacemaker in Blue, by Bob Vernon, Former L.A.P.D. Assistant Chief of Police (4/9/2021)
- ❑ 485A. The Bomber Mafia: A Dream, a Temptation, and the Longest Night of the Second World War, by Malcolm Gladwell (8/19/2021) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- ❑ 525B. Both/And Thinking: Embracing Creative Tensions to Solve Your Toughest Problems, by Wendy K. Smith and Marianne W. Lewis (8/9/2022)
- ❑ 536A. A Life In The Day Of: A Strategic Air Command Veteran's Memoirs of The Cold War, by Edward D. Sabol (11/15/2022)
- ❑ 571. Rewired: The McKinsey Guide to Outcompeting in the Age of Digital and AI, by Eric Lamarre, Kate Smaje, and Rodney Zimmel (8/2/2023) – OPERATIONS BUCKET **\*TOP-10 BOOK**



Listen to the “Zoom Review” of *Rewired* with John Reynolds, David Schmidt, and John Pearson.

- ❑ 625. Next Level Nonprofit: Build A Dream Team + Increase Lasting Impact, by Chris Lambert (10/24/2024) - OPERATIONS BUCKET **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- ❑ 631. The Spy and the Traitor: The Greatest Espionage Story of the Cold War, by Ben Macintyre (12/17/2024) - OPERATIONS BUCKET
- ❑ 649. Founders, Keepers: Why Founders Are Built to Fail, and What It Takes to Succeed, by Richard Hagberg, PhD, and Tien Tzuo, with Gabe Weisert (6/19/2025) – OPERATIONS BUCKET

### **PAILS IN COMPARISON (PIC):**

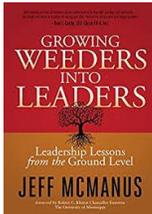
- ❑ PIC 5. Inside Marine One: Four U.S. Presidents, One Proud Marine, and the World's Most Amazing Helicopter, by Col. Ray L'Heureux and Lee Kelley (3/14/2022) – OPERATIONS BUCKET
- ❑ PIC 36. Code Name Blue Wren: The True Story of America's Most Dangerous Female Spy, by Jim Popkin (3/21/2023) – OPERATIONS BUCKET
- ❑ PIC 88. **WE ASK AI** about Leadership Lessons from *The Spy and the Traitor: The Greatest Espionage Story of the Cold War*, by Ben Macintyre (12/13/2024) – OPERATIONS BUCKET

### **#18. THE SYSTEMS BUCKET** (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

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- ❑ 32. The E-Myth Revisited: Why Most Small Businesses Don't Work and What to Do About It Gerber, Michael E. (4/9/2007)
- ❑ 40. The Organized Executive: The Classic Program for Productivity--New Ways to Manage Time, Paper, People and the Digital Office - Winston, Stephanie (6/4/2007)
- ❑ 117. \*Getting Things Done: The Art of Stress-Free Productivity Allen, David (12/8/2008) **Top-10 Book**

- ❑ 162. You're Not the Person I Hired! A CEO's Survival Guide to Hiring Top Talent  
Boydell, Janet; Deutsch, Barry and Remillard, Brad (11/7/2009)
- ❑ 173. \*The Checklist Manifesto: How to Get Things Right  
Gawande, Atul (2/8/2010) **Top-10 Book**
- ❑ 211. Poke the Box: When Was the Last Time You Did Something for the First Time?  
Godin, Seth (3/12/2011)
- ❑ 227 & 228. \*Smart Moves for People in Charge: 130 Checklists to Help You Be a Better Leader  
Deep, Sam and Sussman, Lyle (8/20/2011) **Top-10 Book**
- ❑ 285. Manage Your Day-to-Day: Build Your Routine, Find Your Focus, and Sharpen Your Creative Mind  
Glei, Jocelyn K., Editor (9/9/2013) **Top-10 Book**
- ❑ 349A. Systems Church IT: Strategies and Solutions  
by Nick B. Nicholaou (9/1/16)
- ❑ 356. Time Management Made (Stupidly) Easy: A Modestly Simple Guide to Time Management, by Michael R. Clarke (3/2/17)
- ❑ 365. Leading the Other Way: How to Change the Church Planting World,  
by JD Pearring



**WHAT'S WORSE?** PowerPoint-worthy quotes on almost every page will juice your coaching competencies, like this one from John Maxwell:

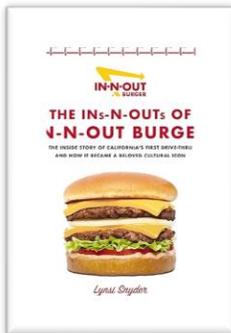
**“What’s worse than training your people and losing them? Not training them and keeping them.”**

- ❑ 371. Growing Weeders Into Leaders: Leadership Lessons from the Ground Level  
Jeff McManus (10/17/17) **Top-10 Book**
- ❑ 388C. “One CEO’s Approach to Managing His Calendar” (Harvard Business Review, July-August 2018), by Daniel McGinn and Sarah Higgins (7/10/18)
- ❑ 427. The Amazon Management System: The Ultimate Digital Business Engine That Creates Extraordinary Value for Both Customers and Shareholders, by Ram Charan and Julia Yang (1/21/2020) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**
- ❑ 457B. Church IT: Using Information Technology for the Mission of the Church, by Nick B. Nicholaou (2019, 2nd Edition) - (12/28/2020)
- ❑ 486A. Strategic Reset on Staff Working Remotely: A Framework for Success, by Nick B. Nicholaou, General Editor (9/2/2021)
- ❑ 486B. Working Remotely: A Framework for Success, by Nick B Nicholaou, General Editor (2/20/2022). Note: This is the second edition, published on Jan. 23, 2022. [See Issue No. 486 \(9/2/2021\) for original review.](#)

