

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

Master List: 2006 to 2022

- Leadership Books**
- Governance Books**
- Management Books**



**DINOSAURS
DIDN'T READ.
NOW THEY
ARE EXTINCT.**

2022 Index

ATTACHED:

- List #3:** John's Top-100 Book List (updated 12/31/2022)

3 ADDITIONAL LISTS:

managementbuckets.com/book-bucket

- List #1: Books by Management Buckets Category (Issues 1 to 589)
- List #2: Books by eNews Issue Number (Issues 1 to 589)
- List #4: Mastering 100 Must-Read Books (9/14/2022)



Your Weekly Staff Meeting eNews

<https://www.managementbuckets.com/blogs-book-reviews>

Archives: 2 blogs

- [John Pearson's Buckets Blog](#)
- [Pails in Comparison](#)

What’s the Difference Between List #3 and List #4?

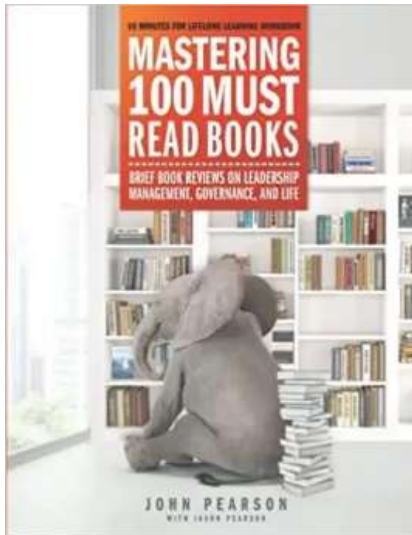
List #3: John’s Top-100 Book List (updated 12/31/2022)

This list represent an assortment of 100 well-known and lesser-known leadership, management, and governance books that John often recommends to clients. We edit and add to the list about every other year. It is organized within the 20 management buckets filing system.

And possibly, this “Top-100” list might include more than 100 books. Math was never John’s best bucket!

For John’s original list of his Top-20 books, read the “Book Bucket” chapter in *Mastering the Management Buckets* or in *Mastering the Management Buckets Workbook*, and note the 2018 updated list near the end of this document.

List #4: Mastering 100 Must-Read Books (9/14/2022)



This list is different than List #3, although there are some books that are on both lists. Compiled into a 405-page book, *Mastering 100 Must-Read Books* is organized into 18 categories with the original book reviews published in *Your Weekly Staff Meeting eNews*. Each review is 3 to 4 pages.

This *10 MINUTES FOR LIFELONG LEARNING WORKBOOK* is designed as a personal resource—or is perfect for spotlighting a key book at every weekly staff meeting or department meeting.

The Table of Contents (listing all 100 books within the 18 categories) can be downloaded here, along with the book’s introduction (“Q&A With Son and Pearson”).

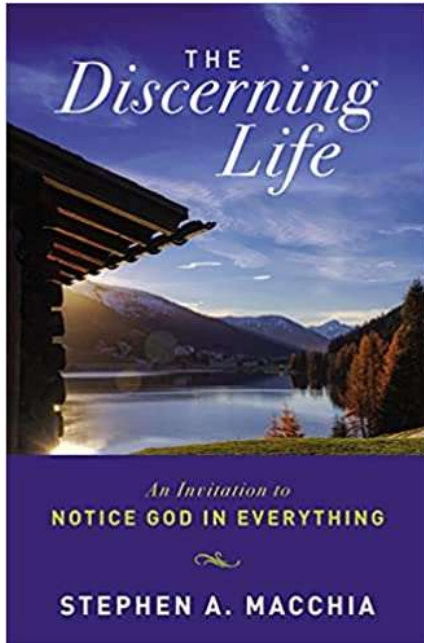
<https://www.managementbuckets.com/100-must-read>

To access all 4 lists, visit:

<https://www.managementbuckets.com/book-bucket>

BOOK-OF-THE-YEAR HONORS

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



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.”

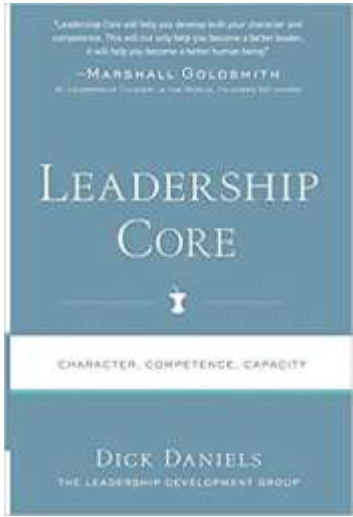
PODCAST (45 minutes)

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

JOHN’S BOOK REVIEW:

https://urgentink.typepad.com/my_weblog/2022/12/the-discerning-life-an-invitation-to-notice-god-in-everything.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.typepad.com/my_weblog/2021/01/leadership-core-character-competence-capacity.html

➔ ***Experiencing God (2021 Edition)***

https://urgentink.typepad.com/my_weblog/2021/12/experiencing-god-2021-edition-knowing-and-doing-the-will-of-god.html

