

CTS
NIGHTS

SERVANT LEADERSHIP:
WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT LEADERSHIP
Spring 2026





Welcome Back to
Servant Leadership!

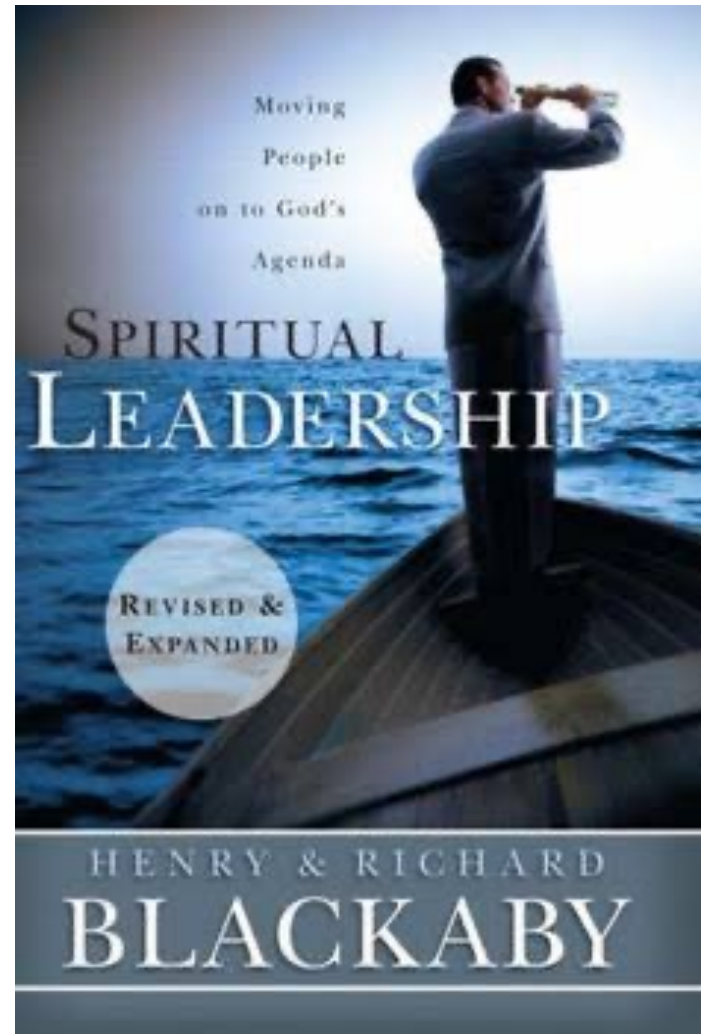


Leadership Lessons For Servant Leaders From Jesus (Part 2)



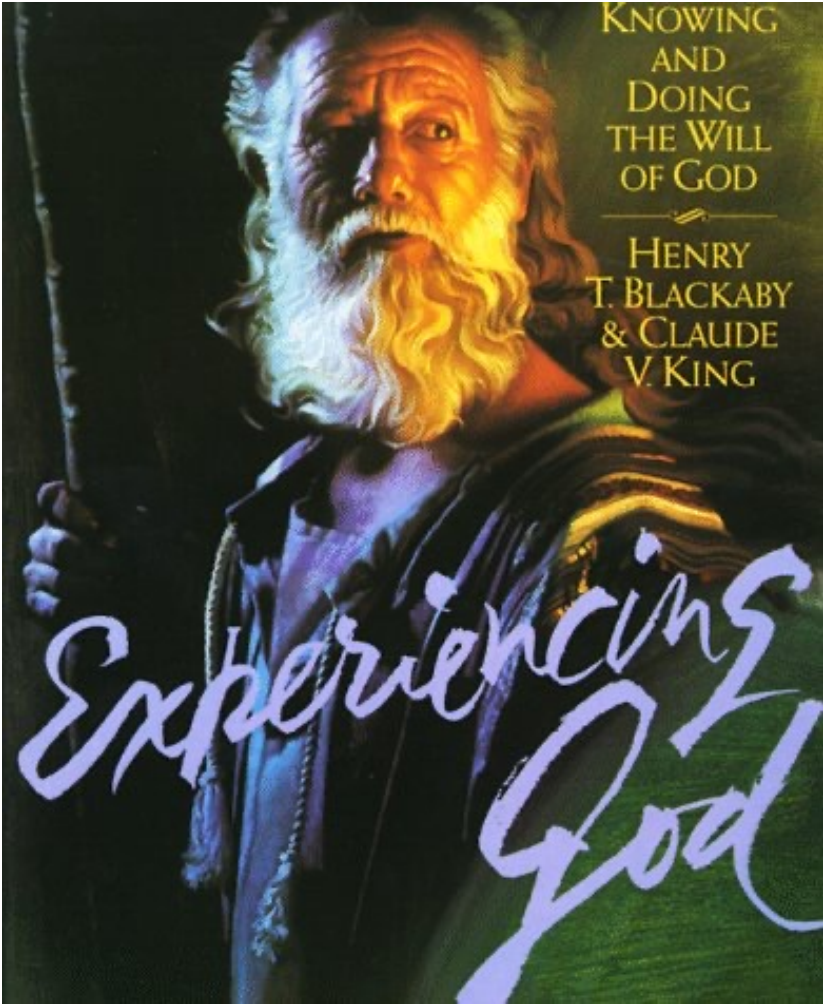
“Spiritual Leadership
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God’s agenda.”