- ❑ 490. Made From Scratch: The Legendary Success Story of Texas Roadhouse, by Kent Taylor (10/8/2021)
- ❑ 528. Thriving on Overload: The 5 Powers for Success in a World of Exponential Information, by Ross Dawson (9/8/2022)
- ❑ 576. At the Heart of Management: Process, Tools and the Ubiquitous Exponential Law, by Lino F. Ciceri (9/13/2023) – *SYSTEMS BUCKET*
- ❑ 614. Mastering AI: A Survival Guide to Our Superpowered Future, by Jeremy Kahn (7/13/2024) – *SYSTEMS BUCKET*
- ❑ 655. There's Got to Be a Better Way: How to Deliver Results and Get Rid of the Stuff That Gets in the Way of Real Work, by Nelson P. Reppenning and Donald C. Kieffer (8/28/2025) – *SYSTEMS BUCKET*

### **PAILS IN COMPARISON (PIC):**

- ❑ PIC 22. The Unicorn Within: How Companies Can Create Game-Changing Ventures at Startup Speed, by Linda K. Yates (10/25/2022) – *SYSTEMS BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 29. Wealth Habits: Six Ordinary Steps to Achieve Extraordinary Financial Freedom, by Candy Valentino (1/12/2023) – *SYSTEMS BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 32. Come Up for Air: How Teams Can Leverage Systems and Tools to Stop Drowning in Work, by Nick Sonnenberg (2/14/2023) – *SYSTEMS BUCKET*
- ❑ PIC 52. The Ins-N-Outs of In-N-Out Burger: The Inside Story of California's First Drive-Through and How it Became a Beloved Cultural Icon, by Lynsi Snyder (11/6/2023) – *SYSTEMS BUCKET*



**See my 2<sup>nd</sup> review at John Pearson's Buckets Blog:**

- ❑ 585. The Ins-N-Outs of In-N-Out Burger: The Inside Story of California's First Drive-Through and How it Became a Beloved Cultural Icon, by Lynsi Snyder (11/29/2023)

*ALL 20 BUCKETS!*

- ❑ PIC 65. Read Write Own: Building the Next Era of the Internet, by Chris Dixon (3/5/2024) – *SYSTEMS BUCKET*

## #19. THE PRINTING BUCKET (By Issue Number and Book Review Date) aka: The Communications Bucket, The Speaking & Writing, etc. Bucket

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- 27. How to Get Your Point Across in 30 Seconds--or Less  
Frank, Milo O. (3/5/2007)
  
- 109. \*You've Got to Be Believed to Be Heard: The Complete Book of Speaking in Business and in Life Decker, Bert (10/14/2008) **Top-10 Book**
  
- 130. Barack, Inc. - Winning Business Lessons of the Obama Campaign  
Libert, Barry and Faulk, Rick (3/10/2009)
  
- 176. The Best of Success: A Treasury of Inspiration  
Anderson, Mac & Kelly, Bob (3/9/2010)
  
- 200. Keys to Great Writing  
Wilbers, Stephen (10/27/2010)
  
- 214. Waiting for "Superman" (DVD)  
Guggenheim, David (Director) - (4/14/2011)
  
- 216. \*15 Minutes Including Q&A: A Plan to Save the World From Lousy Presentations  
Asher, Joey (5/4/2011) **Top-10 Book**
  
- 222. Hitler in the Crosshairs: A GI's Story of Courage and Faith  
Woodbridge, John and Possley, Maurice (7/8/2011)
  
- 256. \*How to Deliver a TED Talk: Secrets of the World's Most Inspiring Presentations  
Donovan, Jeremy (9/5/2012) **Top-10 Book**

❑ **439. The Art of Writing: Four Principles for Great Writing that Everyone Needs to Know**, by Peter Yang (6/18/2020) - Note: This review features a Zoom call with commentary by four of John's five grandkids!



John's grandkids join him for a 23-minute Zoom review on *The Art of Writing*.

**ONE OF THE BIG IDEAS IN THE PRINTING BUCKET (aka the Communications Bucket) is to “elevate the power of the written and spoken word and leverage communication tools to create synergy and alignment between our mission, BHAG, strategic plans and programs.”**

**When is the last time you’ve invested one or more hours on improving your writing and speaking?** We mentioned these resources in the Zoom Review (above):

❑ **PUNCH LINE.** *Keys to Great Writing*, by author and writing coach Stephen Wilbers, notes: “Think of the last part of a sentence as a punch line to a joke: It counts more than the beginning and the middle. Your success—both as a writer and a comedian—depends on it.”

❑ **BUMPER STICKERS.** Joey Asher, author of *15 Minutes Including Q&A: A Plan to Save the World From Lousy Presentations*, says your talk should have three big ideas and your three points should be like bumper stickers: short and memorable, supported by stories. “Great speakers [and great writers] use lots of stories.”