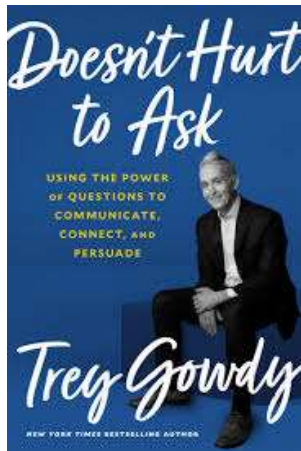


2020 Book-of-the-Year

❑ 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***

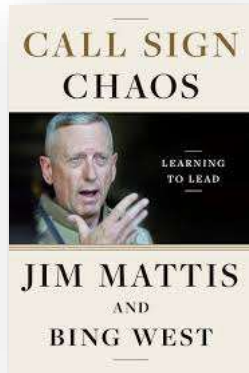
https://urgentink.typepad.com/my_weblog/2020/03/the-advice-trap.html

➔ ***Doesn't Hurt to Ask***

https://urgentink.typepad.com/my_weblog/2020/10/doesnt-hurt-to-ask-using-the-power-of-questions-to-communicate-connect-and-persuade.html

BOOK-OF-THE-YEAR HONORS

John Pearson has been selecting the "Book-of-the-Year" honors since 2006:



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...

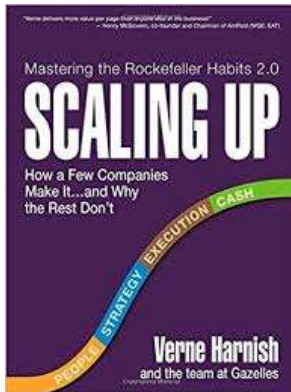
...the Commandant of the Marine Corps maintains a list of required reading for every rank. "All Marines read a common set; in addition, sergeants read some books, and colonels read others. Even generals are assigned a new set of books that they must consume. At no rank is a Marine excused from studying."

- "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.typepad.com/my_weblog/2019/10/call-sign-chaos-learning-to-lead.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!

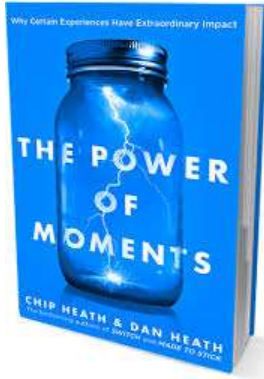
According to Verne Harnish:

"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.typepad.com/my_weblog/2018/12/scaling-up-rockefeller-habits-20.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:

http://urgentink.typepad.com/my_weblog/2017/11/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:

http://urgentink.typepad.com/my_weblog/2016/05/the-one-thing.html



2015 Book-of-the-Year

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

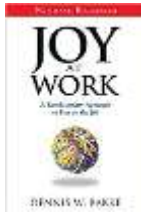
Gimme a break, Dick! I've written a whole chapter on the Delegation Bucket, so how come I just learned a new insight that's going right into my PowerPoint?

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

Read John's review:

https://urgentink.typepad.com/my_weblog/2015/02/leadership-briefs.html

BOOK-OF-THE-YEAR HONORS



2006

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



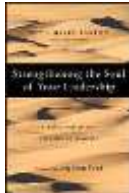
2007

- 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*.



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)



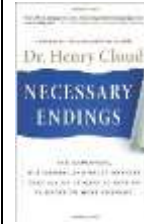
2009

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



2010

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



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



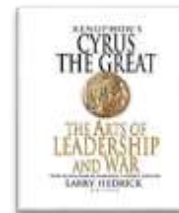
2012

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



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



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



ManagementBuckets.com

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

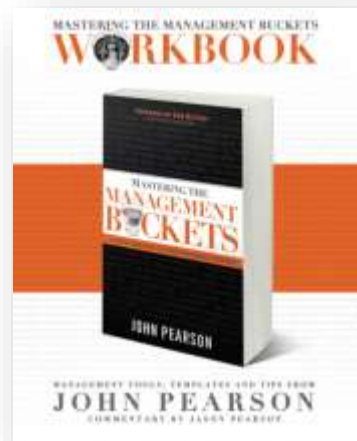
- #1: The Results Bucket
- #2: The Customer Bucket
- #3: The Strategy Bucket
- #4: The Drucker Bucket
- #5: The Book Bucket
- #6: The Program Bucket

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 – 2022
Leadership, Governance, Management

BOOK REVIEW ARCHIVES. More than 500 book reviews have been featured in John Pearson's eNews, *Your Weekly Staff Meeting*. Read them in the Book Review Archives at: → https://urgentink.typepad.com/my_weblog/

SUBSCRIBE. Sign up for your complimentary subscription at:
→ ManagementBuckets.com

DOWNLOAD. Download three book lists at:
→ ManagementBuckets.com/book-bucket

4 Book Lists are posted:

- List #1: Books by Management Buckets Category (updated 12/31/2023)
- List #2: Books by eNews Issue Number (updated 12/31/2023)
- List #3: John 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 find a book from this master list on the following pages:

→ Google "[the book title], John Pearson's Buckets Blog"

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

Book-of-the-Year = Named "Book-of-the-Year" by John Pearson (effective 2006).

"PIC" = featured in the *Pails in Comparison* blog (new in 2022)

#1. The Results Bucket (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

CORE COMPETENCY #1:

"We focus on results. We are not activity-driven, we are results-driven. We measure what we value, so we celebrate both the writing and the achieving of team-blessed standards of performance for every staff member, board member and volunteer. We also abandon dead horses and sacred cows."