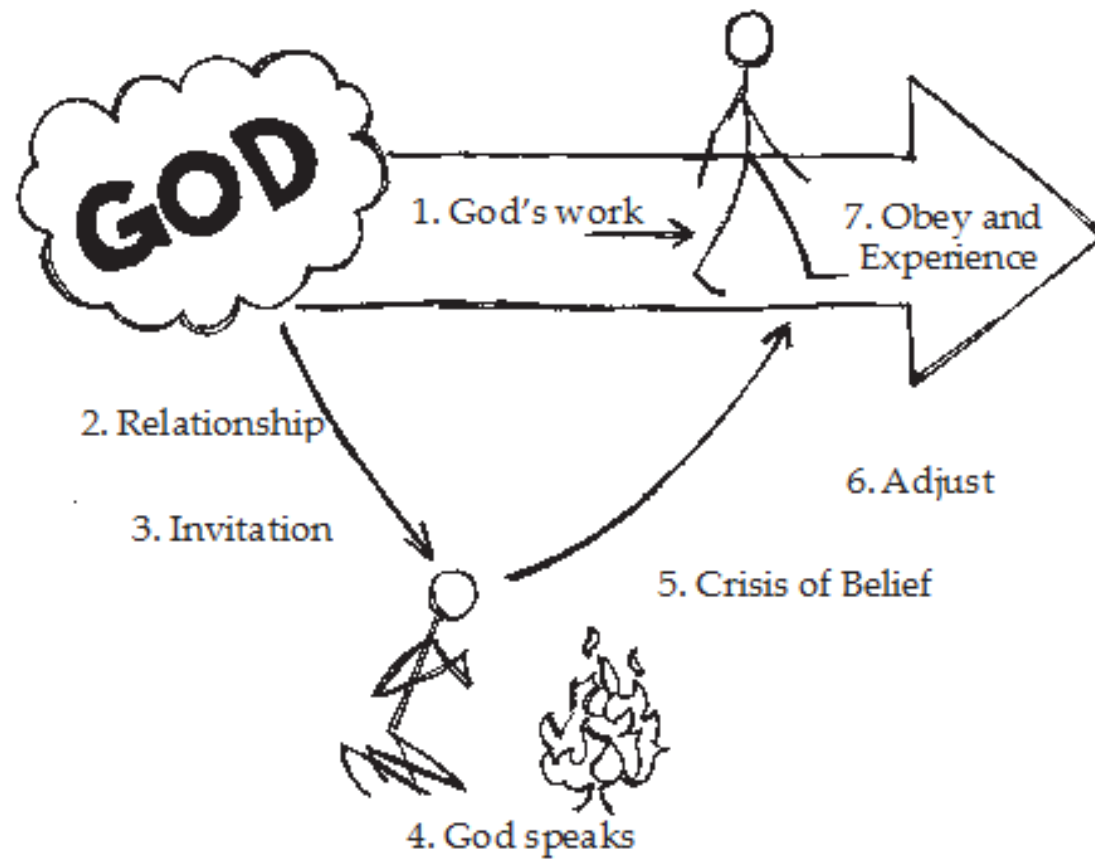
Henry and Richard
Blackaby











Seven Realities of Experiencing God



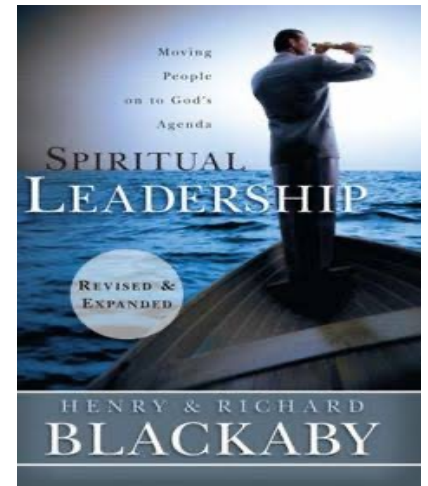


SERMON
DR. RICHARD BLACKABY

**ACCEPTING
GOD'S INVITATION**
EXPERIENCING GOD



“Spiritual Leadership is moving people on to God’s agenda. ... Spiritual leaders cannot produce spiritual change in people; only the Holy Spirit can do that. Yet through the Spirit, God often uses people to bring about spiritual growth in others. ... That is the crux of spiritual leadership. Leaders seek to move people on to God’s agenda, all the while being aware that only the Holy Spirit can ultimately accomplish the task.”





CELEBRATING
THE LIFE, MESSAGE,
AND MINISTRY OF

Henry T.
Blackaby

James and John “The Sons of Thunder”



Matthew 20:20-28



Mark 10:41-45

³² They were on their way to Jerusalem. Jesus walked in front of them. Those who followed were surprised and afraid. Then Jesus took the twelve followers by themselves. He told them what would happen to Him. ³³ He said, “Listen, we are going to Jerusalem. The Son of Man will be handed over to the religious leaders of the Jews and to the teachers of the Law. They will say that He must be put to death. They will hand Him over to the people who are not Jews. ³⁴ They will make fun of Him and will beat Him. They will spit on Him and will kill Him. But three days later He will be raised from the dead.”

Mark 10:32-34



³⁵ James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Jesus. They said, “Teacher, we would like to have You do for us whatever we ask You.” ³⁶ He said to them, “What would you like to have Me do for you?” ³⁷ They said to Him, “Let one of us sit by Your right side and the other by Your left side when You receive Your great honor in heaven.” ³⁸ Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you ask. Can you take the suffering I am about to take? Can you be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” ³⁹ They said to Him, “Yes, we can.” Jesus said to them, “You will, for sure, suffer the way I will suffer. You will be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with. ⁴⁰ But to sit on My right side or on My left side is not for Me to give. It will be given to those for whom it has been made ready.”

Mark 10:35-41

⁴¹ When the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. ⁴² And Jesus called them to him and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. . . .”

Mark 10:41-42

²⁵ Jesus called them to Him and said, “You know how the kings of the nations show their power to the people. Important leaders use their power over the people.

Matthew 20:25

**Recognizing and
Resisting
the
World's Way
to Lead**

“But it shall not be so
among you . . .



Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Matthew 16:24-25



Recognizing and Resisting the World's Way to Lead

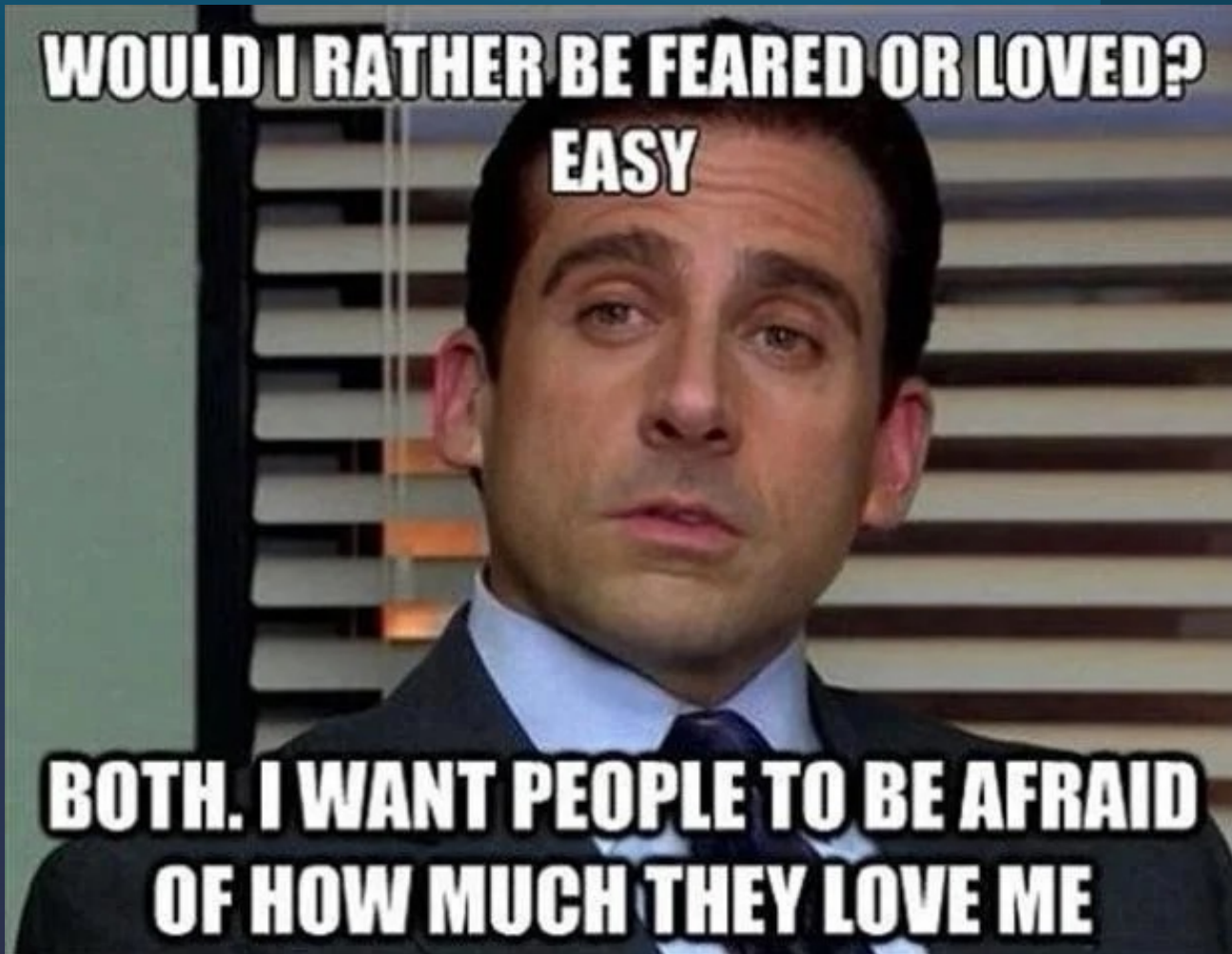
”But it shall not be so
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WOULD I RATHER BE FEARED OR LOVED?

EASY

**BOTH. I WANT PEOPLE TO BE AFRAID
OF HOW MUCH THEY LOVE ME**



The Example of Jesus When Tempted by Satan (Matthew 4:1-11)

The Temptation of Self-Centered Satisfaction



³ And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” ⁴ But he answered, “It is written, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.””

Matthew 4:3-4



The Example of Jesus When Tempted by Satan (Matthew 4:1-11)

**The Temptation of
Self-Centered Satisfaction**

**The Temptation of
Self-Promoting Pride**



⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶ and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, “He will command his angels concerning you”, and



“On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.”

