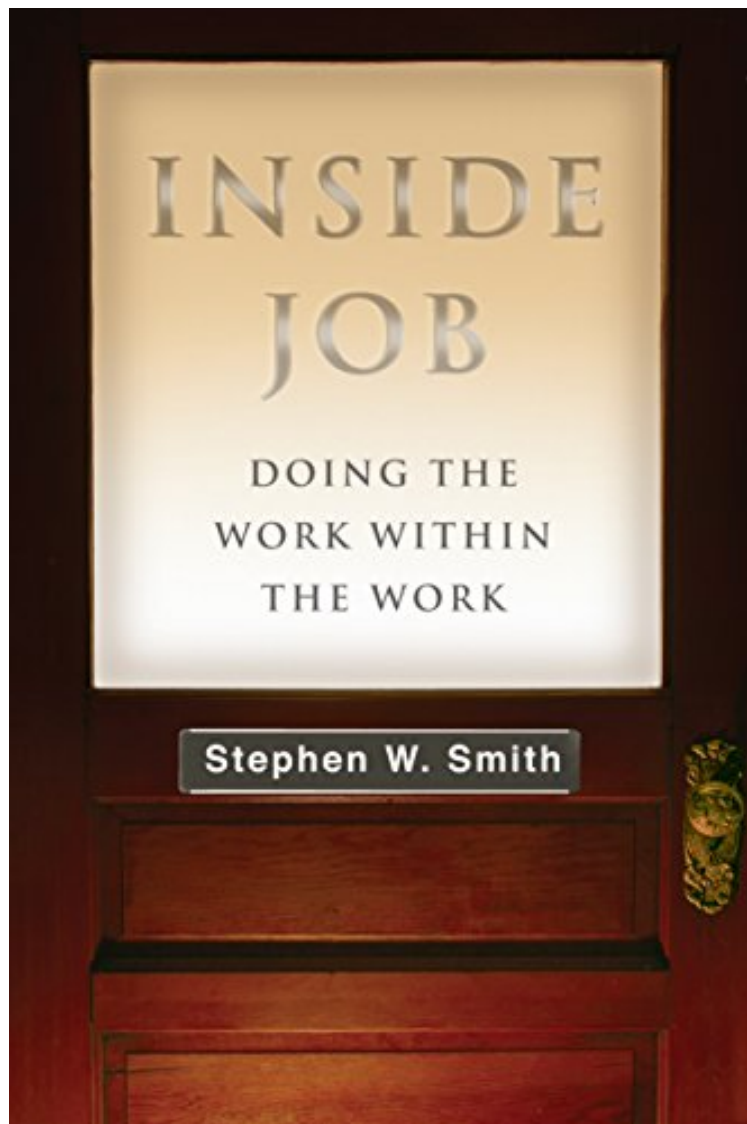


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## Inside Job: Doing the Work Within the Work (Christian Association for Psychological Studies Books)

*Stephen W. Smith*

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**Stephen W. Smith : Inside Job: Doing the Work Within the Work (Christian Association for Psychological Studies Books)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Inside Job: Doing the Work Within the Work (Christian Association for Psychological Studies Books):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Live the Life You've Always Wanted By Joseph O. Chambers I wish I had read and assimilated this book 20 years ago; lots of life-pain might have been avoided. What I love about this

book is the honesty by which the author discusses the interior issues of a leader's heart. He pulls no punches and sugar-coats nothing. He can't afford to. Too many lives are at risk. The discussion in chapter 5 about the four quadrants of the heart was especially insightful. I want to be a leader that leads from all four quadrants: the part people see, the part that I reveal to a certain few, the part I show to my boon companions, and the part that I don't know, but want to learn about--the deeper heart. Another part that I found helpful was the chapter 9 on Leader Transitions. Because I have recently moved my wife across country to lead an organization that is culturally different than what I am used to, this looks to be a daunting challenge, but with the tools of transition the author outlines in this chapter, I feel better equipped to find contentment, resiliency and satisfaction in the latter years of my vocational life. I highly recommend this book. Very little attention is paid to what is going on on the inside of a heart and soul in popular writing about leadership. This book goes deep and stays there. The metrics are mostly external in our culture. But external metrics are of little good if the life I am living is only as deep as a bird bath. If read, processed and assimilated, this book will deepen your soul--preparing you to live the life you've always wanted and the one God has offered: Shalom. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. At last...By Reid762 Finally, a book on Christian formation that's anchored to 2 Peter 1:3-15! For the past 15 yrs, or so, this passage has been one of the primary biblical texts I've used to help others (including myself) understand and prioritize the practice of spiritual disciplines. I'm so grateful to the Lord for this book. Smith does an excellent job of integrating sound biblical exegesis and theology into a practical/pastoral theology that shifts the focus onto the shepherd/leader's need to "supplement (their) faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection with love." 2 Peter 5b-7 (ESV) 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Flat on your back-side? By Gregory E Sharp That's where I've been. Stephen Smith's Inside Job met me like an outstretched hand showing up at that place in life where there is nowhere left to go but off my butt, and I was considering whether it was worth the effort. It was, and it still is. For a world full of exhausted, battered, and broken people, Inside Job points in the direction of wisdom, hope and resilience. An abundant life is not measured in busyness; do your soul some kindness, and read this book.