<http://managementbuckets.com/results-bucket>

51. The Three Signs of a Miserable Job: A Fable for Managers
Lencioni, Patrick (8/27/2007)

72. The Five Temptations of a CEO
Lencioni, Patrick (1/21/2008)

149. How the Mighty Fall: And Why Some Companies Never Give In
Collins, Jim (7/28/2009)

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) **Book-of-the-Year**

318. Leadership Briefs: Shaping Organizational Culture to Stretch Leadership Capacity,
by Dick Daniels (2/21/15) **Book-of-the-Year**

342. The ONE Thing: The Surprisingly Simple Truth Behind Extraordinary Results
by Gary Keller with Jay Papasan (5/2/16) **Book-of-the-Year**

361 & 362. The Gatekeepers: How the White House Chiefs of Staff Define Every Presidency, by Chris Whipple (6/13/17 and 6/21/17)

537. Leadership Not by the Book: 12 Unconventional Principles to Drive Incredible Results, by David Green and Bill High (11/23/2022)

#2. The Customer Bucket (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

CORE COMPETENCY #2:

"We know our primary and supporting customers. We segment our customers to more effectively meet their unique needs. We listen to our customers. We are zealots for researching and understanding our markets."

<http://managementbuckets.com/customer-bucket>

- 99. Duct Tape Marketing: The World's Most Practical Small Business Marketing Guide
Jantsch, John (8/4/2008)
- 133. The King of Madison Avenue: David Ogilvy and the Making of Modern Advertising
Roman, Kenneth (3/31/2009)
- 323. TRUST: The Firm Foundation of Kingdom Fruitfulness,
by Dan Busby (4/14/15)
- 447A. The Goal: A Business Graphic Novel (2017), by Eliyahu M. Goldratt, Dwight Jon Zimmerman
(Editor), and Dean Motter (Illustrator) - (9/9/2020)
- 474. Call Sign Chaos: Learning to Lead, by Jim Mattis and Bing West (6/7/2021)
- PIC 20. Blind Spot: The Global Rise of Unhappiness and How Leaders Missed It, Jon Clifton (9/14/2022)

#3. The Strategy Bucket (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

CORE COMPETENCY #3:

"We plan, believing the results are up to God. We energize our people and customers with a Big Holy Audacious Goal (BHAG). We're systematic—never negligent—in our strategic planning. We know our mission statement by memory, and our programs, products and services are in alignment with the mission."

<http://managementbuckets.com/strategy-bucket>

- 1. Good to Great and the Social Sectors
Collins, Jim (8/28/2006)
- 188. Good to Great: Why Some Companies Make the Leap...and Others Don't
Collins, Jim (6/28/2010)
- 235. Great by Choice: Uncertainty, Chaos, and Luck—Why Some Thrive Despite Them All
Collins, Jim and Hansen, Morten T. (11/8/2011)
- 257. Nonprofit Financial Sustainability: Making Strategic Decisions for Financial Viability
Bell, Jeanne; Masaoka, Jan and Zimmerman, Steve (9/30/2012)

- ❑ 278. Rumsfeld’s Rules: Leadership Lessons in Business, Politics, War, and Life
Rumsfeld, Donald (5/31/2013)
- ❑ 319. Breakthrough: Unleashing the Power of a Proven Plan,
by Randon A. Samelson (3/13/15)
- ❑ 332. The Attacker’s Advantage: Turning Uncertainty Into Breakthrough Opportunities,
by Ram Charan (11/5/15)
- ❑ 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)
- ❑ 357. Managing Transitions: Making the Most of Change, by William Bridges (4/5/17)
- ❑ 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) **Book-of-the-Year**
- ❑ 436A. Non Obvious Megatrends: How to See What Others Miss and Predict the Future, by Rohit
Bhargava (5/6/2020)
- ❑ 446. The Vision Driven Leader: 10 Questions to Focus Your Efforts, Energize Your Team, and Scale
Your Business, by Michael Hyatt (8/20/2020)
- ❑ 523A. The Crux: How Leaders Become Strategists, by Richard P. Rumelt (7/16/2022)
- ❑ 533 & 534. Leadership: Six Studies in World Strategy (2 reviews), by Henry Kissinger (10/28/2022,
11/2/2022)
- ❑ 540. In the Kingdom of Ice: The Grand and Terrible Polar Voyage of the USS Jeannette, by Hampton
Sides (12/20/2022)

#4. The Drucker Bucket (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

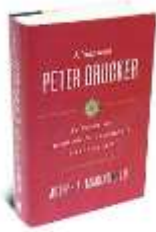
CORE COMPETENCY #4:

“We are privileged to be leaders and managers and we steward that privilege by being lifelong learners and practitioners in the art of management. We don’t just give lip service to management—we are disciplined students of great leadership and management thinkers like Peter Drucker, Ken Blanchard and others.”