⁷ Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

Matthew 4:5-7

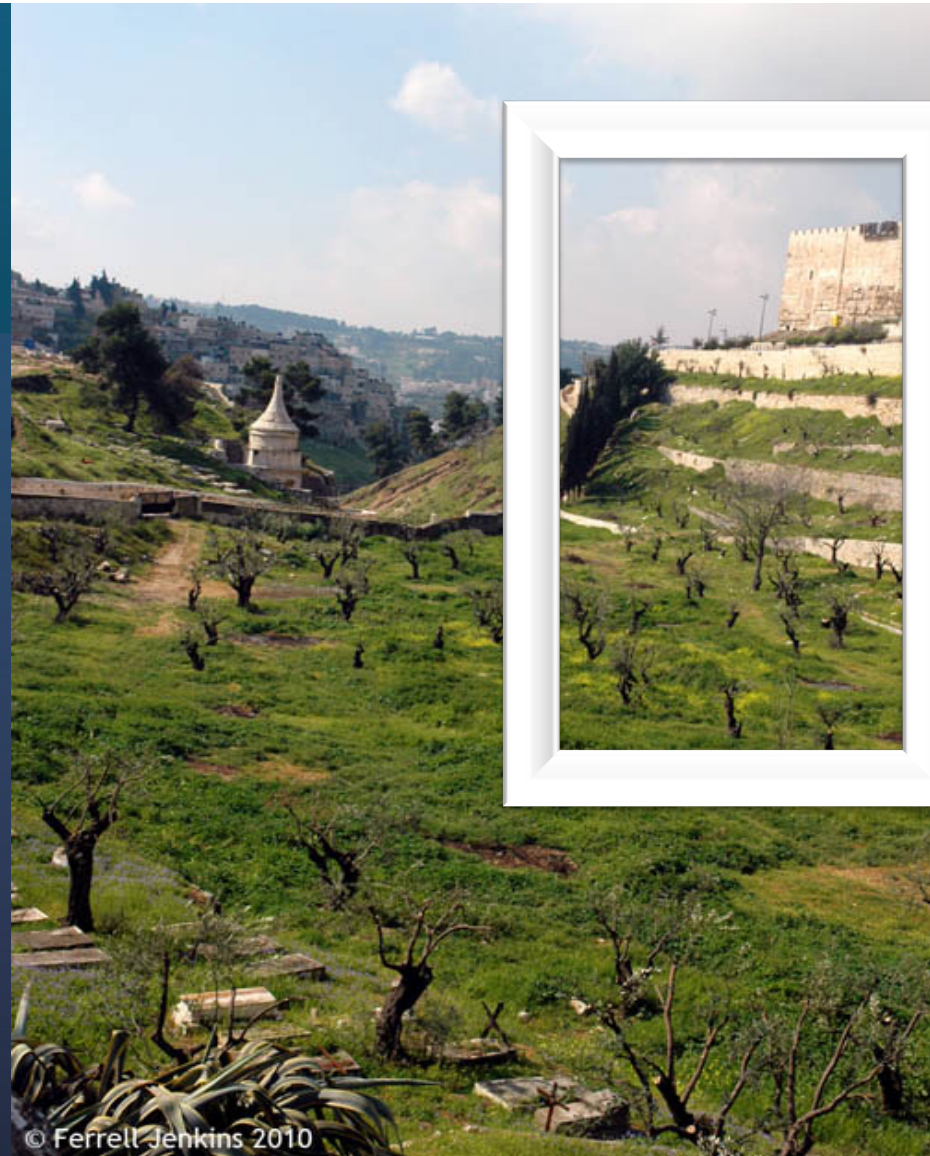


© Ferrell Jenkins 2010

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The Example of Jesus When Tempted by Satan (Matthew 4:1-11)

The Temptation of
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The Temptation of
Self-Promoting Pride

The Temptation of
Self-Serving Power

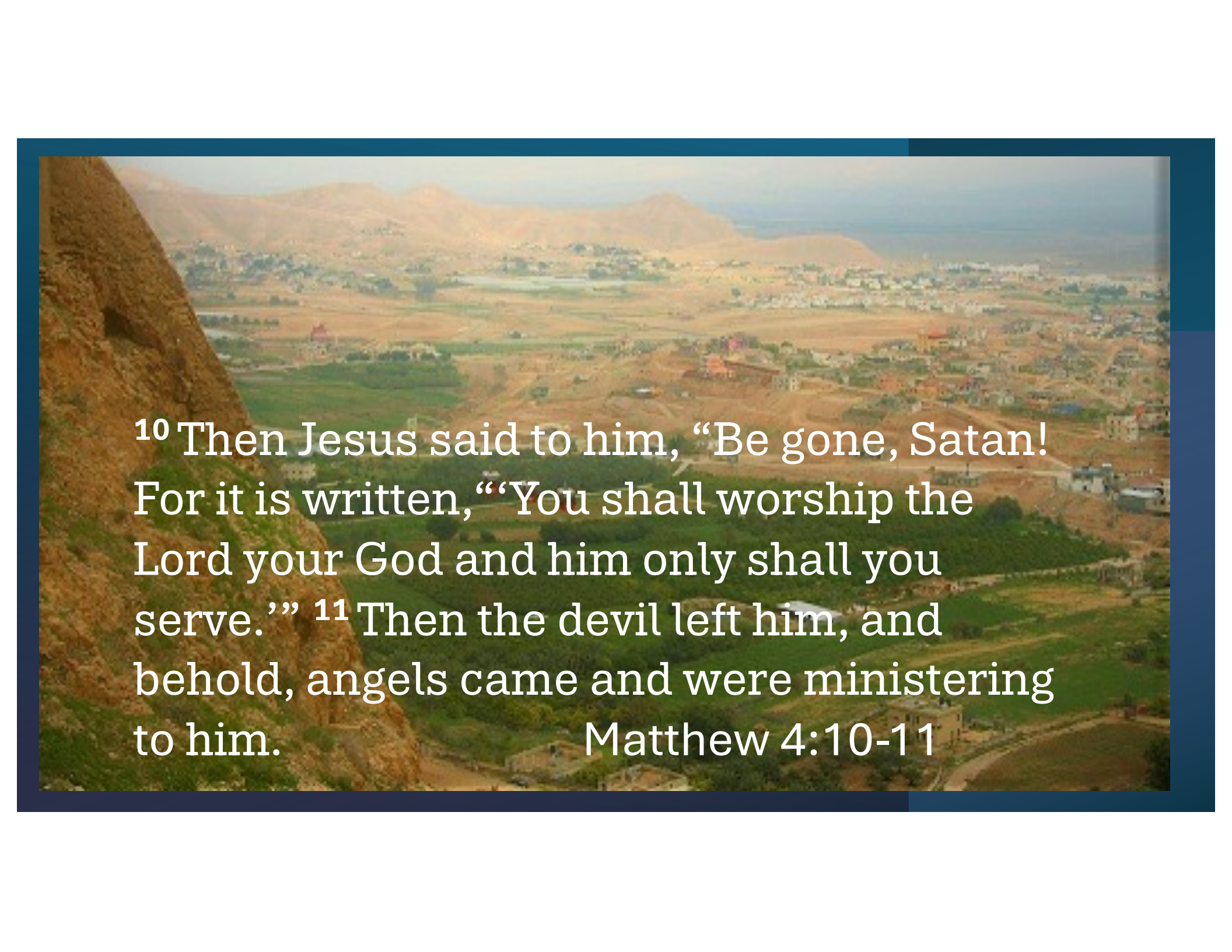


⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.”

