

Experience God's Pleasure! Board service can be immensely enjoyable. Honest! When board members leverage their spiritual gifts, their strengths, and their God-given social styles (analytical, driving, amiable, or expressive), they experience extraordinary fulfillment and joy. That's God's plan for us! If board service feels draining and debilitating for you, then consider another area of service "where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet," as Frederick Buechner so aptly put it.

The 4 Social Styles in the Boardroom:

Leveraging the 3 Powerful S's

☑ Spiritual Gifts ☑ Social Styles ☑ Strengths

*Read Lesson 11, "Thrive With Four Kingdom Values: Set a high standard for the board and the board members," in *More Lessons From the Nonprofit Boardroom: Effectiveness, Excellence, Elephants!* by Dan Busby and John Pearson

*Read Lesson 11 online at:

http://www.ecfa.org/Content/Thrive-With-Four-Kingdom-Values-MoreLessonsNP

NOTE! The following notes for "Leveraging the 3 Powerful S's" were created by John Pearson for three board governance enrichment programs:

- M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust's Board Leadership & Development Program
- CCCA Thriving Boards: Growing Healthy, Effective Camp Boards—an initiative of Christian Camp & Conference Association
- Christian Ministry Advancement Ltd., a registered charity, incorporating the ministry of Christian Management Australia - <u>https://www.cma.net.au/</u>

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JOHN PEARSON ASSOCIATES, INC. BOARD GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

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SESSION 5: Leveraging the 3 Powerful S's: Spiritual Gifts, Social Styles, Strengths

HEALTHY GOVERNANCE CHECKLIST CCCA Thriving Boards Growing Healthy, Effective Boards

#5. ALL BOARD MEMBERS LEVERAGE THEIR "SWEET SPOTS" WHEN SERVING!

Board members understand board service as a holy calling—and experience joy when serving.

- The board leverages the spiritual gifts, social styles (or other model), and strengths of each other.
- D Board members are students of the unique strengths and giftedness of their board chair and their CEO.
- The board chair, CEO and the senior team are students of the strengths and giftedness of all board members.

IN THIS SESSION:

□ 1. <u>Pop Quiz</u>! Have you ever completed an assessment?

□ 2. <u>Imagination Moment</u>! What if...every board member was empowered to leverage our unique sweet spots in our holy calling as board members? (The 3 Powerful S's)

□ 3. <u>Book/Online Assessment</u>. **Spiritual Gifts:** The unique design and "wiring" given by God *supernaturally*—to every believer so we accomplish His plan for our lives.

□ 4. <u>Book/Online Assessment</u>. **Clifton StrengthsFinder**[®]: The 34 themes that describe what we *naturally* do best, per research by Gallup.

□ 5. <u>Book/Video</u>: **Social Styles:** The easy-to-remember model for understanding our own behavior preferences—and that of others—in how we act, make decisions, and use our time.

□ 1. POP QUIZ! HAVE YOU EVER COMPLETED AN ASSESSMENT?

POP QUIZ	REMAIN STANDING IF
	☑ 1
M	☑ 2
M	☑ 3
M	☑ 4
	☑ 5
 Personality Plus (Floren Spirit-Controlled Tempe StrengthsFinder Social Styles Birkman Personality Ass Style of Influence[®] 	cator ry Smalley and John Trent) ce Littauer) raments (Tim LaHaye)
choleric, melancholic, and phlegmatic.	s—perhaps—first suggested the four fundamental personality types: sanguine, Most formulations include the possibility of mixtures among the types where ap and they share two or more temperaments. (Wikipedia)

Frederick Buechner

"The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."¹

¹ Frederick Buechner is quoted in *Crafting a Rule of Life: An Invitation to a Well-Ordered Way*, by Stephen A. Macchia (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2012), 54.

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□ 2. IMAGINATION MOMENT! What if...every board member was empowered to leverage our unique sweet spots in our holy calling as board members?