<http://managementbuckets.com/drucker-bucket>

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

- ❑ 298. Drucker & Me: What a Texas Entrepreneur Learned from the Father of Modern Management by Bob Buford (4/24/14)
- ❑ 301. Xenophon's Cyrus the Great: The Arts of Leadership and War by Xenophon (Larry Hedrick, Editor) – (6/11/14) **Book-of-the-Year**
- ❑ 316. A Year With Peter Drucker: 52 Weeks of Coaching for Leadership Effectiveness, by Joseph A. Maciariello (1/6/15)



DRUCKER MONDAYS (2015):

Visit the blog posts of 52 guest writers for their color commentaries on all 52 chapters at

http://www.urgentink.typepad.com/drucker_mondays/

- ❑ 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) **Book-of-the-Year**
- ❑ 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)
- ❑ 525A. A New Way to Think: Your Guide to Superior Management Effectiveness, by Roger L. Martin (8/9/2022)

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

CORE COMPETENCY #5:

“We believe leaders are readers! We create a culture that embraces a healthy appetite for leadership and management books, journals, articles and audio resources. We mentor team members with thoughtfully selected titles and chapters to help them leverage their strengths, grow in their faith and serve others with passion. We don’t just talk about books—we actually read them!”

<http://managementbuckets.com/book-bucket>

- ❑ 13. TrueFaced: Trust God and Others With Who You Really Are Thrall, Bill; McNicol, Bruce and Lynch, John (11/20/2006)
- ❑ 275. My Ideal Bookshelf Mount, Jane (art) and La Force, Thessaly (editor) (4/19/2013)
- ❑ 443. How Will You Measure Your Life? by Clayton M. Christensen, James Allworth, and Karen Dillon (7/18/2020)

To read a book review (and order the book), click on “Archives” at https://urgentink.typepad.com/my_weblog/ or Google “[book title], John Pearson’s Buckets Blog”

☐ 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)

☐ 509. The Discerning Life: An Invitation to Notice God in Everything, by Steve Macchia (3/15/2022, reposted on 12/31/2022) **Book-of-the-Year**

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/>



Listen to the 2022 Book-of-the-Year!

**The Discerning Life:
An Invitation to Notice God in Everything**
by Stephen Macchia
(8 hours, 7 minutes)
<https://tidd.ly/3v6YRSL>

#6. The Program Bucket (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

CORE COMPETENCY #6:

“We are zealots for program effectiveness and so we research and understand our customer before launching new programs, products or services. We measure program results. We feed our primary programs and drop the losers—all in the spirit of discerning where God is at work.”

<http://managementbuckets.com/program-bucket>

☐ 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)

☐ 368, 369, 370. *Illuminate: Ignite Change Through Speeches, Stories, Ceremonies, and Symbols, by Nancy Duarte and Patti Sanchez (9/13/17)

THE COMMUNITY

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#7. The People Bucket (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

CORE COMPETENCY #7:

“We celebrate the God-designed uniqueness of our team members, our customers, our donors, and our volunteers. We are diligent about understanding the four social styles—Analyticals, Drivers, Amiables and Expressives—and helping our people find their comfort zones as they grow in their interpersonal versatility skills.”

<http://managementbuckets.com/people-bucket>

- 67. How to Deal With Annoying People: What to Do When You Can't Avoid Them
Phillips, Bob and Alyn, Kimberly (12/17/2007)
- 115. The Social Styles Handbook: Find Your Comfort Zone and Make People Feel Comfortable With You
Wilson Learning Library (11/24/2008)
- 201 & 223. Managing Your Boss (*Harvard Business Review* article)
Gabarro, John J. and Kotter, John P. (11/8/2010)
- 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)

#8. The Culture Bucket (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

CORE COMPETENCY #8:

“We strive to create a corporate culture with core values that are crystal clear. We yearn for a God-honoring workplace where grace and trust are alive and well. Because we are human we will always have relational conflicts, so we are zealots about resolving conflict early. We invite those who won’t live out our values to exit. We experience true joy at work.”

<http://managementbuckets.com/culture-bucket>

- 37. The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflict
Sande, Ken (5/14/2007)
- 186. The Speed of Trust: The One Thing That Changes Everything
Covey, Stephen M.R. (6/7/2010)
- 245. The Advantage: Why Organizational Health Trumps Everything Else in Business
Lencioni, Patrick (3/23/2012) **Book-of-the-Year**
- 254. Pursuing God’s Will Together: A Discernment Practice for Leadership Groups
Barton, Ruth Haley (7/24/2012)

- ❑ 258. Make Your Values Mean Something (*Harvard Business Review* article)
Lencioni, Patrick (10/9/2012)
- ❑ 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) **Book-of-the-Year**
- ❑ 274. The Leader's Palette: Seven Primary Colors
Enlow, Jr., Ralph E. (4/12/2013)
- ❑ 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)
- ❑ 461. Fight House: Rivalries in the White House from Truman to Trump, by Tevi Troy (Part 1 of 2 reviews)
– (1/21/2021)
- ❑ 514. Road to Flourishing: Eight Keys to Boost Employee Engagement and Well-Being, by Al Lopus with
Cory Hartman (4/19/2022)

#9. The Team Bucket (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

CORE COMPETENCY #9:

"We believe that a balanced life honors God, each other, our families and our friends, so we leverage the unique set of talents and strengths given to each person by God. Thus we serve with more fulfillment and joy. We also leave work on time, physically and mentally."