Matthew 4:8-9







¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written, “You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.”” ¹¹ Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

Matthew 4:10-11

Truths About Temptations for Servant Leaders

1. Every leader will be tempted to serve something/someone other than Jesus.
2. Temptation is not the same as sin, but can easily lead to sin.
3. How you recognize and resist temptation will be life-giving or life-taking.

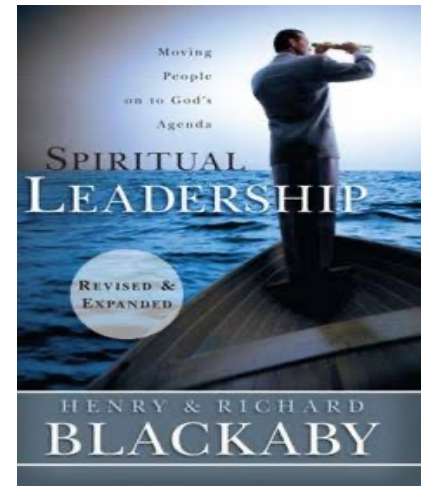


Truths About Temptations for Servant Leaders

4. Recognize where and when you are susceptible to temptation.
5. What Satan uses to try to destroy in a servant leader, God will use as a test to develop.
6. Today's temptation is tomorrow's testimony of God's faithfulness and our faith.
7. Jesus leads us as the Way by His



“God doesn't want people to do what they think is best: He wants them to do what He knows is best, and no amount of reasoning and intellectualizing will discover that. God himself must reveal it.”



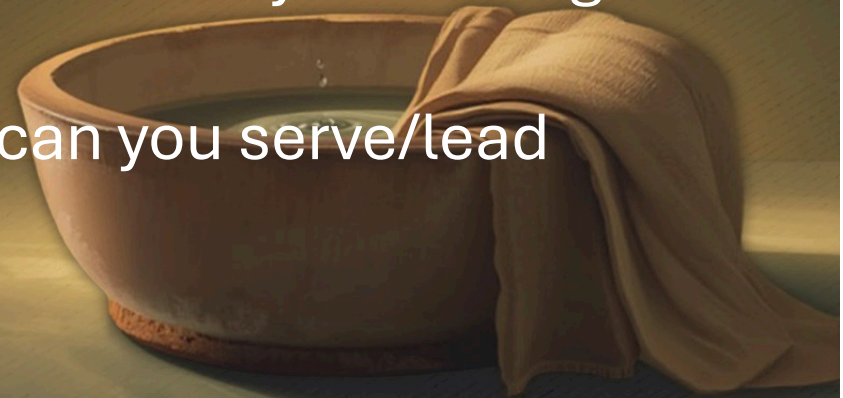


Let's Take a Break

Questions for Consideration and Discussion

What is one way you recognize the world's way of leading in your setting?

How are you serving/leading or how can you serve/lead differently in your setting?



Responding to The Word's Way to Serve and Lead

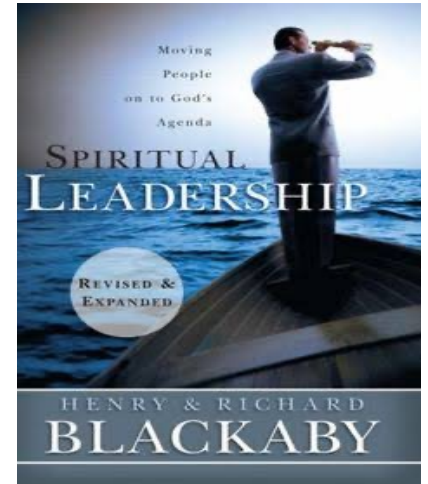
But whoever would be great among you must be your servant (*diakonos*), and whoever would be first among you must be slave (*doulos*) of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. Mark 10:43-45



“Leadership development is synonymous with personal development.

As leaders grow personally, they increase their ability to lead.

As they increase their capability to lead, they enlarge the capacity of their organization to grow. Therefore, the most crucial objective for any leader is personal growth. ... The most important thing spiritual leaders do is cultivate their relationship with God.”





espn

sportscenter



I want to help 25 to 30 more families. The only way you do that is you're transformational as a coach. You're not transactional. If I become transactional -- 'I'm going to pay you this to do this and that' -- then I won't do this anymore. I don't need to.