In Family Therapies, Mark A. Yarhouse and James N. Sells survey the major approaches to family therapy and treatment within a Christian framework, significant psychotherapeutic issues. A landmark work, this volume was written for those studying counseling, social work, psychology, or marriage and family therapy. Fully updated and revised, this second edition includes new chapters on cohabitation and LGBTQ+ marriage and family formation. Other issues covered include crisis and trauma, marital conflict, separation, divorce, and blended families, substance abuse and addiction, gender, culture, economic class, and race, sexual identity. Yarhouse and Sells conclude by casting a vision for an integrative Christian family therapy and offer timely wisdom for therapeutic practice in the midst of a diverse and rapidly changing global context. Family Therapies is an indispensable resource for those in the mental health professions, including counselors, psychologists, family therapists, social workers, and pastors.

"It is a sobering reality that many of us as leaders plunge ahead in the work we do, the relationships that we develop and the lifestyle that we adopt without a realistic perspective of what drives us. This subverts what ought to be joy, and makes us susceptible to failure or burnout. Stephen Smith offers us in Inside Job a path for proper self-examination. . . . Read this book with an open mind and heart and you will know God and yourself much better. The people around you will be glad for it." (Mel Lawrenz, minister at large, Elmbrook Church) "As a physician, I encourage people to examine, evaluate and improve their physical, emotional, relational and spiritual health on a frequent basis. Stephen W. Smith's book is an inspiring and practical manual for those in the marketplace and ministry wanting to evaluate their vitality and resilience and the health of their leadership. I highly recommend this book!" (Walt Larimore, family physician and bestselling author) "Steve is a prophet for our day, calling us from the idolatrous worship of success back to the worship of the true God who designed rhythm and rest. As a fellow traveler who has experienced the roughness of the journey, he invites us to journey within our own hearts 'to work within the work.' I heartily endorse this timely and very important book that calls us back to our hearts' true home." (Nelson Okanya, president, Eastern Mennonite Missions) "Inside Job helps us grow the inner heart of leadership. We cannot be content with how we look to other people or the 'successes' we have in our life, ministry or work. We must give focused attention to our inner life. Inside Job guides us through the urgent journey each leader must take." (Stacy Rinehart, founder, MentorLink International) "In most of my leadership training, including as a Harvard MBA, the focus was largely outward on assessments, strategies, results, etc. with very little focus on me, my character and my spiritual formation. I've learned through the years, however, and often the hard way, that my leadership effectiveness in both Christian ministry and the commercial marketplace has much more to do with my character than my ideas. Inside Job shows us the way to lead more effectively from the inside out." (Tripp Johnston, executive director, SIM's Sports Friends Ministry) "We run as hard as we can in the pursuit of success and contentment only to find out that true success, contentment and transformation come from the 'inside job.' I highly recommend this book as a place for you to begin your inside work." (Mark Linsz, former treasurer of Bank of America, cofounder and senior managing partner of My Next Season) "Inside