❑ **BELIEVABILITY.** “The most important dimension of communication takes place not at the conscious level, but the unconscious level. We’re talking about trust, believability and likeability—the emotional connection.” That’s from Bert Decker, who coaches and trains politicians, Fortune 500 company CEOs and thousands of other people in effective public speaking. Must-read: *You’re Got to Be Believed to Be Heard: The Complete Book of Speaking...in Business and in Life*. Listen to the audio at Libro.fm—just 5 hours and 8 minutes.

❑ **FACTS = BOREDOM.** In his 107-page quick-read, *How to Deliver a TED Talk: Secrets of the World’s Most Inspiring Presentations*, Jeremy Donovan warns: “If you would like to bore people to tears until they tear out their hair and claw their eyes out, then hammer them with facts for the entire 18 minutes of your TED Talk.”

❑ **PAINT A PICTURE.** Which sentence grabs you? “Deficits will badly affect the economy,” or “Deficits will spread a subtle, devastating poison through the economic bloodstream.” Even if you’re not interested in deficits, the “poison” picture has arrested your curiosity. That’s from the “Paint a Picture” chapter in Milo O. Frank’s 128-page power book, *How to Get Your Point Across in 30 Seconds—or Less*.

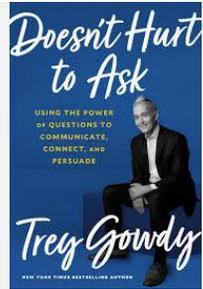
Note: We also mentioned two other books and a WSJ article on the Zoom Review:

❑ **MY IDEAL BOOKSHELF.** This is a gorgeous coffee table book for your office or home by Thessaly La Force (editor) and Jane Mount (illustrator). One hundred people share their ideal bookshelf in two-page spreads: narrative and color drawings of the book spines. You’ll treasure the art and the wisdom, including this from writer David Sedaris: “Sometimes I meet ministers, and I always say to them, ‘If I had a church, I’d read a Tobias Wolff story every week, and then I’d say to people, “Go home.””

❑ **Europe from a Backpack:** *Real Stories from Young Travelers Abroad (From a Backpack series)* by Mark Pearson and Martin Westerman – *PEOPLE BUCKET*

❑ **“Arnold the Grammarian,”** column by Jason Gay in *The Wall Street Journal*, June 13, 2020. – *PEOPLE BUCKET*

❑ 444. *Win Bigly: Persuasion in a World Where Facts Don't Matter*, by Scott Adams (8/1/2020)



## 2020 Book-of-the-Year!

□ Issue No. 450 (10/13/2020)

### **DOESN'T HURT TO ASK: Using the Power of Questions to Communicate, Connect, and Persuade**

by Trey Gowdy

*PRINTING BUCKET (AKA THE COMMUNICATIONS BUCKET)*

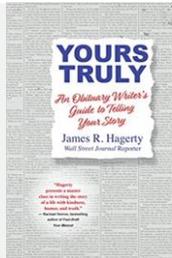
Trey Gowdy, who served eight years in Congress (2011-2019), confesses, “**The mistakes made early in my career were many and largely rooted in two areas: not understanding the dynamics of persuasion and not understanding the nature and characteristics of those I was try to persuade.**”

□ 489. Public Speaking Laws of Success: For Everyone and Every Occasion, by Richard J. Goossen (9/28/2021)

**\*TOP-10 BOOK**

□ 564. Yours Truly: An Obituary Writer's Guide to Telling Your Story, by James R. Haggerty (6/14/2023) –

*PRINTING BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**



“No, telling your story is not another irksome task, like making a will or clearing out the attic. Telling your story is less difficult than you may imagine. Telling your story can be amusing. It can pay off in unexpected ways.” As the only fulltime obituary writer for the *WSJ*, Haggerty suggests you ask yourself three questions:

- What were you trying to do with your life?
- Why?
- And how did it work out?

□ 600. Supercommunicators: How to Unlock the Secret Language of Connection, by Charles Duhigg (3/21/2024) – *PRINTING BUCKET (AKA COMMUNICATIONS BUCKET)*

□ 613. The Power of Instinct: The New Rules of Persuasion in Business and Life, by Leslie Zane (7/6/2024) - *PRINTING BUCKET (AKA COMMUNICATIONS BUCKET)*

□ 634. Don't Say Um: How to Communicate Effectively to Live a Better Life, by Michael Chad Hoepfner (1/9/2025) – *PRINTING BUCKET (AKA COMMUNICATIONS BUCKET)*

□ 650. Speak, Memorably: The Art of Captivating an Audience, by Bill McGowan and Juliana Silva (6/26/2025) – *PRINTING BUCKET (AKA COMMUNICATIONS BUCKET)* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**

### **PAILS IN COMPARISON (PIC):**

□ PIC 15. How to Work a Room (25th Anniversary Edition): The Ultimate Guide to Making Lasting Connections—in Person and Online, by Susan RoAne (8/1/2022) – *PRINTING BUCKET*

□ PIC 41. An Admirable Point: A Brief History of the Exclamation Mark!, by Florence Hazrat (4/29/2023) – *PRINTING BUCKET*

□ PIC 69. Dictionary of Burning Words of Brilliant Writers, by Josiah Hotchkiss Gilbert (4/12/2024) - *PRINTING BUCKET (AKA COMMUNICATIONS BUCKET)*

❑ PIC 70. Phillips' Book of Great Thoughts and Funny Sayings: A Stupendous Collection of Quotes, Quips, Witticisms, Ponderings, and Humorous Comments, by Bob Phillips (5/7/2024) – ALL 20 BUCKETS - PRINTING BUCKET (AKA COMMUNICATIONS BUCKET)



❑ PIC 84. **PODCASTS:** AI Podcasters Are “Reviewing” Pearson’s Reviews? (10/21/2024) - PRINTING BUCKET (AKA COMMUNICATIONS BUCKET)

**14 Podcasts...and Counting.**  
**Watch for more in 2025! [to be reposted in 2026]**

❑ PIC 103. Speak, Memorably: The Art of Captivating an Audience, by Bill McGowan and Juliana Silva (6/26/2025) - PRINTING BUCKET (AKA COMMUNICATIONS BUCKET) **\*TOP-10 BOOK**  
→ Note: See the review in *Your Weekly Staff Meeting* Issue No. 650 (6/26/2025).