JOHN CALIPARI
on his future in coaching



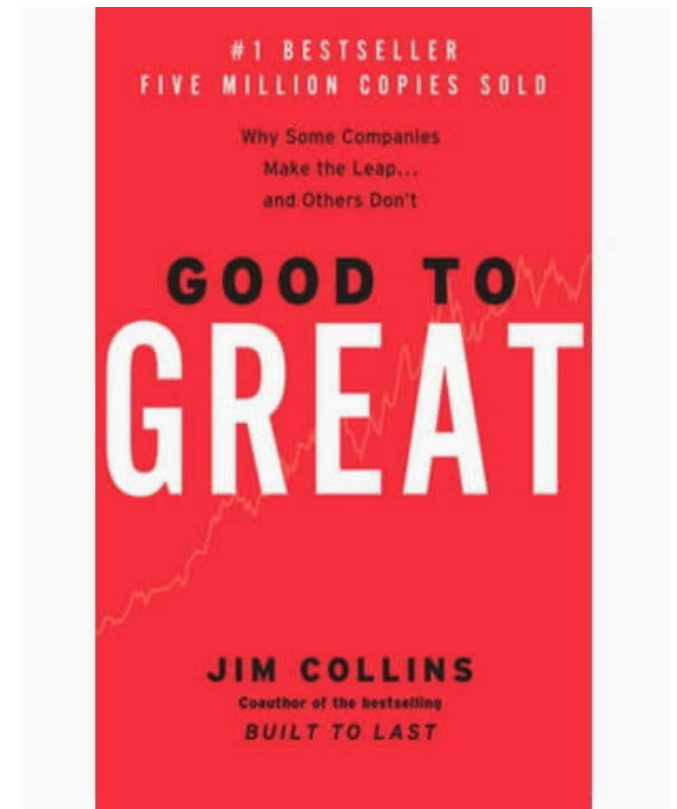
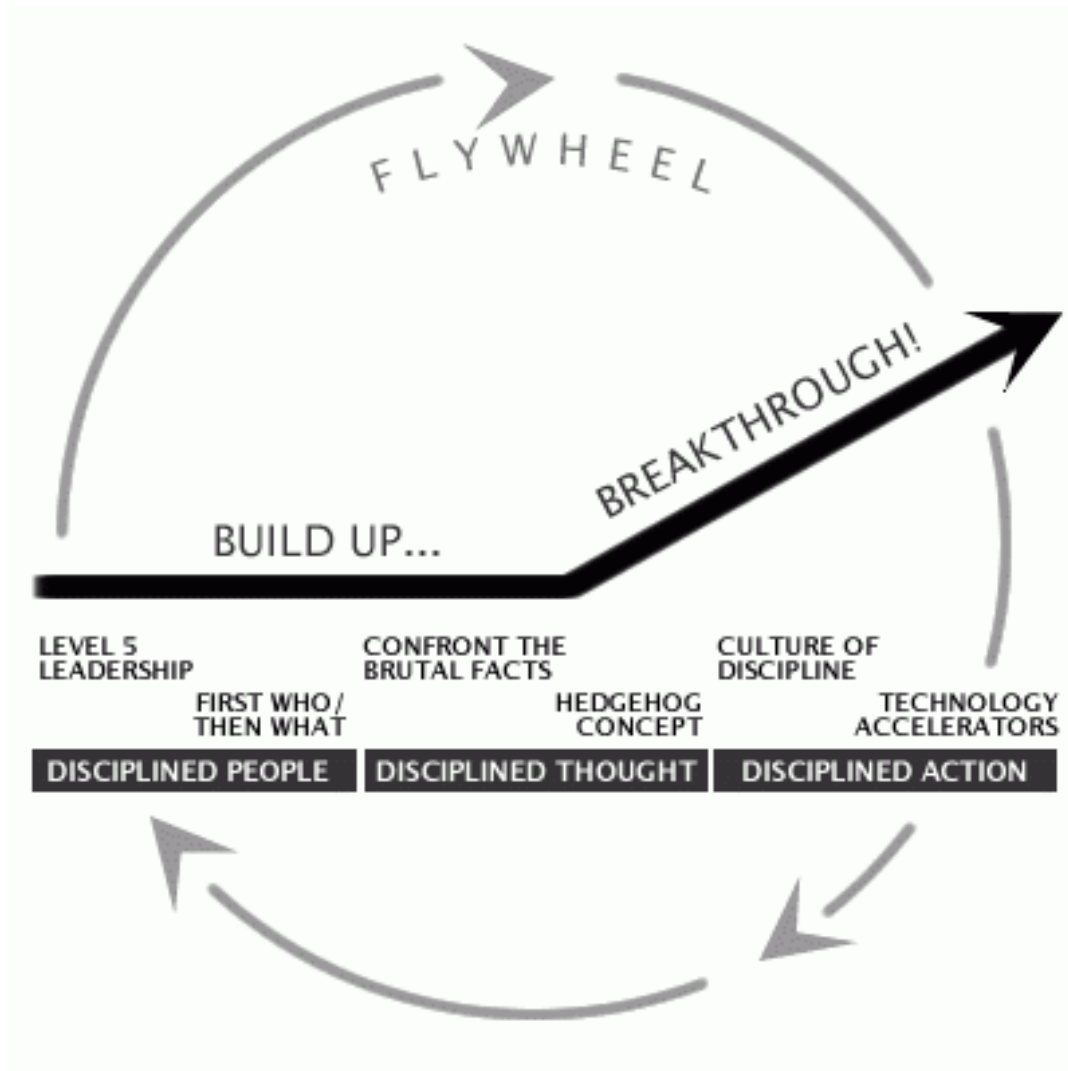
#1 BESTSELLER
FIVE MILLION COPIES SOLD