<http://managementbuckets.com/team-bucket>

- ❑ 122. Strengths Based Leadership: Great Leaders, Teams and Why People Follow
Rath, Tom and Conchie, Barry (1/12/2009)
- ❑ 168 & 181. Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership: Seeking God in the Crucible of Ministry
Barton, Ruth Haley (12/23/2009, 4/17/2010) **Book-of-the-Year**
- ❑ 191. The First 90 Days: Critical Success Factors for New Leaders at All Levels
Watkins, Michael (7/23/2010) **Book-of-the-Year**
- ❑ 241. Eat That Frog! 21 Great Ways to Stop Procrastinating and Get More Done in Less Time
Tracy, Brian (1/19/2012)
- ❑ 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)
- ❑ 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)
- ❑ 344. The Ideal Team Player: How to Recognize and Cultivate the Three Essential Virtues
by Patrick Lencioni (6/20/16)

- 382A. Leadership and Self-Deception: Getting Out of the Box (Second Edition), by The Arbing Institute (4/18/18)
- 460. Leadership Core: Character, Competence, Capacity (Leadership Multipliers), by Dick Daniels (1/15/2021) **Book-of-the-Year**
- PIC 6. Take Charge of You: How Self-Coaching Can Transform Your Life and Career, by David Novak and Jason Goldsmith (3/30/2022)

#10. The Hoopla! Bucket (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

CORE COMPETENCY #10:

"We harness the power of **hoopla!** for celebration, recreation, intentional food and fellowship gatherings, and just plain fun. We thrive on knock-your-socks-off spontaneity. We believe **hoopla!** honors God. We budget funds for **hoopla!** to mitigate workplace stress and most importantly, to show our team members how much they are loved and appreciated!"

<http://managementbuckets.com/hoopla-bucket>

- 364. The Cubs Way: The Zen of Building the Best Team in Baseball and Breaking the Curse, by Tom Verducci (7/13/17)
- 372. The Power of Moments: Why Certain Experiences Have Extraordinary Impact, by Chip Heath and Dan Heath (11/25/17) **Book-of-the-Year**

#11. The Donor Bucket (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

CORE COMPETENCY #11:

"We believe that extravagant generosity is the biblical norm, not the exception. We challenge donors to give liberally to kingdom causes. We urge prayerful giving to God's work, not for tax benefits nor budget needs. We scrutinize our methodologies not against what works, but against God-honoring principles."

<http://managementbuckets.com/donor-bucket>

- 26. The Treasure Principle: Unlocking the Secret of Joyful Giving
Alcorn, Randy (2/26/2007)
- 89. Revolution in Generosity: Transforming Stewards to Be Rich Toward God
Willmer, Wesley K (general editor) (5/19/2008)
- 197. The Sower: Redefining the Ministry of Raising Kingdom Resources
Rodin, R. Scott and Hoag, Gary G. (9/27/2010)
- 327A. Development 101: Building a Comprehensive Development Program on Biblical Values,
by John Frank and R. Scott Rodin (6/23/15)

☐ 383. Joy Giving: Practical Wisdom from the First Christians and the Global Church, by Cameron Doolittle (4/23/18)

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

#12. The Volunteer Bucket (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

CORE COMPETENCY #12:

“We reject the notion of a two-tiered Kingdom workforce. Instead, we seek to treat our paid volunteers (staff) and our unpaid volunteers with equal passion and intentionality. We will never have enough paid staff to accomplish our Kingdom assignments, so we continually hone our skills in volunteer cultivation, recruitment, orientation and engagement.”

<http://managementbuckets.com/volunteer-bucket>

☐ 34. Halftime: Changing Your Game Plan From Success to Significance
Buford, Bob (4/23/2007)

☐ 392. Stories of Sheer Pure Grace, by Nancy L. Nelson (10/6/18)



When reading books, I read with a pen (to slow me down) and make notes in the front of each book—noting memorable phrases and page numbers. I made 25 notes—but I could have made 200 in Nancy Nelson’s remarkable book! *Wow x 3!*



Some of my favorites:

- Nancy’s favorite name for God: Abba. Read why.
- Quoting Dutch Sheets, “We humans are into microwaving and God is into marinating.”
- Hosting a charitable foundation staff for lunch at Warm Beach Camp, Nancy directed them to the downstairs restrooms—sadly in need of renovation and relocating upstairs. (The grant proposal followed!)
- How Mrs. Lemke (second grade teacher to Nancy’s son) responded to Thad’s appreciative comments four years later. “Don’t thank me, Thad, thank God. You don’t know how many times I sat in your chair before and after school and prayed for God to help you learn how to read.”
- When Warm Beach Camp agreed to serve children of incarcerated parents, Nancy noted, “...I found myself crowded into a tiny living room with a handful of plain, ordinary people who seemed to have dreams out of proportion to their means.” (Surprise: God answered their prayers.)



#13. The Crisis Bucket (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

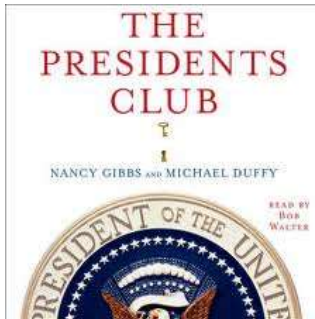
CORE COMPETENCY #13:

“We are prepared for most crises. We have plans in place and a crisis facilitator trained, and we drill our team members frequently and spontaneously. Yet we trust in God, who is our Protector, Comforter and Sustainer.”

<http://managementbuckets.com/crisis-bucket>

☐ 252. The Presidents Club: Inside the World’s Most Exclusive Fraternity
Gibbs, Nancy and Duff, Michael (7/5/2012)

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



“A good leader sets priorities —he doesn’t just list.”

