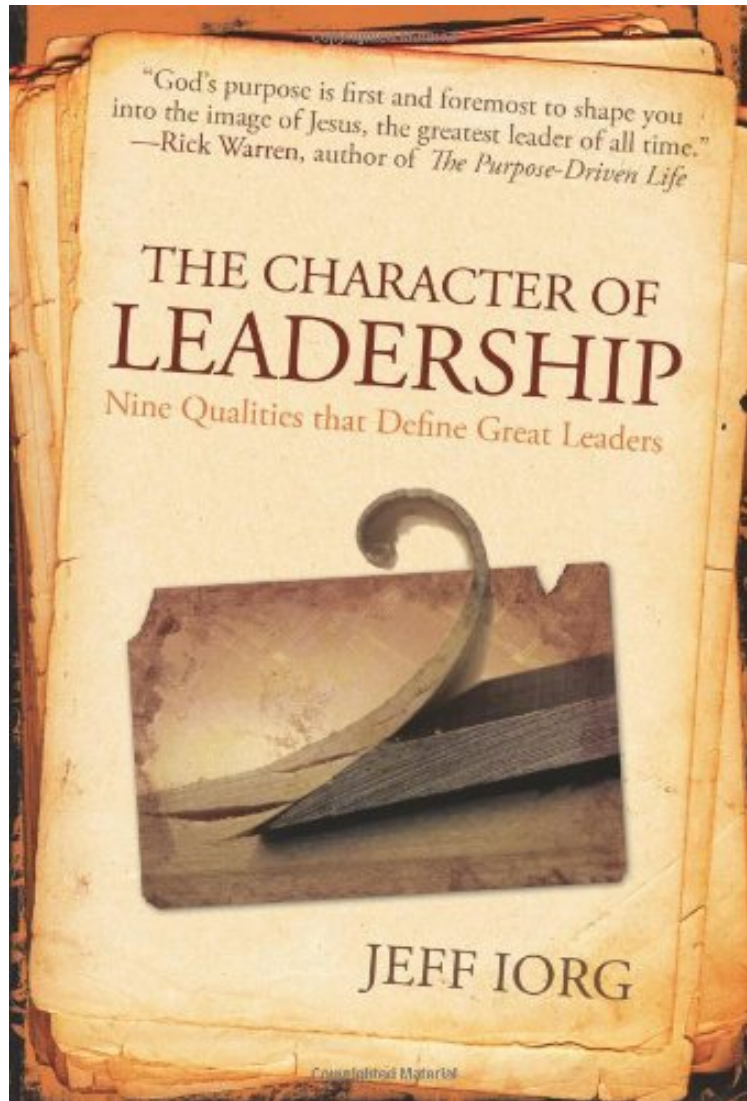


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The Character of Leadership: Nine Qualities that Define Great Leaders

Jeff Iorg

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Jeff Iorg : The Character of Leadership: Nine Qualities that Define Great Leaders before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Character of Leadership: Nine Qualities that Define Great Leaders:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. I Was the Problem By John W. Pearson "In my twenties, I was determined to change the world," writes Jeff Iorg. "In my thirties, I tried to reform the church. In my early forties, I discovered I was the problem. That was a most difficult day." So begins Iorg's very transparent first chapter. As pastor, denominational leader and now seminary president, Iorg understands the trenches. He also understands the God of the

trenches. He confesses to the sin of "coasting." "For me, my pastorate had become like swimming laps. I was stroking along, doing well, staying in shape, keeping things moving, and making steady progress." But then: "answering God's call to this new position was like being tossed overboard into the ocean. No more gliding along! Once again, I would be swimming for my spiritual life." "What's so unique about this book on character qualities?" "God wants you to work hard and to study how to improve your skills so you work more effectively. Other books, other very important books, will help you do that. Most schools, seminaries and seminars focus on these skills. Many of them are helpful. But this book is not about how to do leadership. It is about how to be a leader." So...after setting the spiritual foundation in chapter one (worth-the-price-of-the-book), he zeroes in on his Top-9 list of character qualities that define great leaders. It's the perfect book for a silent day-of-prayer retreat or a 10-week group study with emerging leaders and managers. I love the fact that his nine character qualities are preceded by verbs. It's all about being--and involves action. Here's the list: Maintaining Integrity, Finding Security, Maintaining Purity, Learning Humility, Developing Servanthood. Gaining Wisdom, Practicing Discipline, Showing Courage and Sustaining Passion. "Showing Courage" is one of the author's Top-9 character qualities that define great leaders. He says that "showing courage begins with confronting immobilizing fear." Iorg reminds us that the Bible lists more than 600 references related to fear. All of the Bible's "spiritual hall of fame" leaders had something in common: they were afraid of something. What do you fear? Because humility is one of the nine, the author (not surprisingly) does not suggest that his Top-9 list is the final word on character. What leadership character qualities would make your Top-9 list? 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Love this book! By TQ from Kansas City Love this book! If you want to lead and don't know how or want to fine-tune your skills as a leader, this is the book for you. If you think someone else would make a good leader and needs some encouragement, this would be the ideal book to give to them! It's very motivating and uplifting! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Treatment of Biblical Leadership! By Donna J. Wright Worth your time. Not so much what you do as a leader but who you are as one. Well done.

Seminary president Jeff Iorg believes that character, and character development, are essential foundations for effective leaders. In *The Character of Leadership*, he writes about how God ever shapes character in the life of every leader, and in relation, how continual spiritual formation is a process to which every good leader must pay close attention. Iorg puts insightful chapter-long emphasis on nine important character-shaping qualities that help readers in "becoming the leader God intends me to be rather than doing the leading God intends me to do." The nine qualities are: Integrity, Security, Purity, Humility, Servanthood, Wisdom, Discipline, Courage, and Passion. Endorsements: Rick Warren, author of *The Purpose-Driven Life* "Jeff Iorg defines lasting leadership as character, not capacity or competency. The making of a great leader is built on what God intends you to be rather than doing the leading God intends for you to do. His purpose is first and foremost to shape you into the image of Jesus, the greatest leader of all time." James T. Draper, Jr., president emeritus, LifeWay Christian Resources "An enormous contribution to the critical area of ministry and leadership. A must read for every ministry that strives for excellence. I recommend it without reservation." J. Robert White, executive director, Georgia Baptist Convention "Iorg is imminently qualified to write this volume on leadership . . . the chapters on integrity and purity are very much needed in our times and worth the investment of your time."

"An enormous contribution to the critical area of ministry and leadership. A must read for every ministry that strives for excellence. I recommend it without reservation." -- James T. Draper, Jr., president emeritus, LifeWay Christian Resources "Iorg is imminently qualified to write this volume on leadership . . . the chapters on integrity and purity are very much needed in our times and worth the investment of your time." -- J. Robert White, executive director, Georgia Baptist Convention "Jeff Iorg defines lasting leadership as character, not capacity or competency. The making of a great leader is built on what God intends you to be rather than doing the leading God intends for you to do. His purpose is first and foremost to shape you into the image of Jesus, the greatest leader of all time." -- Rick Warren, author of *The Purpose-Driven Life* About the Author Jeff Iorg, president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, is also the author of *The Character of Leadership* and *Is God Calling Me?* He holds degrees from Hardin Simmons University and Midwestern and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminaries and has answered God's call to be a church planter, pastor, and denominational executive. Jeff and his wife, Ann, live in Mill Valley, California.