Job provokes honest reflection and heartfelt response that invites the reader into a deeper walk with Christ's journey of steadfast resilience toward a life of love. Quite countercultural in his approach, Steve Smith encourages the reader to consider traveling the descent of Christlike humility rather than the ascent of worldly success." (Stephen Macchia, Leadership Transformations, Inc., author of *Crafting a Rule of Life*) "Stephen Smith understands that there's a big difference between living life in balance, and living in rhythm. The former leaves leaders stuck on a treadmill of stress and disillusionment. But the latter helps them truly discover their purpose and live within life's limits. *Inside Job* should be essential reading for anyone who is tired of the rat race." (Jim Daly, president, Focus on the Family) "Like a laser beam, *Inside Job* penetrates to the heart of what Christian leadership is all about. In a day and age when much of leadership centers around an array of tips and techniques, Steve Smith takes us to the true focus of leadership character. . . . His wisdom, insights and straightforward approach will lead you to understand that leadership success is truly an inside-out job. . . . This is a must read for those who truly want to lead in the way of Christ!" (Randy Rains, associate vice president, International Mission Board, SBC) "With *Inside Job*, Steve Smith offers us a thirst-quenching read that gently but unflinchingly awakens us to the hard effort and liberation, the suffering and joy, of what it means to lead as Jesus leads from the inside out. But more poignantly, my friend and teacher opens to us his own heart in all of its beauty and brokenness, hopes and fears and ultimately with the necessary confidence in the inside job that God is already doing in each of us to bring this world to glory. The only question that remains is whether or not we will join him in that endeavor. Reading this book will make you want to more than ever. Read it and learn to lead like Jesus leads." (Curt Thompson, author of *Anatomy of the Soul and The Soul of Shame*) "Steve Smith is a genuine sage of our generation. As I read *Inside Job*, it was as if Steve were reading my heart where I've been and where I want to go. Had this book been in my hands thirty years ago, the false god of success would not have seduced me into its clutches. If we want to worship the true and living God, then we need an inside job, and *Inside Job* is a brilliant guidebook for that journey." (Howard Baker, Denver Seminary, author of *The One True Thing*) "As a personal trainer for our soul, Steve first helps us confront with brutal honesty the vulnerability of our souls and the wounds of our hearts. . . . Read this slowly and let it begin an 'inside job' in the deep and hidden parts of your life. You will find that you will become who you long to be, to the benefit of your own soul and everyone around you!" (Scott Arbeiter, former lead pastor at Elmbrook Church) "After years of working in the public eye as an executive, I found life-giving wisdom and much needed solutions among the private pages of *Inside Job*. With the firmness of a loving father and the frankness of a caring mentor, author Stephen W. Smith writes with deep understanding of a leader's journey, offering practical applications you can apply with the turn of nearly every page." (Dusty Rhodes, WAY Media, Inc., senior vice president) "Success" is a primary aspiration of people around the globe. . . . The significance of *Inside Job* is to help us think deeply which means biblically about what success really means. In the author's words it is not a call to arms, but 'a call to the heart to reflect, to awaken and to practice living the life you want to live.' *Inside Job* is highly readable and wonderfully informative, focusing on a theme that is vital to every serious believer." (John D. Beckett, chairman, The Beckett Companies, author, *Loving Monday and Mastering Monday*) "Leadership is an exceptionally complex role, and the leader's primary responsibility is toward those whom they influence. Steve offers not only helpful leadership guidance but, even more importantly, a crucial call to deeper waters of formation in Christ. Steve's work provides needed direction amidst the demands of today's leadership so that leaders may influence others well. Don't just read this book, pray and live it." (Scott E. Shaum, director of staff development, Barnabas International) "This book will wake you up to the importance of living a contemplative life. Stephen's willingness to be open, vulnerable, honest and transparent in his own struggle to live the contemplative life provides courage and hope for all of us that crave that deeper intimate relationship with Jesus. The book's wisdom challenges us to listen with the ear of our spiritual heart in silence, solitude and intentional prayer." (Sister Mary Colleen Schwarz, Benet Hill Monastery) "Nothing of eternal significance can flow out of a hollow life. As spiritual leaders, we can only minister out of the abundance of our heart and soul. Thus, each of us must do our own interior work to do God's work in a God-honoring way. Stephen Smith's *Inside Job* shows us how." (Wil Hernandez, executive director of CenterQuest) About the Author Stephen W. Smith is the cofounder and president of The Potter's Inn, a spiritual formation ministry dedicated to the care of leaders in the marketplace and in ministry. He has pastored churches in Kentucky, North Carolina and the Netherlands, and is the author of *The Lazarus Life*, *Soul Custody* and *Embracing Soul Care: Making Space for What Matters Most*. Steve and his wife Gwen serve as spiritual directors and retreat leaders with Potter's Inn and previously they lived overseas in Europe planting churches before the fall of Communism.