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## #20. THE MEETINGS BUCKET (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

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- ❑ 84. Leadership Gold: Lessons I've Learned From a Lifetime of Leading - Maxwell, John C. (4/14/2008)
- ❑ 102. Beyond Bullet Points: Using Microsoft Office PowerPoint 2007 to Create Presentations That Inform, Motivate and Inspire - Atkinson, Cliff (8/25/2008)
- ❑ 103. The Bucket List (DVD) - Reiner, Rob (Director) - (9/1/2008)
- ❑ 146. The Hamster Revolution for Meetings: How to Meet Less and Get More Done Halsey, Vicki and Burrell, Tim (6/30/2009)
- ❑ 236. Death by Meeting: A Leadership Fable...About Solving the Most Painful Problem in Business Lencioni, Patrick (12/2/2011)
- ❑ 259. Read This Before Our Next Meeting: The Modern Meeting Standard for Successful Organizations Pittampalli, Al (10/19/2012)
- ❑ 308. Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption by Laura Hillenbrand (10/2/2014—Read the review to see why it’s in the “Meetings Bucket” category) **Top-10 Book**
- ❑ 367. The Secret to a Good Meeting Is the Meeting Before the Meeting: Lesson 18 from Leadership Gold (Kindle Edition), by John C. Maxwell (8/30/17)
- ❑ 398. “Why Your Meetings Stink—and What to Do About It” (*Harvard Business Review*, January-February 2019), by Steven G. Rogelberg (1/7/19) **Top-10 Book**
- ❑ 413. Parenting in a Screen Saturated Culture: Teaching Healthy Decision-Making to the Smartphone, YouTube, Instagram, Gaming Generation, by Doug Fields and Jonathan McKee (8/29/19)

### **For your next Zoom meeting:**

❑ 436B. “The Secret to a Good Meeting Is the Meeting Before the Meeting,” from Leadership Gold, by John Maxwell - [Short Chapter on Kindle] (5/6/2020)

❑ **451A. Tricks to Appear Smart in Meetings (2021 Day-to-Day Calendar): How to Get by Without Even Trying,**  
by Sarah Cooper (10/25/2020)



❑ 471. Remote, Inc.: How to Thrive at Work . . . Wherever You Are, by Robert C. Pozen and Alexandra Samuel (4/27/2021)



❑ 555B. Nefarious (The film by Writer/Directors Cary Solomon and Chuck Konzelman (4/13/2023) – *MEETINGS BUCKET*

❑ 566. Decision Sprint: The New Way to Innovate into the Unknown and Move from Strategy to Action, by Atif Rafiq (6/28/2023) – *MEETINGS BUCKET* **\*TOP-10 BOOK**  
→ See PIC #45A and PIC #45B

❑ 568. Finish Line: Dispelling Fear, Finding Peace, and Preparing for the End of Your Life, by Robert Wolgemuth (7/12/2023) – *MEETINGS BUCKET*

❑ 581. Know What Matters: Lessons from a Lifetime of Transformations, by Ron Shaich, founder and former CEO of Panera Bread (10/30/2023) – *MEETINGS BUCKET*

❑ 616. Behind Closed Doors: In The Room With Reagan & Nixon (Part 1 of 2), by Ken Khachigian (8/7/2024) – *MEETINGS BUCKET*

❑ 617. Behind Closed Doors: In The Room With Reagan & Nixon (Part 2 of 2), by Ken Khachigian (8/21/2024) - *MEETINGS BUCKET*

❑ 654. In the Right Seat, by Dean Curry (8/14/2025) – *MEETINGS BUCKET*

#### **PAILS IN COMPARISON (PIC):**

❑ PIC 45A. **[PART 1 OF 3 REVIEWS!]** Decision Sprint: The New Way to Innovate into the Unknown and Move from Strategy to Action, by Atif Rafiq (6/20/23) – *MEETINGS BUCKET*

❑ PIC 59. How to Make a Few Billion Dollars, by Brad Jacobs (1/16/2024) – *MEETINGS BUCKET*

**“THE BONUS BUCKET”** (By Issue Number and Book Review Date) – **2017 to 2020 Mini-Reviews**

Issue	Date	Bucket	Book	Author(s)
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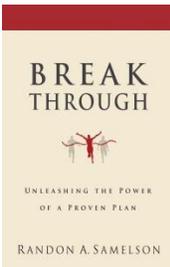
**GIFT BUYING OPTIONS FOR YOUR TEAM MEMBERS, FRIENDS AND FAMILY  
 MINI-REVIEWS**