THE **3** POWERFUL **S**'S

S piritual Gifts	BRUCE BUGBEE:				
Opiniual Gins	"God has created and designed us with a purpose in mind. We are				
	'wired' to care about some things more than others. We have been				
	given spiritual gifts to competently accomplish				
	ministry tasks. We have also been designed with a personal style of relating to others and the world around us. We have been given a passion." ² Soknowing all of that, what has God designed you for?				
-	TOM RATH:				
Strengths					
<u> </u>	"our studies indicate that people who do have the opportunity to focus on their strengths every day are six times as likely to be				
	engaged in their jobs and more than three times as likely to report having an excellent quality of life in general." ³				
0	DON GERMAN:				
Social Styles	"Interpersonal Versatility is the third dimension to this system. This dimension is a measure of how others view your ability to adapt to different people and situations. A key principle of understanding social styles is this: There is no good or bad style!" ⁴				

² Bruce Bugbee, What You Do Best in the Body of Christ: Discover Your Spiritual Gifts, Personal Style, and God-Given Passion, rev. ed., (Grand Rapids: MI: Zondervan, 2005), 15.

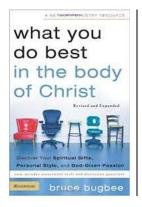
³ Tom Rath, StrengthsFinder 2.0 (New York: Gallup Press, 2007), iii.

⁴ Don German, "How to Radically Improve Your Communication Skills by Knowing the Preferred 'Social Style' of Your Boss!" *Christian Management Report* (October 2005).

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□ 3. BOOK/ONLINE ASSESSMENT. SPIRITUAL GIFTS: The unique design and "wiring" given by God—*supernaturally*—to every believer so we accomplish His plan for our lives.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS



□ BOOK: What You Do Best in the Body of Christ: Discover Your Spiritual Gifts, Personal Style, and God-Given Passion by Bruce Bugbee

This is the Spiritual Gifts 101 book. You can also read, of course, Romans 12, Ephesians 4 and many other New Testament chapters.

SPIRITUAL	LIST: Bruce Bugbee's list of spiritual gifts (from the New Testament):				
GIFTS LIST	Administration Craftsmanship Creative Communication Encouragement Faith Giving Helps Hospitality Intercession Leadership Mercy Apostleship		Prophecy Evangelism Shepherding Teaching Discernment Word of Knowledge Word of Wisdom Healing Interpretation Miracles Tongues		

FREE ONLINE SPIRITUAL GIFTS ANALYSIS

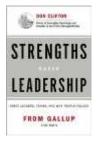
The Team Ministry Spiritual Gifts Survey is a discovery tool that provides you with a personalized analysis. Not an exam, but a simple questionnaire giving you a profile of your God-given spiritual gifts.

https://gifts.churchgrowth.org/spiritual-gifts-survey/

□ 4. BOOK/ONLINE ASSESSMENT. CLIFTON STRENGTHSFINDER[®]: The 34 themes that describe what we *naturally* do best, per research by Gallup.

STRENGTHS

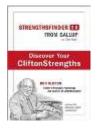
Imagine! What if everyone on your board received committee assignments that leveraged their strengths? Each book below includes a unique access code for an online assessment at www.gallupstrengthscenter.com. After you complete the 20- to 30-minute online assessment, you will receive a list (and commentary) of your Top-5 strengths. Many boards compile these strengths into a chart so that committee assignments and volunteer work are delegated according to a person's strengths. Each book includes mini-descriptions of each of the 34 talent themes.



Strengths Based Leadership: Great Leaders, Teams and

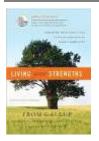
Why People Follow by Tom Rath and Barry Conchie

According to the Gallup Organization, over 18 million people worldwide have discovered their CliftonStrengths[®]—their top-five of 34 strengths/talent themes. Yet...75 percent of the workforce do not leverage their strengths at work every day. Yikes! Instead, many supervisors, bosses and boards focus incorrectly on a leader's weaknesses—instead of his or her strengths. This book also includes four "case studies" of four CEOs from each of the four domains of leadership strength: Executing, Influencing, Relationship Building, and Strategic Thinking.⁵



StrengthsFinder 2.0: Discover Your CliftonStrengths[®] by Tom Rath

"...our studies indicate that people who do have the opportunity to focus on their strengths every day **are six times as likely** to be engaged in their jobs and more than three times as likely to report having an excellent quality of life in general."⁶