Why Some Companies
Make the Leap...
and Others Don't

GOOD TO
GREAT

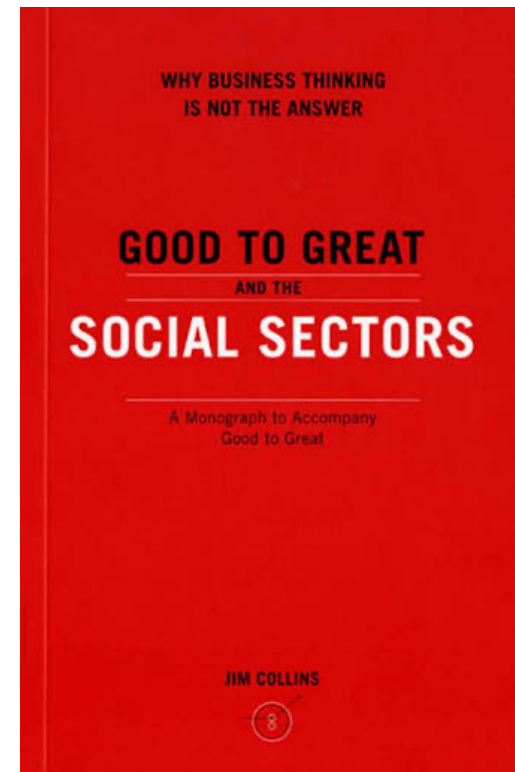
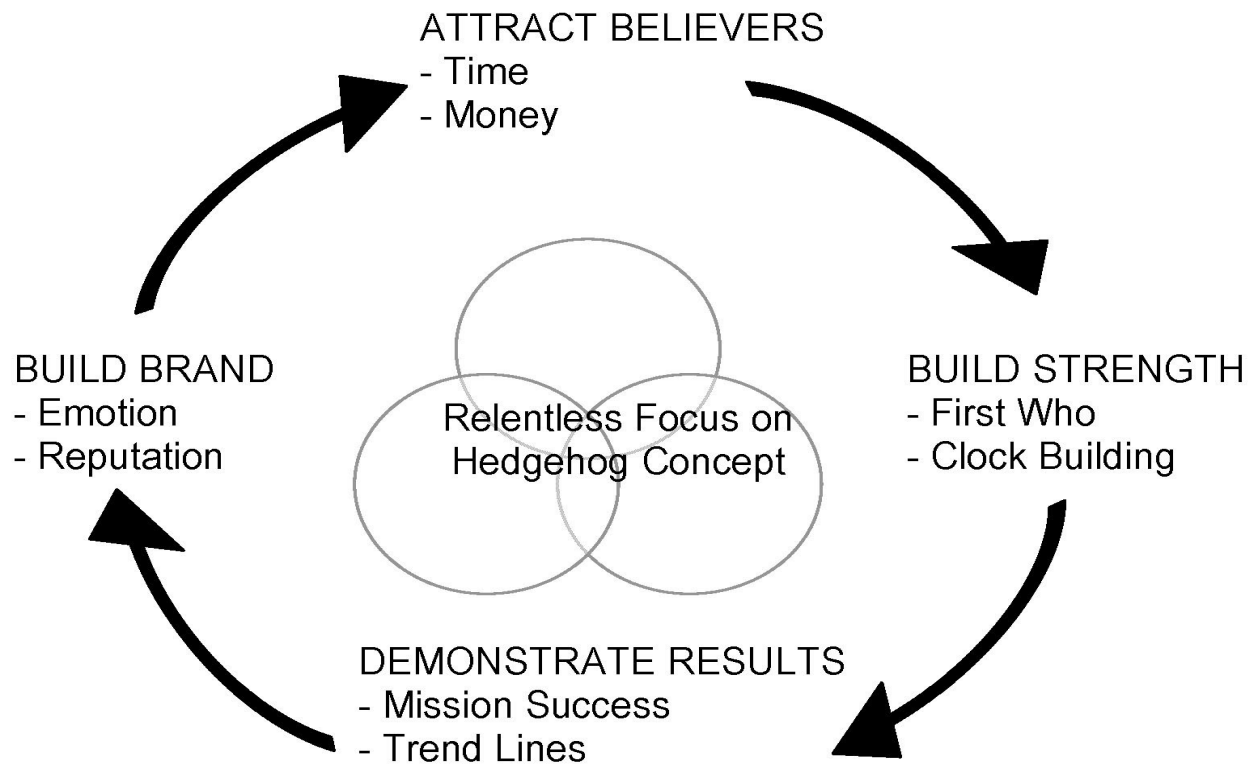


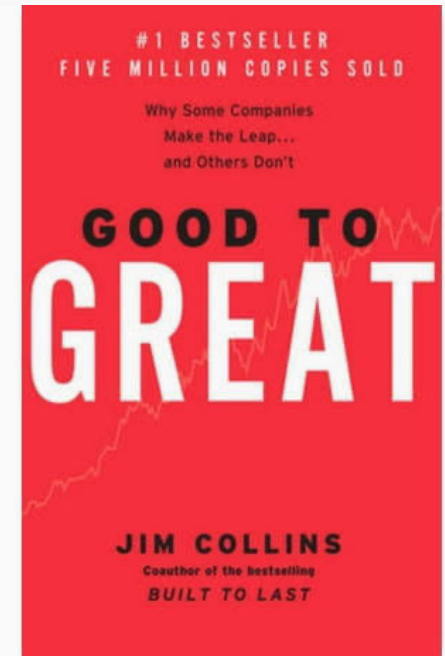
JIM COLLINS
Coauthor of the bestselling
BUILT TO LAST



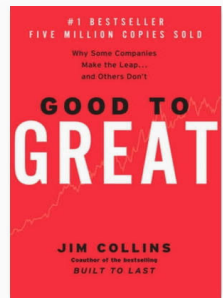
THE FLYWHEEL

IN THE SOCIAL SECTORS

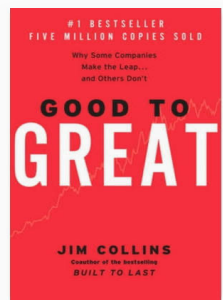




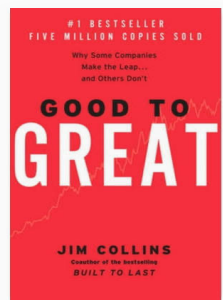
“Every good-to-great company had Level 5 leadership during the pivotal transition years. “Level 5” refers to a five-level hierarchy of executive capabilities, with Level 5 at the top. Level 5 leaders embody a paradoxical mix of ***personal humility*** and ***professional will*** . . .