**2017 Mini-Reviews:**

375A	12/22/17	Results	Don't Step in the Leadership: A Dilbert Book by Scott Adams	Scott Adams
375B	12/22/17	Operations	The Leadership Secrets of Santa: How to Get Big Things Done in YOUR "Workshop"...All Year Long	Eric Harvey, David Cottrell, Al Lucia, and Mike Hourigan
375C	12/22/17	People	Don't Let Jerks Get the Best of You: Advice for Dealing With Difficult People	Paul Meier, M.D.
375D	12/22/17	Strategy	Breakthrough the Ick Factors of Nonprofit Leadership: Discover Your Organization's True Potential	Tom Okarma
375E	12/22/17	<i>Hoopla!</i>	The Big Ideas Notepad: 100 Brainstorming, Mind-Mapping & Awesome Idea-Generating Sheets	Mary Kate McDevitt (Artist)
375F	12/22/17	<i>Hoopla!</i>	Amazon Gift Card (Invest in books for your team members!)	Amazon
375G	12/22/17	Strategy	Change Is Good...You Go First: 21 Ways to Inspire Change	Max Anderson and Tom Feltenstein
375H	12/22/17	Book	How Much Land Does A Man Need (Classics To Go) – Kindle Book	Leo Tolstoy
375I	12/22/17	Team	The Leadership Secrets of Billy Graham	Harold Myra and Marshall Shelley
375J	12/22/17	Book	Raising Your Kids to Love the Lord	Dave Stone
375K	12/22/17	<i>Hoopla!</i>	Cartoons from The New Yorker: 2018 Day-to-Day Calendar	New Yorker Magazine

**2018 Mini-Reviews:**

396A	12/19/18	Book	Trust for Today: 365 Days of Encouragement – A Year With the Trueface Team	Trueface Team
396B	12/19/18	Program	This Is Marketing: You Can't Be Seen Until You Learn to See	Seth Godin
396C	12/19/18	Printing	The Secret Lives of Color	Kassia St. Clair
396D	12/19/18	Crisis	Leaders: Myth and Reality	General Stanley McChrystal, Jeff Eggers and Jason Mangone
396E	12/19/18	Meetings	"I Survived Another Meeting That Should Have Been an Email" (Coffee Mugs and assorted branded items)	Jason Pearson
396F	12/19/18	People	Invitation to Retreat: The Gift and Necessity of Time Away with God	Ruth Haley Barton
396G	12/19/18	Systems	Cartoons from The New Yorker: 2019 Day-to-Day Calendar	New Yorker
396H	12/19/18	Book	42 Seconds: The Jesus Model for Everyday Interactions	Carl Medearis



**Randy Samelson:**

*Answer this brilliant question in 15 words or less (his rules!):*

**KEY LOG QUESTION:** “Other than money, what one opportunity (or obstacle) if captured (or removed) would most advance your mission/vision?”

**2019 Mini-Reviews:**

Issue	Date	Bucket	Book	Author(s)
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>				
<b>Leadership Growth Books for 2020</b>				
<b>(including reruns from previous years)</b>				
423.1	12/20/19	Drucker	<b>52 WEEKS:</b> A Year with Peter Drucker: 52 Weeks of Coaching for Leadership Effectiveness	Joseph A. Maciariello
423.2	12/20/19	Drucker	<b>365 DAYS:</b> The Maxwell Daily Reader: 365 Days of Insight to Develop the Leader Within You and Influence Those Around You	John C. Maxwell
423.3	12/20/19	Drucker	<b>366 DAYS:</b> The Daily Drucker: 366 Days of Insight and Motivation for Getting the Right Things Done	Peter F. Drucker with Joseph A. Maciariello
423.4	12/20/19	Culture	<b>40 WEEKS:</b> Leadership Briefs: Shaping Organizational Culture to Stretch Leadership Capacity	Dick Daniels
423.5	12/20/19	Results	<b>20 WEEKS:</b> Mastering the Management Buckets Workbook: Management Tools, Templates and Tips from John Pearson, with commentary by Jason Pearson	John Pearson and Jason Pearson
423.6	12/20/19	Strategy	The Book of Mistakes	Corinna Luyken
423.7	12/20/19	Strategy	The 5 Book: Where Will You Be Five Years From Today?	Dan Zadra
423.8	12/20/19	Book	Oak Street Treehouse: The Day They Messaged God	Dick Daniels and Mollie Bozarth (illustrator)
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>				
<b>Personal and Spiritual Growth Books for 2020</b>				
<b>(including reruns from previous years)</b>				
424.1	12/28/19	Book	Silencio: Reflective Practices for Nurturing Your Soul	Stephen A. Macchia, Editor
424.2	12/28/19	Book	Trust for Today: 365 Days of Encouragement – A Year With the Trueface Team	Trueface
424.3	12/28/19	Book	Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership: Seeking God in the Crucible of Ministry (Expanded Edition, 2018)	Ruth Haley Barton
424.4	12/28/19	Book	Leadership Prayers	Richard Kriegbaum
424.5	12/28/19	Book	A Diary of Private Prayer: A Devotional Classic	John Baillie
424.6	12/28/19	Book	Steward Leader Meditations: Fifty Devotions for the Leadership Journey	R. Scott Rodin
424.7	12/28/19	Book	Knowing God	J.I. Packer
424.8	12/28/19	Book	The One Year Bible NLT	Tyndale
424.9	12/28/19	Book	The Daily Message: Through the Bible in One Year	Eugene H. Peterson
424.10	12/28/19	Book	The Holy Bible (HCSB) - 73-hour audio version	Holman
424.11	12/28/19	Book	The Life You've Always Wanted: Spiritual Disciplines for Ordinary People	John Ortberg

## ❑ 433. 8 LEADERSHIP FLICKS (4/2/2020)



### 11½ Hours of Movies, Videos & YouTube

Memorable Line:

“Put down the duckie if you wanna play the saxophone.”