Living Your Strengths: Discover Your God-Given Talents and Inspire Your Community

by Albert L. Winseman, Donald O. Clifton, and Curt Liesveld

A BOARD MEMBER: "After serving almost four years on the church board, I had yet to fully know or understand those with whom I was working. The extent of our personal knowledge about one another went little beyond being asked to 'share your favorite movie.' At the initiation of a new church board chair and a new executive pastor, we underwent strengths coaching, both individual and team. Everyone engaged in the process, and I learned more about my teammates in one evening than in all my previous years on the board. It was the most meaningful and significant times we've spent together."⁷

⁵ Tom Rath and Barry Conchie, *Strengths Based Leadership: Great Leaders, Teams and Why People Follow* (New York: Gallup Press, 2008), 24.

⁶ Tom Rath, StrengthsFinder 2.0 (New York: Gallup Press, 2007), iii.

⁷ Albert L. Winseman, Donald O. Clifton, and Curt Liesveld, *Living Your Strengths: Discover Your God-Given Talents and Inspire Your Community, Third Edition* (New York: Gallup Press, 2008), 56.

☑ STRENGTHS TOOL #1: WALLET-SIZE CARDS[®]

Laminate and Leverage Your Strengths!

After your board has completed the CliftonStrengths[®] assessment, prepare wallet-size laminated cards for each person—as a reminder to "leverage your strengths!"

OPTION 1:

JOHN PEARSON 🔶 MY TOP-5 STRENGTHS[®]

1. "FOCUS[®] - People exceptionally talented in the Focus theme can take a direction, follow through and make the corrections necessary to stay on track. They prioritize, then act."

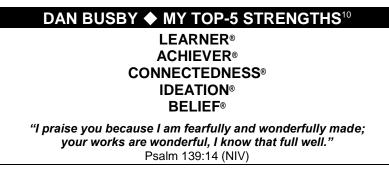
2. "**RESPONSIBILITY**[®] - People exceptionally talented in the Responsibility theme take psychological ownership of what they say they will do. They are committed to stable values such as honesty and loyalty."

3. "SIGNIFICANCE[®] - People exceptionally talented in the Significance theme want to be very important in others' eyes. They are independent and want to be recognized."

4. "**BELIEF**[®] - People exceptionally talented in the Belief theme have certain core values that are unchanging. Out of these values emerges a defined purpose for their lives."

5. "MAXIMIZER® - People exceptionally talented in the Maximizer theme focus on strengths as a way to stimulate personal and group excellence. They seek to transform something strong into something superb."

OPTION 2:



MORE RESOURCES:

Gallup Strengths Center:

http://www.gallupstrengthscenter.com

□ One-minute YouTube videos of all 34 strengths:

www.youtube.com/user/GallupStrengths

⁸ Busby and Pearson, *ECFA Tools and Templates for Effective Board Governance* (See the access code for downloading selected "Strengths" tools noted on these pages.)

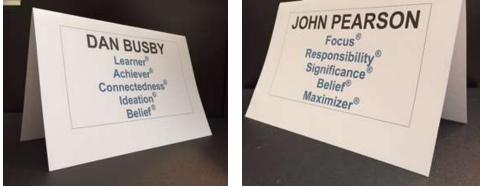
⁹ CliftonStrengths[®] and each of the 34 theme names are trademarks of Gallup, Inc. To discover your top five CliftonStrengths[®], please visit the Gallup Strengths Center at https://www.gallupstrengthscenter.com/. ¹⁰ Ibid.

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☑ STRENGTHS TOOL #2: TENT CARDS

Enrich your board and committee meetings with 8.5" x 11" tent cards—highlighting the strengths of each person.





Easy-to-print! Prepare on 8.5" x 11" card stock, print on BOTH sides, and fold in half.¹¹

"A leader needs to know his strengths as a carpenter knows his tools, or as a physician knows the instruments at her disposal. What great leaders have in common is that each truly knows his or her strengths—and can call on the right strength at the right time. This explains why there is no definitive list of characteristics that describes all leaders."¹²

Donald O. Clifton

¹¹ CliftonStrengths[®] and each of the 34 theme names are trademarks of Gallup, Inc. To discover your top five CliftonStrengths[®], please visit the Gallup Strengths Center at https://www.gallupstrengthscenter.com/. ¹² Rath and Conchie, *Strengths Based Leadership*, 13.