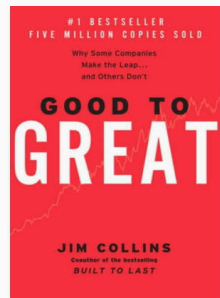
“... They are ambitious, to be sure, but ambitious first and foremost for the company, not themselves. Level 5 leaders set up their successors for even greater success in the next generation, whereas egocentric Level 4 leaders often set up their successors for failure. . . .



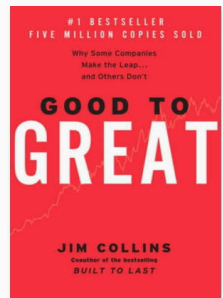
“... Level 5 leaders display **a compelling modesty**, are self-effacing and understated. In contrast, two thirds of the comparison companies had leaders with gargantuan personal egos that contributed to the demise or continued mediocrity of the company ...



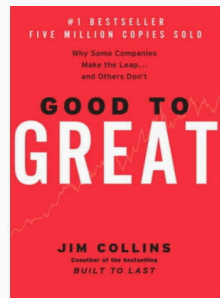
“... Level 5 leaders are **fanatically driven**, infected with an incurable need to produce sustained results. They are **resolved to do whatever it takes to make the company great**, no matter how big or hard the decisions.



“... Level 5 leaders display a workmanlike diligence—more plow horse than show horse.



“ . . . Level 5 leaders look out the window to attribute success to factors other than themselves. When things go poorly, however, they look in the mirror and blame themselves, taking full responsibility. The comparison CEOs often did just the opposite—they looked in the mirror to take credit for success, but out the window to assign blame for disappointing results.



Level 5 Leaders



Level 5 leaders build enduring greatness thru' **personal humility** and **professional will**

Personal Humility



Compelling modesty, company's long-term interest above self, set up successors

Professional Will



Results-driven, unwavering resolve, quiet doggedness



READINGGRAPHICS

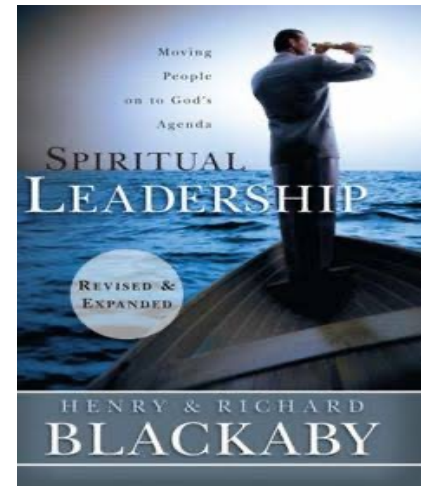
ACTIONABLE INSIGHTS IN ONE PAGE

Responding to The Word's Way to Serve and Lead

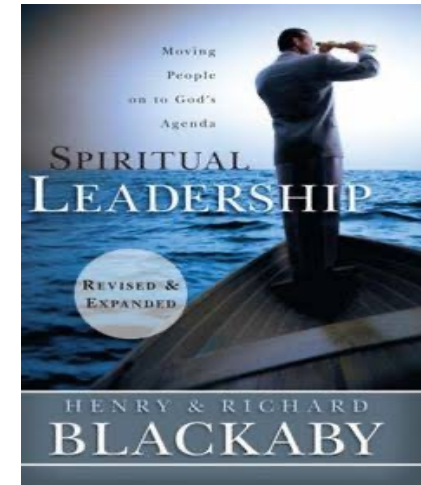
- **Serving/Leading with a
Commitment to Personal
Development and Fulfillment**
- **Serving/Leading for the
Challenges and Crises, as we
Carry Our Cross**



“It is generally in tumultuous times that people make the greatest difference in their world. The greater the crisis, the greater is the opportunity for leaders to make a difference. Those who complain about their difficulties or shrink from crises prove they are not leaders regardless of whether they hold such an office. But people who recognize the opportunity history affords them and boldly accept the invitation will change their world. . . .



“... True spiritual leaders do not wring their hands and wistfully recount the better times of days gone by. Genuine leaders understand they have but one life to live and so they expend it with purpose and passion. God placed you on the earth at this particular crossroad in history. You live in a time of great challenges but enormous opportunity.”

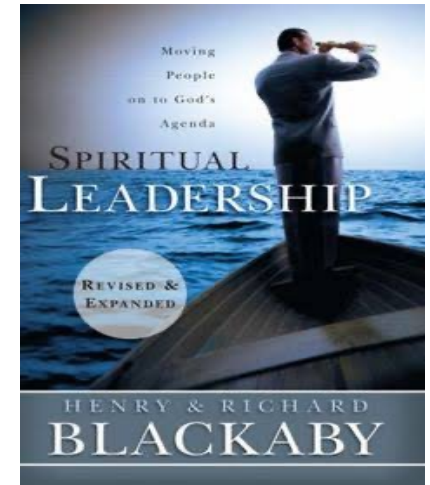


Responding to The Word's Way to Serve and Lead

- **Serving/Leading with a
Commitment to Personal
Development and Fulfillment**
- **Serving/Leading for the
Challenges and Crises, as we
Carry Our Cross**
- **Serving/Leading By a
Commitment to Selfless and
Sacrificial Surrender**



“The fact that God can bring character development and personal growth out of any situation is conditional on people's willingness to submit to God's will. God is sovereign over every life, but those who yield their will to him will be shaped according to his purposes. When God directs a life for his purposes, all of life is a school. No experience, good or bad, is ever wasted (Rom. 8:28).”





The Belonging Co

BECAUSE OF CHRIST

Feat. Henry Seeley

²⁸ And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

Romans 8:28, 31-32



If God
is for us,
who can
be against
us?