#### ❑ #1. HARRIET (2019)

PG-13 (2 hours, 5 minutes) - Amazon Prime -- *PEOPLE BUCKET*

#### ❑ #2. WE HAVE A POPE (2011)

Original title: “Habemus Papam” (Italian with English subtitles)

Unrated (1 hour, 44 minutes) - Amazon Prime – *CRISIS BUCKET*

#### ❑ #3. THE SECRET OF SANTA VITTORIA (1969)

PG-13 (2 hours, 19 minutes) - Amazon Prime – *TEAM BUCKET*

#### ❑ #4. TWELVE O’CLOCK HIGH (1949)

Not Rated (2 hours, 12 minutes) - Amazon Prime – *STRATEGY BUCKET*

#### ❑ #5. IN THE SHADOW OF THE MOON (2007)

PG (1 hour, 39 minutes) - Amazon – *PEOPLE BUCKET*

#### ❑ #6. SESAME STREET: ERNIE PUTS DOWN THE DUCKIE (2003)

G-rated – View on YouTube (5 min.) or Amazon Prime – *HOOPLA! BUCKET*

#### ❑ #7. OUR DAILY BREAD (1934)

Not Rated: (1 hour, 13 minutes) – Amazon (sometimes on YouTube) – *TEAM BUCKET*

#### ❑ #8. MAKE YOUR BED (2014)

Inspirational Talk – View on YouTube

Time: 19 minutes – *OPERATIONS BUCKET*

**“NOT EVERYTHING  
YOU READ ON THE  
INTERNET IS TRUE.”**  
-ABRAHAM LINCOLN

**“My best friend is a person who will  
give me a book I have not read.”**

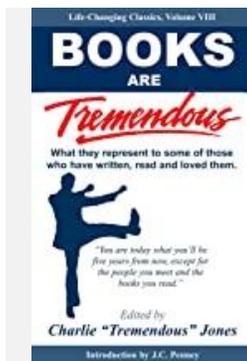
Abraham Lincoln

## **Leaders Are Readers (and Listeners!): Delegate Your Reading!**

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- ❑ 1. Each month, give your direct reports one book to read.
- ❑ 2. Ask for a 5- to 10-minute “book review” from one person each week.
- ❑ 3. Your team will be inspired, motivated and will learn something from reading 4 books x 11 months = 44 books per year!
- ❑ 4. Then...file the book on your staff resource shelf with your marked-up copies so your managers can mentor their people with niche chapters.
- ❑ 5. For more ideas, see the Book Bucket chapter in *Mastering the Management Buckets*, by John Pearson, or visit: <http://managementbuckets.com/book-bucket>

**Visit [ManagementBuckets.com/book-bucket](http://ManagementBuckets.com/book-bucket)**  
for the **Master List** of all book reviews,  
segmented into the 20 Management Buckets categories.



**“The average sales person doesn’t read a  
book a year. That is why he is the  
average sales person.”**

Anonymous

***Books Are Tremendous: What They Represent to Some of Those Who Have Written, Read and Loved Them (Life-Changing Classics)***, by Charlie “Tremendous” Jones (64 pages)  
<https://amzn.to/32MvQun>

To read a book review (and order the book), search at <https://urgentink.blogspot.com/>  
or visit the book reviews by John W. Pearson at Amazon: <http://bit.ly/4sgDGDO>

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& ASSOCIATIONS



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JOHN PEARSON ASSOCIATES  
John@JohnPearsonAssociates.com

## BOOKS/BUCKETS/BLOGS

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**Book Reviews:** <https://urgentink.blogspot.com/>  
**Buckets:** ManagementBuckets.com



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BOARD GOVERNANCE  
BLOG POSTS**

<https://ecfagovernance.blogspot.com/>

## INDEXES TO INSPIRATION: MORE THAN 200 IDEA-STARTERS!

**40 GUEST BLOGS:** *Lessons From the Nonprofit Boardroom: 40 Insights for Better Board Meetings*

**40 GUEST BLOGS:** *More Lessons From the Nonprofit Boardroom: Effectiveness, Excellence, Elephants!*

**40 GUEST BLOGS:** *Lessons From the Church Boardroom: 40 Insights for Exceptional Governance*

**22 BLOGS:** *ECFA Tools and Templates for Effective Board Governance: Time-Saving Solutions for Your Board* — Note: See Tool #19: “Ten Minutes for Governance (Lifelong Governance Learning—in 10-Minute Chunks!)”