☑ STRENGTHS TOOL #3: CHART

Download the color-coded templates (8.5" x 11" and 11" x 17" landscape version for larger boards).

Our Board's Top-5 Strengths from CliftonStrengths^{® 13}

NAMES:	Rick	Mike	Cathy	Mark	Maria	
Strength #1						
Strength #2						
Strength #3						
Strength #4						
Strength #5						
EXECUTING			L	L		
Achiever®						
Arranger®						
Belief®						
Consistency®						
Deliberative®						
Discipline®						
Focus®						
Responsibility®			+			
Restorative®						
INFLUENCING						
Activator®						
Command®						
Communication®						
Competition®						
Maximizer®						
Self-Assurance [®]						
Significance®						
Woo®						
RELATIONSHIP BUILDING			L	L		
Adaptability [®]						
Connectedness®						
Developer [®]						
Empathy®						
Empathy						
Harmony [®] Includer [®]				-		
Individualization [®]				-		
				-		
Positivity [®] Relator [®]				-		
STRATEGIC THINKING				1		
Analytical [®]				+		
Context [®]						
Futuristic [®]						
Ideation [®]						
Input [®]						
			-			
Strategic [®]						t: John Doorgo

Chart Concept: John Pearson

¹³ CliftonStrengths[®] and each of the 34 theme names are trademarks of Gallup, Inc. To discover your top five CliftonStrengths[®], please visit the Gallup Strengths Center at https://www.gallupstrengthscenter.com/.

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OUR BOARD'S TOP-5 STRENGTHS FROM CLIFTONSTRENGTHS® - EXAMPLE¹⁴

BOARD	RICK	MIKE	CATHY	MARK	MARIA
MEMBERS	BURTON	PORTER	JONES	OWENS	LOPEZ
Strength #1	Belief	Woo	Strategic	Connectedness	Relator
Strength #2	Positivity	Empathy	Maximizer	Woo	Belief
Strength #3	Developer	Positivity	Activator	Belief	Arranger
Strength #4	Connectedness	Communication	Command	Maximizer	Achiever
Strength #5	Strategic	Arranger	Relator	Learner	Focus
EXECUTING Achiever [®]				1	Achiever
Arranger [®]		Arranger			Arranger
Belief®	Belief	Anangei		Belief	Belief
Consistency®	Dellei			Deller	Dellel
Deliberative®					
Discipline®					
Focus®					Focus
Responsibility®					
Restorative®					
INFLUENCING					
Activator®			Activator		
Command [®]			Command		
Communication®		Communication			
Competition®					
Maximizer®			Maximizer	Maximizer	
Self-Assurance [®]					
Significance®					
Woo®		Woo		Woo	
RELATIONSHIP BUILDI	NG				
Adaptability®					
Connectedness®	Connectedness			Connectedness	
Developer®	Developer	_			
Empathy®		Empathy			
Harmony®					
Individualization [®]	D ''' ''	D			
Positivity [®]	Positivity	Positivity			
			Relator		Relator
STRATEGIC THINKING Analytical [®]		T			
Analytical Analytical [®]					
Context®					
Futuristic [®]					
Ideation®					
Input [®]					
Intellection®					
Learner [®]				Learner	

Chart Concept: John Pearson

¹⁴ CliftonStrengths[®] and each of the 34 theme names are trademarks of Gallup, Inc. To discover your top five CliftonStrengths[®], please visit the Gallup Strengths Center at https://www.gallupstrengthscenter.com/.

☑ STRENGTHS TOOL #4: COFFEE MUGS!

Present a personalized Strengths mug to every board member!



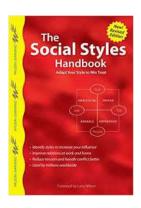
Order at: www.strengthsmugs.com

Example 1 Compared the Strengths chart template.

Download the 11" x 17" color-coded blank template and add the Top-5 strengths for each board member. The completed template will visually show how "well-rounded" your board is in the four domains of leadership strength (Executing, Influencing, Relationship Building, and Strategic Thinking).¹⁵

¹⁵ The four domains of leadership strength (Executing, Influencing, Relationship Building, and Strategic Thinking) are described in the book, *Strengths Based Leadership: Great Leaders, Teams and Why People Follow*, by Tom Rath and Barry Conchie (New York: Gallup Press, 2008).