This book is a leadership case study on multiple levels. CEOs in transition (retirement, termination or promotion) will especially appreciate this revealing inside look at the new guy/old guy relationships in the Oval Office. The book will trigger all your emotions (as it did for each president): mad, glad and sad. Here’s a taste:

George H.W. Bush, commenting on Bill Clinton’s general lack of discipline and long campaign speeches, “A good leader sets priorities—he doesn’t just list.”

THE CORPORATION

Book-of-the-Year = Named "Book-of-the-Year" by John Pearson (effective 2006).
"PIC" = featured in the *Pails in Comparison* blog (new in 2022)

#14. The Board Bucket (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

CORE COMPETENCY #14:

"We believe that board members must sense God's call to serve on the board of directors. We invest time in cultivating, recruiting, orienting and engaging board members in their strategic role as stewards of our organization. The first step in organizational sustainability is to inspire board members to be highly committed and generous partners in ministry."

<http://managementbuckets.com/board-bucket>

- 11. The Imperfect Board Member: Discovering the Seven Disciplines of Governance Excellence
Brown, Jim (11/6/2006)

 - 170. Owing Up: The 14 Questions Every Board Member Needs to Ask
Charan, Ram (1/11/2010)

 - 260. ECFA Governance Toolbox Series No. 1: Recruiting Board Members (DVD, Viewing Guide & Facilitator Guide) - ECFA (10/30/2012)

 - 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)

 - 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)

 - 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)

 - 352A. Called to Serve: Creating and Nurturing the Effective Volunteer Board
by Max De Pree (12/7/16)
- Read the "**Called to Serve**" blog posts, written by John Pearson, with snippets from Max De Pree's brilliant book for new board members. Visit the Index to all 30 blogs here:
<http://ecfagovernance.blogspot.com/2017/10/called-to-serve-no-board-detail-is-too.html>
- 363. Call of the Chair: Leading the Board of the Christ-centered Ministry, by David L. McKenna (6/27/17)

 - 373. Lessons From the Nonprofit Boardroom: 40 Insights for Better Board Meetings, by Dan Busby and John Pearson (11/30/17) – *Note: Expanded and Revised Second Edition published in December 2018*

☐ 379. ECFA Governance Toolbox Series No. 4: Succession Planning – 11 Principles for Successful Successions: “Every CEO is an Interim CEO.” - Published by ECFAPress (2/26/18)

☐ 484. Let Us Prey, Revised Edition: The Plague of Narcissist Pastors and What We Can Do About It, by Darrell Puls (8/12/2021)



BOARD BUCKET BONUS RESOURCE!

John Pearson wrote ECFA’s *Governance of Christ-Centered Organizations* blog from 2011 to 2020. In one blog series, he spotlighted the “Best Board Books.”

Click below for the *Index to 18 Good Governance Stimulators*:

<https://ecfagovernance.blogspot.com/2019/03/best-board-books-index-to-18-good.html>

#15. The Budget Bucket (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

CORE COMPETENCY #15:

“We operate with integrity and are accountable for best practices in our financial management. We mentor our team members so they understand the financial implications of our programs. We monitor our progress monthly.”

<http://managementbuckets.com/budget-bucket>

☐ 9. *The Minister’s MBA: Essential Business Tools for Maximum Ministry Success*
Babbes, George S. and Zigarelli, Michael (10/23/2006)

☐ 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) **Book-of-the-Year**

➡Note! This book-of-the-year pick is also listed in the Strategy Bucket, but it’s included again here to remind you to read the “Cash” section in this book.

☐ 502. *Making Numbers Count: The Art and Science of Communicating Numbers*, by Chip Heath and Karla Starr (1/12/2022)

#16. The Delegation Bucket (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

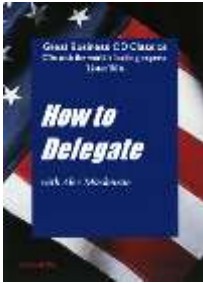
CORE COMPETENCY #16:

“We are experts at appropriate delegation. We invite team members to accept assignments based on their strengths. We value organized delegation and believe in the Point Person Principle. We track our to-do lists and we add to our don’t-do lists.”

<http://managementbuckets.com/delegation-bucket>

☐ 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)



☐ 273. How to Delegate (CD, 39 min.)
By Alex Mackenzie (4/2/2013)

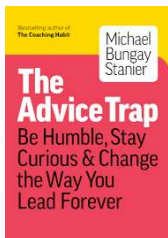
**“The person who cannot delegate, cannot manage.”
Management and delegation
are virtually synonymous.”**

If you’re a “listener,” and not a “reader,” enjoy this audio version:

Read John’s review:

http://urgentink.typepad.com/my_weblog/2013/04/how-to-delegate-cd.html

☐ 481. The Motive: Why So Many Leaders Abdicate Their Most Important Responsibilities, by Patrick M. Lencioni (7/22/2021)



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.)

#17. The Operations Bucket (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

CORE COMPETENCY #17:

"We affirm the high and noble calling of management and the spiritual gift of administration. We reject the fallacy that leaders lead and managers manage. We relentlessly pursue both effective and efficient operational solutions to organizational challenges. We are experts at ruthlessly eliminating costly bureaucracy that impedes results. We are yes men and women!"