**18 BLOGS:** Best Board Books (brief summaries of 18 board governance books)

To read a book review (and order the book), search at <https://urgentink.blogspot.com/>  
or visit the book reviews by John W. Pearson at Amazon: <http://bit.ly/4sgDGDO>

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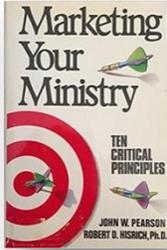
**30 BLOGS:** *Called to Serve: Creating and Nurturing the Effective Volunteer Board* (the 91-page book by Max De Pree)

**14 BLOGS:** *Owning Up: The 14 Questions Every Board Member Needs to Ask* (summary of the 14 chapters/questions by Ram Charan)

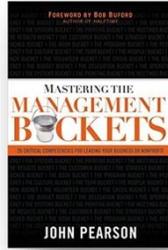
**11 BLOGS:** *Succession Planning: 11 Principles* (from *ECFA Governance Toolbox Series No. 4: Succession Planning*)

## BOOKS AND WORKBOOKS BY JOHN PEARSON

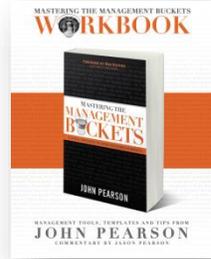
<https://www.managementbuckets.com/johns-books>



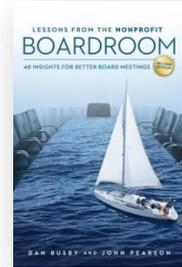
**1990**  
**Marketing Your Ministry: Ten Critical Principles**  
John Pearson and Robert D. Hisrich, Ph.D.



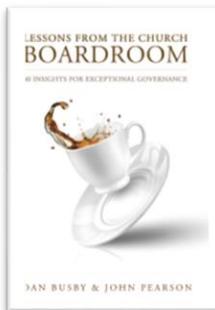
**2008**  
**Mastering the Management Buckets**  
John Pearson



**2017**  
**Mastering the Management Buckets Workbook**  
Second Edition: 2018  
John Pearson



**2017**  
**Lessons From the Nonprofit Boardroom**  
Second Edition: 2018  
Dan Busby and John Pearson



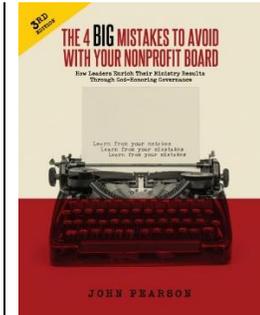
**2019**  
**Lessons From the Church Boardroom: 40 Insights for Exceptional Governance**  
Dan Busby and John Pearson



**2019**  
**ECFA Tools and Templates for Effective Board Governance: Time-Saving Solutions for Your Board**  
Dan Busby and John Pearson



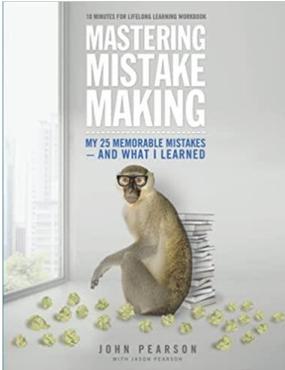
**2019**  
**More Lessons From the Nonprofit Boardroom: Effectiveness. Excellence. Elephants!**  
Dan Busby and John Pearson



**2021**  
**The 4 Big Mistakes to Avoid With Your Nonprofit Board (3rd Edition)**  
John Pearson

## BOOKS AND WORKBOOKS BY JOHN PEARSON

<https://www.managementbuckets.com/johns-books>

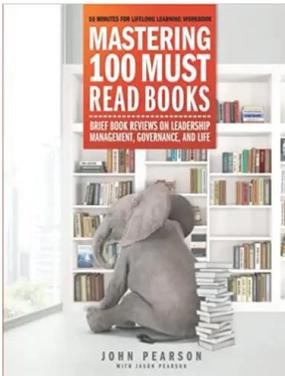


**2021**

**Mastering Mistake-Making:**  
*My 25 Memorable Mistakes—and  
What I Learned*

**THE 10 MINUTES FOR LIFELONG LEARNING WORKBOOK**

John Pearson with Jason Pearson

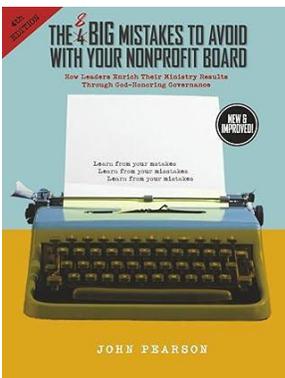


**2022**

**Mastering 100 Must-Read Books:**  
*Brief Book Reviews on Leadership,  
Management, Governance, and Life*

**THE 10 MINUTES FOR LIFELONG LEARNING WORKBOOK**

John Pearson with Jason Pearson



**2025**

**The 8 Big Mistakes to Avoid With Your  
Nonprofit Board (4th Edition):**  
*How Leaders Enrich Their Ministry Results  
Through God-Honoring Governance*

**THE WORKBOOK**

John Pearson

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JOHN PEARSON, EDITOR & PUBLISHER

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Effective Sept. 30, 2025, the blogsite for *John Pearson's Buckets Blog* and *Pails in Comparison Blog* went out of business. Those blogs are slowly (!) being moved over to the new blog sites here:

- ☐ *John Pearson's Buckets Blog*: <https://urgentink.blogspot.com/>
- ☐ *Pails in Comparison Blog*: <https://pailsincomparison.blogspot.com/>



## John Pearson's "Ideal Bookshelf"

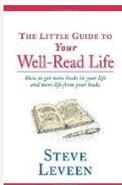
See Issue No. 275:  
*My Ideal Bookshelf*  
(4/19/2013)

[Read John's review here.](#)

Fill in your list here...