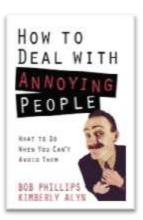
□ 5. BOOK/VIDEO: SOCIAL STYLES: The easy-to-remember model for understanding our own behavior preferences—and that of others—in how we act, make decisions, and use our time.



SOCIAL STYLE®

□ The Social Styles Handbook: Adapt Your Style to Win Trust, published by Wilson Learning¹⁶

Many organizations use the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, or DISC, or other "personality" type assessments—but few organizations build them thoughtfully into the DNA so CEOs really know their people and their board members (by their styles). The "social styles" system is perhaps the simplest and easiest to remember because the four key words describe the behavior: **Driving, Analytical, Amiable and Expressive.**



□ How to Deal With Annoying People: What to Do When You Can't Avoid Them, by Bob Phillips and Kimberly Alyn¹⁷

This is the faith-based book on the four social styles, written by Bob Phillips, former executive director of Hume Lake Christian Camps in California. Many board consultants find that 80 percent of most board conflicts are the result of board members not understanding the basic differences between the four social styles.

RESOURCES

□ Visit Tracom: "The Social Intelligence Company[®] https://tracom.com/social-style-training



5-MINUTE VIDEO: https://tracom.com/social-style-training/model

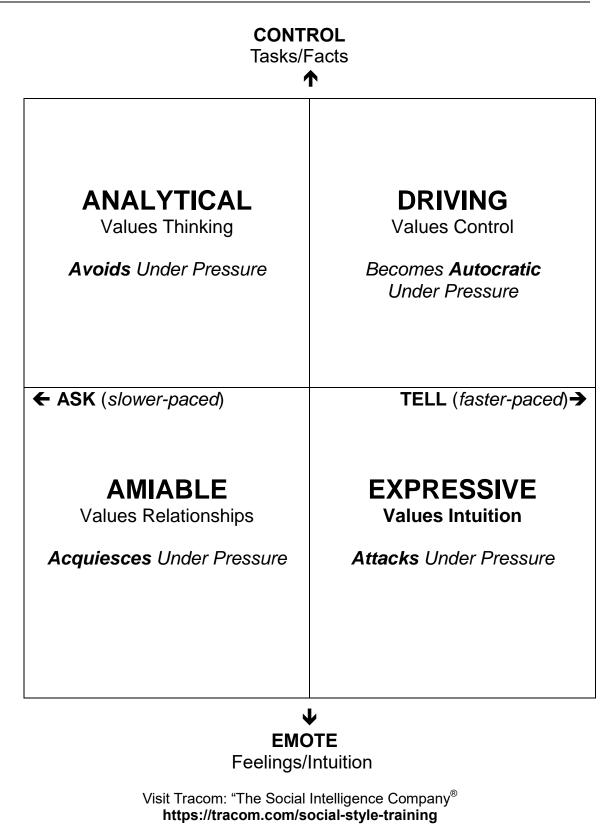
□ Visit The People Bucket: www.managementbuckets.com/people-bucket

¹⁷ Bob Phillips and Kimberly Alyn, *How to Deal With Annoying People: What to Do When You Can't Avoid Them* (Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 2003/2005).

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¹⁶ Foreword by Larry Wilson, *The Social Styles Handbook: Adapt Your Style to Win Trust, rev. ed.,* (USA: Nova Vista Publishing, 2004, 2011).`

SOCIAL STYLES AT-A-GLANCE:

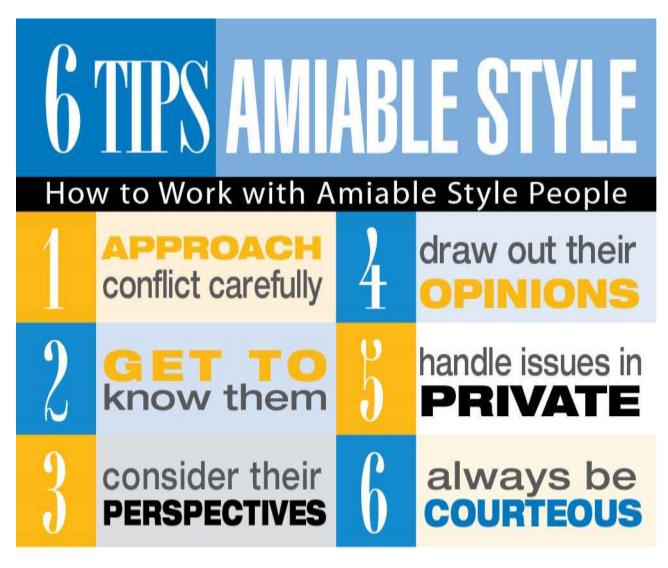




Courtesy of Tracom: "The Social Intelligence Company® https://tracom.com/social-style-training



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GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE FOUR SOCIAL STYLES My Social Style is: _____

Know Your Comfort Zone and Help Others Feel Comfortable

Review this sheet before every board meeting! Adapted from *Mastering the Management Buckets*, by John Pearson

	ANALYTICALS	DRIVERS	AMIABLES	EXPRESSIVES	
Reaction	Slow	Swift	Unhurried	Rapid	
Orientation	Thinking and fact	Action and goal	Relationship and peace	Involvement and intuition	
Likes	Organization	To be in charge	Close relationships	Much interaction	
Dislikes	Involvement	Inaction	Conflict	To be alone	
Maximum effort	To organize	To control	To relate	To involve	
Minimum concern	For relationships	For caution in relationships	For affecting change	For routine	
Behavior directed toward achievement	PRIMARY EFFORT: Works carefully and alone	PRIMARY EFFORT: Works quickly and alone	SECONDARY EFFORT: Works slowly and with others	SECONDARY EFFORT: Works quickly and with team	
Behavior directed toward acceptance	SECONDARY EFFORT: Impress others with precision and knowledge	SECONDARY EFFORT: Impress others with individual effort	PRIMARY EFFORT: Gets along as integral member of group	PRIMARY EFFORT: Gets along as exciting member of group	
Actions	Cautious	Decisive	Slow	Impulsive	
Skills	Good problem- solving skills	Good administrative skills	Good counseling Good persuas skills skills		
Decision- making	Avoids risks, based on facts	Takes risks, based on intuition	Avoids risks, based on opinion	Takes risks, based on hunches	
Time frame	Historical	Present	Present	Future	
Use of time	Slow, deliberate, disciplined	Swift, efficient, impatient	Slow, calm, undisciplined	Rapid, quick, undisciplined	

*Figure 7.6 (Chapter 7, page 121) – Adapted from The Delicate Art of Dancing With Porcupines by Bob Phillips (Regal Books). See Note #5 under Core Competency 7: The People Bucket on page 276 of Mastering the Management Buckets.¹⁸

¹⁸ John Pearson, *Mastering the Management Buckets*, 121.

WORKSHEET:

☑ Identify your most STRATEGIC next steps for the 3 Powerful S's:

Option #1: Ask board members to take the SF assessment—and create a grid.

Option #2: Ask board members to discuss their spiritual gifts at next board meeting.

□ **Option #3:** Decide which 1, 2 or 3 "Powerful S's" you'll own—and how you'll keep them "top of mind" at every board meeting—and all year.

□ **Option #4:** Recruit a willing champion who will keep the "3 Powerful S's" on the front burner—especially when new members join your board.

□ Option #5: All of the above!

POINT PERSON	TASK	DEADLINE DATE	DONE DATE

Bruce Bugbee

"Why are you doing what others can do, when you are leaving undone what only you can do?"¹⁹

¹⁹ Bugbee, What You Do Best in the Body of Christ, 135 (quoting an unnamed person).

For more resources, visit:

The 20 Management Buckets, including:

- The People Bucket (social styles)
- The Team Bucket (strengths)

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

"John Pearson's Buckets Blog"—the archives of Your Weekly Staff Meeting eNewsletter

https://urgentink.typepad.com/my_weblog/

Read Chapter 7, "The People Bucket," in *Mastering the Management Buckets: 20 Critical Competencies for Leading Your Business or Nonprofit*, by John Pearson

https://www.managementbuckets.com/