

## **CURRENT TOP TEN BOOKS ON LEADERSHIP\***

(including a list of “honourable mentions” )

By Rick Love

Buckingham, Marcus and Curt Coffman

1999 First Break All the Rules

New York: Simon & Schuster

(Based on 25 years of research of 1 million employees, 80,000 managers in 400 different companies, this book sizzles with practical strategies and helpful insights).

Clinton, Dr. J. Robert

1988 The Making of a Leader: Recognizing the Lessons and Stages of Leadership Development

Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress

(Bobby is one of my mentors. This book isn't always easy to read, but it is a treasure chest of leadership riches – based primarily on Scripture -- that will become a great resource for you. If you buy only one book on leadership, it should be this one).

Collins, James, C and Jerry I. Porras

1997 Built to Last: Successful Habits of Visionary Companies

New York: Harper Business

(This magnificent book has greatly impacted my leadership, providing valuable guidance in many areas. The concept of “Preserve the Core, Stimulate Progress” is worth the whole book).

Covey, Stephen R.

1990 The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People

New York, NY: Simon & Schuster

(This is a must-read for all leaders. This is Covey's foundational work on leadership. His concepts and ideas have become commonplace in leadership and management books).

Goleman, Daniel, Richard Boyatzis and Annie McKee

2002 Primal Leadership: Realizing the Power of Emotional Intelligence, Boston: Harvard Business School Press

(The book focuses on the important role of emotional intelligence for a leader -- an excellent book on the emotional, relational and inspirational dimensions of leadership)

Hybels, Bill

2002 Courageous Leadership

Grand Rapids: Zondervan

(This is applied leadership at its best. I found chapter 3 – Getting it Done Leadership, chapter 5 – the Resource Challenge, and chapter nine – The Art of Self-leadership, especially helpful).

MacMillan, Pat

2001 The Performance Factor: Unlocking the Secrets of Teamwork

Nashville Broadman and Holman Publishers:

(This is the absolutely the best book available on team work for Leaders, especially high level leaders).

Maxwell, John C.

1993 Developing the Leader within You

Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers

(A great overview of leadership principles organized around pith sayings and practical slogans. Every leader should read at least one of Maxwell's books).

Nouwen, Henri J.M.

2000 In the Name of Jesus: Reflections on Christian Leadership

London: Darton, Longman and Todd

(I consider the late Henri Nouwen one of the greatest modern teachers of spiritual formation. Here he applies his wisdom to leadership).

Sanders, J. Oswald

1967 Spiritual Leadership

Hants, England: Marshall Pickering

(This is a classic that demands a serious, reflective read)

### ***HONORABLE MENTION***

Covey, Stephen R. and A. Roger Merrill

2001 First Things First

Simon and Schuster

(This book has been most helpful for me in time management. His concept of "rocks" (major strategic priorities) vs. "sand" (daily operations) and the priority of planning a week at a time – with rocks first – has proven invaluable)

Drucker, Peter F.

1967 The Effective Executive

London: Heinemann Professional Publishing

(Every leader should read at least one book by the leadership guru, Peter Drucker. This book is especially helpful at encouraging leaders to focus on their strengths).

Giuliani, Rudolph W.

2002 Leadership

New York: Miramax Books

(Demonstrates how to lead and manage major change. Chapters 3-4 describe the kind of measurements he used to bring about change and are worth the whole book.)

Kotter, John P.

1996 Leading Change

Boston: Harvard Business School Press

(Kotter outlines an eight-stage process that functions as a detailed road map for change agents. If you want to be an effective change agent you need to read this book.).

Thrall, Bill, Bruce McNicol and Ken McElrath

1999 The Ascent of a Leader

Jossey-Bass Publishers: San Francisco

(A character-based look at the development of a leader, with a strong focus on relationships of grace and environments of grace)

Collins, Jim

2001 From Good to Great

(This is an excellent study about organizations that have made the necessary changes to upgrade. It is a study on “best practices.” The illustration of the bus is worth the book. The key to a great organization is getting the right people on the bus, the people on the bus in the right places and getting the wrong people off the bus).

\*Some of these books may be more relevant for high-level leaders.