### My All-Time Top-10 Book List

TITLE	AUTHOR	DELEGATE READING TO:	NOTES:
1)			
2)			
3)			
4)			
5)			
6)			
7)			
8)			
9)			
10)			



**"Do not set out to live a well-read life but rather *your* well-read life. No one can be well-read using someone else's reading list."**

*The Little Guide to Your Well-Read Life: How to Get More Books in Your Life and More Life from Your Books*, by Steve Leveen

## ABOUT [JOHN PEARSON](#)

**JOHN PEARSON ASSOCIATES, Board Governance & Management Consultants**

**JOHN PEARSON** retired in 2018 as president of John Pearson Associates, Inc., a board governance and management consulting firm in San Clemente, California. John served nonprofit Christian organizations with a focus on "Vision Implementation With Detailed Execution." He is also the editor and publisher of the eNewsletter, *Your Weekly Staff Meeting*, and has reviewed over 650 leadership and management books in his eNews.

A recent book, written with his son, Jason, was published in September 2022. [Click here](#) to read more about *Mastering 100 Must-Read Books: Brief Book Reviews on Leadership, Management, Governance, and Life*. [Click here](#) to read more about the 2021 book, *Mastering Mistake Making: My 25 Memorable Mistakes—and What I Learned (10 Minutes for Lifelong Learning Workbook)*.

John's book, ***Mastering the Management Buckets: 20 Critical Competencies for Leading Your Business or Nonprofit*** ([click here to order](#)) was published by Regal Books in 2008 and is now distributed by Baker Books. In addition, the second edition of ***Mastering the Management Buckets Workbook: Management Tools, Templates, and Tips from John Pearson*** was published in 2018. [Click here to order](#).

John is also the co-author, with Dan Busby (1941-2022), of four board governance books, published by ECFAPress:

- *Lessons From the Nonprofit Boardroom: 40 Insights for Better Board Meetings (Second Edition, 2018)* - [Order here](#). Read the [40 quest bloggers here](#).
- *Lessons From the Church Boardroom: 40 Insights for Exceptional Governance (2018)* - [Order here](#). Read the [40 quest bloggers here](#).
- *ECFA Tools and Templates for Effective Board Governance: Time-Saving Solutions for Your Board (2019)* - [Order here](#). Read the [22-tools blog series here](#).
- *More Lessons From the Nonprofit Boardroom: Effectiveness, Excellence, Elephants! (2019)* - [Order here](#). Read the [40 quest bloggers here](#).

John is also the co-author of ***Marketing Your Ministry: Ten Critical Principles***, with Robert D. Hisrich, Ph.D. (1944-2023), former Bridgestone Chair of International Marketing, Department of Marketing and Entrepreneurship, at Kent State University.

Pearson served 11 years as the president/CEO of Christian Management Association (now called [Christian Leadership Alliance](#)). He also served as the president of Willow Creek Association, South Barrington, Illinois (a network of 12,000 churches worldwide, now called [Global Leadership Network](#)); was on the management team at [Willow Creek Community Church](#); and was the executive director of [Christian Camp and Conference Association](#), now based in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and known for many years as Christian Camping International/USA.

He's a graduate of Seattle Pacific University and Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and also served five years as the director of Christian education/camp director with the Midwest district of the Baptist General Conference, Chicago, Illinois, (now called Converge MidAmerica) and six years as the executive director of SAMBICA, a Christian camp and conference center on Lake Sammamish in Bellevue, Wash.

During John's 30 years as a nonprofit CEO (25 of those years leading three associations), he has been the publisher of two magazines, written more than 1,000 issues of various newsletters on management and ministry and more than 100 magazine columns on leadership and management ministry trends, including the "Management Rules of Thumb" series in the *Christian Management Report*.

He also led more than 50 regional, national and international conferences, and facilitated dozens of day-long CEO Dialogue roundtables. John served six years on the board of [ECFA](#) (Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability), was chairman of the presidential search committee (to replace a CEO/founder) as a board member for Interdev, and also served as a board member at Bakke Graduate University.

In 2006, Christian Management Association honored Pearson as the first recipient of the Ted Engstrom Award, named after Dr. Ted Engstrom (1916-2006), the president emeritus of World Vision. John also served on the Board of Directors of Christian Community Credit Union, including six years as board chair from March 2012 to March 2018. He is also a member and seminar leader with The Barnabas Group Orange County.

John, and his wife, Joanne (who served as their company's COO), have been married for 56 years and they've had the privilege of traveling and/or teaching leadership, management and board governance in more than 50 countries. John and Joanne's son, Jason, also lives in San Clemente with his wife, Melinda. They are the parents of five children, including triplets. Jason also serves both nonprofit and for-profit organizations through his company, [Percolate Studios](#).

From 2011 to 2020, John also contributed a weekly commentary to the *ECFA Governance of Christ-centered Organizations* [blog](#) and was the writer and project coordinator of the *ECFA Governance Toolbox Series*, a unique packaging of short videos, board member viewing guides, and facilitator guides on niche governance issues. Visit: <https://www.ecfa.org/ToolboxSeries.aspx>

In his other life, John once owned a 100th anniversary Harley-Davidson motorcycle and also played an FBI agent (actually...just one scene) in the movie, *The Genius Club*, starring Stephen Baldwin.

## CONTACT:

JOHN PEARSON ASSOCIATES  
2912 CALLE GUADALAJARA, SUITE 16  
SAN CLEMENTE, CA 92673  
[www.managementbuckets.com](http://www.managementbuckets.com)

To read a book review (and order the book), search at <https://urgentink.blogspot.com/>  
or visit the book reviews by John W. Pearson at Amazon: <http://bit.ly/4sgDGDO>

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## Notes and **Big** Ideas:

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