<http://managementbuckets.com/operations-bucket>

☐ 64 & 357. Managing Transitions: Making the Most of Change (25th anniversary edition), by William Bridges (11/26/2007 and 4/5/2017)

☐ 230. The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People
Covey, Stephen R. (9/12/2011)

#18. The Systems Bucket (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

CORE COMPETENCY #18:

"We are passionate about systems thinking and process management. We encourage systems people to use their gifts and mentor others for the benefit of our Cause and our Community arenas. We are careful not to tinker or over-tweak, yet we are tenacious about tickler systems. We have a heart to create systems that serve people, not the bureaucracy!"

<http://managementbuckets.com/systems-bucket>

☐ 32. The E-Myth Revisited: Why Most Small Businesses Don't Work and What to Do About It
Gerber, Michael E. (4/9/2007)

☐ 117. Getting Things Done: The Art of Stress-Free Productivity
Allen, David (12/8/2008)

☐ 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)

#19. The Printing Bucket (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

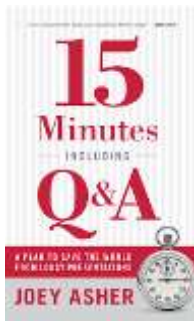
aka: **The Communication Bucket, The Speaking Bucket, etc.**

CORE COMPETENCY #19:

"We elevate the power of the written and spoken word and leverage our communication tools to create synergy and alignment between our mission, BHAG, strategic plans and programs. We believe proofreading and style matters!"

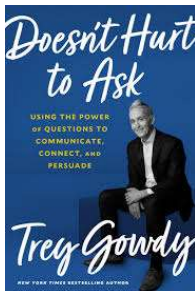
<http://managementbuckets.com/printing-bucket>

- 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)
- 216. 15 Minutes Including Q&A: A Plan to Save the World From Lousy Presentations Asher, Joey (5/4/2011)
- 489. Public Speaking Laws of Success: For Everyone and Every Occasion, by Richard J. Goossen (9/28/2021)
- 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)



Asher recommends you build every talk with this formula: 15 minutes max, with seven minutes for content and eight minutes for Q&A.

And...if some inconsiderate jerk in your audience asks a question, don't you dare respond, "Let's put that question in the parking lot and I'll get to it later." Answer the question when it's asked! Why? It's about the audience—it's not about you. (*Now there's a new thought!*)



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."**

#20. The Meetings Bucket (By Issue Number and Book Review Date)

CORE COMPETENCY #20:

"We design meetings like an architect designs buildings. We have high expectations that our purpose-driven meetings will enhance team-building, accountability and our commitment to results. We value Holy Spirit-led meetings. We reject boring meetings."
<http://managementbuckets.com/meetings-bucket>

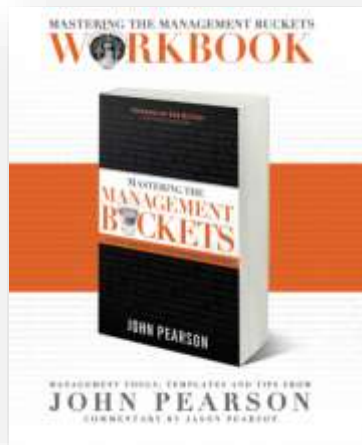
❑ 236. Death by Meeting: A Leadership Fable...About Solving the Most Painful Problem in Business
Lencioni, Patrick (12/2/2011)

❑ 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)



And then it occurred to him:
the world needed yet another book on leadership.

Top-20 Books List (updated 2018)*



Excerpted from Chapter 5, “The Book Bucket” in *Mastering the Management Buckets Workbook* (2nd Edition, 2018):

Ball #3: MASTER the Management Buckets by Reading
Put down the duckie!

*Back in 2008, I included one book recommendation for each bucket: 20 books/20 buckets. (On my website, I also included my original list of my Top-100 books—using the management buckets filing system. (The list below includes several changes.)

[Visit the Book Bucket webpage here.](#)

Check the 3 Buckets You’ll Master (and 3 Books You’ll Read) First

The “Top-20 Books” and “Top-100 Books” (updated every other year) are not prescriptive for every leader or manager. The list represents an assortment of well-known and lesser-known leadership and management books that John often recommends to clients.

OUR CAUSE

- ❑ **1. The Results Bucket:** *The Three Signs of a Miserable Job: A Fable for Managers (and Their Employees)*, by Patrick Lencioni
- ❑ **2. The Customer Bucket:** *Peter Drucker's Five Most Important Questions: Enduring Wisdom for Today's Leaders*, by Peter F. Drucker, Frances Hesselbein, and Joan Snyder Kuhl
- ❑ **3. The Strategy Bucket:** *Breakthrough: Unleashing the Power of a Proven Plan*, by Randon A. Samelson
- ❑ **4. The Drucker Bucket:** *The Daily Drucker: 366 Days of Insight and Motivation for Getting the Right Things Done*, by Peter F. Drucker with Joseph A. Maciariello
- ❑ **5. The Book Bucket:** *The Best Question Ever: A Revolutionary Approach to Decision Making*, by Andy Stanley
- ❑ **6. The Program Bucket:** *Marketing Your Ministry: Ten Critical Principles*, by John W. Pearson and Robert D. Hisrich

OUR COMMUNITY

- ❑ **7. The People Bucket:** *How to Deal With Annoying People: What to Do When You Can't Avoid Them*, by Bob Phillips
- ❑ **8. The Culture Bucket:** *The Ideal Team Player: How to Recognize and Cultivate the Three Essential Virtues*, by Patrick M. Lencioni (runner-up to John's 2016 book-of-the-year)
- ❑ **9. The Team Bucket:** *StrengthsFinder 2.0*, by Tom Rath
- ❑ **10. The Hoopla! Bucket:** *Joy at Work: A Revolutionary Approach to Fun on the Job*, by Dennis Bakke
- ❑ **11. The Donor Bucket:** *Development 101: Building a Comprehensive Development Program on Biblical Values*, by John R. Frank and R. Scott Rodin
- ❑ **12. The Volunteer Bucket:** *Simply Strategic Volunteers: Empowering People for Ministry*, by Tony Morgan and Tim Stevens
- ❑ **13. The Crisis Bucket:** *The Effective Executive: The Definitive Guide to Getting the Right Things Done*, by Peter F. Drucker

OUR CORPORATION

- ❑ **14. The Board Bucket:** *Lessons From the Nonprofit Boardroom*, by Dan Busby and John Pearson (coming Fall 2017, ECFAPress, www.ECFA.org)
- ❑ **15. The Budget Bucket:** *Zondervan 2022 Church and Nonprofit Tax and Financial Guide: For 2021 Tax Returns*, by Michael Martin
- ❑ **16. The Delegation Bucket:** *The One Minute Manager Meets the Monkey*, by Ken Blanchard, William Oncken, and Hal Burrows
- ❑ **17. The Operations Bucket:** *The Minister's MBA: Essential Business Tools for Maximum Ministry Success*, by George S. Babbes and Michael Zigarelli
- ❑ **18. The Systems Bucket:** *The E-Myth: Why Most Small Businesses Don't Work and What to Do About It*, by Michael E. Gerber
- ❑ **19. The Printing Bucket (aka The Communications Bucket):** *Associated Press (AP) Stylebook and Briefing on Media Law*, published by the Associated Press
- ❑ **20. The Meetings Bucket:** *Death by Meeting: A Leadership Fable...About Solving the Most Painful Problem in Business*, by Patrick M. Lencioni

**"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!

- ❑ 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
for the **Master List** of all book reviews,
segmented into the 20 Management Buckets categories.

Now Retired!

BOARD GOVERNANCE &
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS
FOR
NONPROFIT MINISTRIES,
CHURCHES,
& ASSOCIATIONS



JOHN PEARSON ASSOCIATES
John@JohnPearsonAssociates.com

BOOKS/BUCKETS/BLOGS

Book Reviews: urgentink.typepad.com/my_weblog
Buckets: ManagementBuckets.com

OVER 400 BOARD GOVERNANCE BLOG POSTS

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

INDEXES TO INSPIRATION: OVER 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!)”

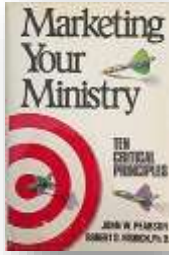
18 BLOGS: Best Board Books (brief summaries of 18 board governance books)

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.



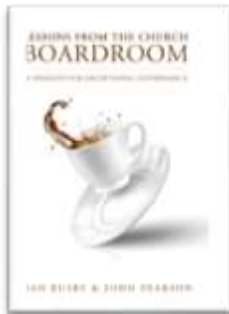
2008
Mastering the Management Buckets
John Pearson



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: 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>

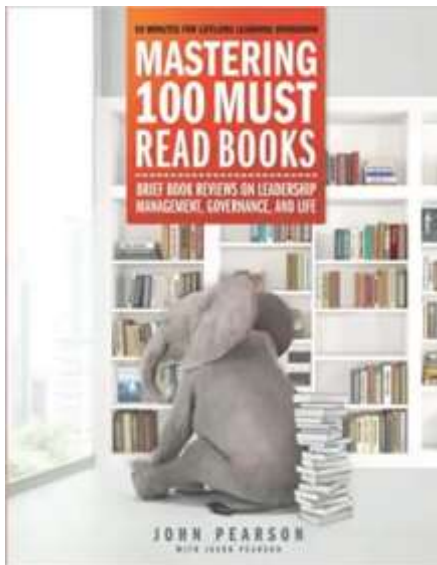


2021

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

**THE 10 MINUTES FOR LIFELONG
LEARNING WORKBOOK**

John Pearson
with Jason Pearson



2022

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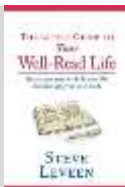
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My All-Time Top-10 Book List

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1)			
2)			
3)			
4)			
5)			
6)			
7)			
8)			
9)			
10)			

*See "My Ideal Bookshelf" recommendations from six leaders/readers at:

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"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 almost 600 leadership and management books in his eNews.

His latest 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 guest bloggers here](#).
- *Lessons From the Church Boardroom: 40 Insights for Exceptional Governance (2018)* - [Order here](#). Read the [40 guest 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 guest 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 750 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 volunteer with The Barnabas Group Orange County.

John, and his wife, Joanne (who served as their company's COO), have been married for 54 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, [Pearpod Media](#) (branding, digital, print, video).

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. <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.

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