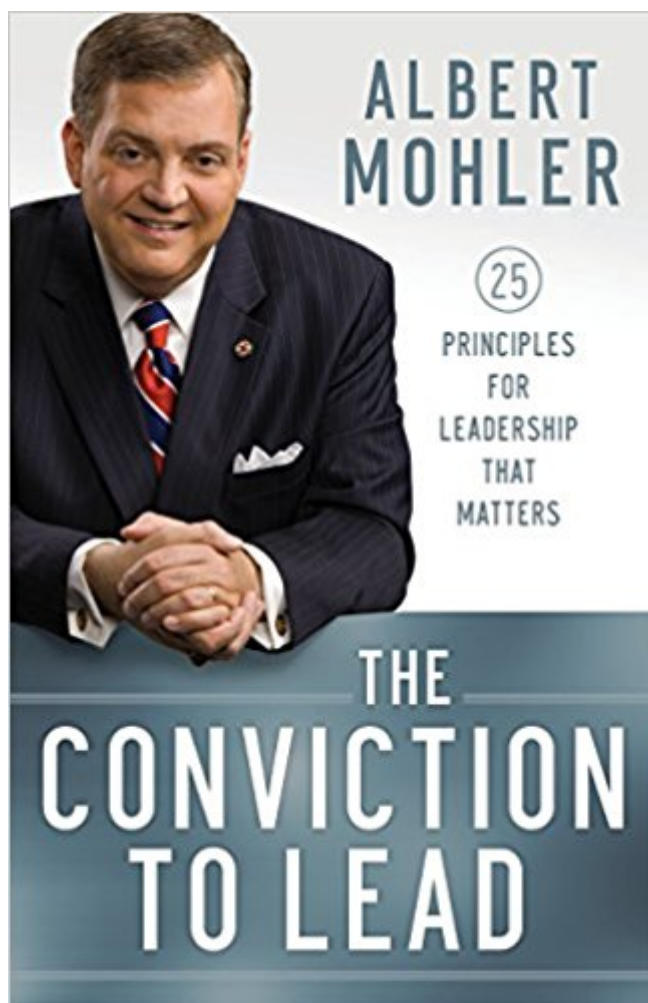


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The Conviction To Lead: 25 Principles For Leadership That Matters



Synopsis

Leadership Principles from a Renowned Agent of Change Cultures and organizations do not change without strong leadership. While many leadership books focus on management or administration, the central focus of *The Conviction to Lead* is on changing minds. Dr. Mohler was the driving force behind the transformation of Southern Seminary from a liberal institution of waning influence to a thriving evangelical seminary at the heart of the Southern Baptist Convention. Since then he has been one of the most prominent voices in evangelicalism, fighting for Christian principles and challenging secular culture. Using his own experiences and examples from history, Dr. Mohler demonstrates that real leadership is a transferring of conviction to others, affecting their actions, motivations, intuition, and commitment. This practical guide walks the reader through what a leader needs to know, do, and be in order to affect change.

Book Information

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Bethany House Publishers (October 21, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0764211250

ISBN-13: 978-0764211256

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.5 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 223 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #81,919 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #69 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Living > Leadership #83 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Religious Studies > Leadership #104 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Churches & Church Leadership > Church Leadership

Customer Reviews

Let me warn you right up front--my goal in this book is to change the way you think about leadership. I do not aim merely to add one more voice to the conversation; I want to fundamentally change the way leadership is understood and practiced. For the better part of the last three decades, leadership has been a major cultural preoccupation and a professional obsession. And yet something is missing... You are going to discover that Christian leadership cannot be separated from passionately held beliefs. Only if you are deeply committed to truth will you be ready for leadership. You can be part of a generation that is simultaneously leading with conviction and driven by the

conviction to lead. The generation that accomplishes this will set the world on fire. I want to see that happen, and I think you do too.--Albert Mohler|Dr. R. Albert Mohler is President of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, the Southern Baptist Convention's flagship school, as well as a radio personality, blogger, and sought-after commentator. Hailed by Time magazine as "the reigning intellectual of the evangelical movement in the U.S," Dr. Mohler has been quoted in the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, and USA Today. He has also appeared on such national news programs as Larry King Live, NBC's Today Show, Dateline NBC, Good Morning America, The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer, and The O'Reilly Factor. Dr. Mohler lives in Louisville, Kentucky, with his wife, Mary. Visit his website at www.albertmohler.com.

Change the Way You Think About LeadershipAt the age of thirty-three, Dr. Albert Mohler became the youngest president in the 153-year history of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He was the driving force behind the school's transformation into a thriving institution with an international reputation characterized by a passionate conviction for truth. In the process he became one of the most important and prominent Christian voices in contemporary culture. What will it take to transform your leadership? Effective leaders need more than administrative skills and vision. They need to be able to change the hearts and minds of those they lead. Leadership like this requires passionate beliefs that can stand up to pressure from without and within. Now for the first time, Dr. Mohler reveals 25 principles to crystallize your convictions, revolutionizing your thinking, your decision-making, your communication, and ultimately those you lead. "Dr. Al Mohler has written a book that shakes us up and challenges our thinking. The Conviction to Lead is poised to become one of the all-time classic works on Christian leadership." Jim Daly, President--Focus on the Family "Having rarely thought about leadership, I was hooked from the first chapter--to my complete surprise. This is a powerful book and gracefully written." Fred Barnes, Executive Editor--The Weekly Standard "This is Mohler in his most natural habitat, doing what he does best. If you are a pastor or elder, if you are an owner or CEO, if you are in any form of leadership, I am convinced that this book will transform the way you lead. I highly recommend that you read it." --Tim Challies, Pastor, Grace Fellowship Church, Toronto; owner of challies.com "For any one currently in a position of leadership, or anyone who aspires to a position of leadership, this book is a necessity." Douglas Wilson, author and blogger

I don't see this book as a how to manual on leadership but rather as a picture of what an effective leader looks like. Seeing the example, we understand what we are to imitate. Becoming a leader

simply means being put in the role. However, as Mohler puts it, "you can serve in a leadership position and never really lead." So this book helps to show the qualities of leading (centering on conviction), the qualities of a leader (such as being a deep thinker), and some of the things a leader has to interact with (such as time or the media). These different ideas are put into 25 qualities which each get their own chapter. Most of the qualities can be studied by themselves but all would be necessary for leader to be effective. Al Mohler goes details of the quality while providing examples, from his life and others, to see the quality in action. To people who are in clear leadership roles and to people who will be in leadership roles, I highly commend this book as it is an easy read.

I have a lot of respect of Al Mohler. I listen to "The Briefing" almost religiously and have recently read his book "We Cannot Be Silent." It does not take meticulous observation to notice that Dr. Mohler is a man of conviction. Everything he says, writes, and shares--exudes a passion for the gospel of Jesus Christ. It is exactly that passion and deep seated belief that is the reason he is such an effective leader. That is what "Conviction to Lead" is about. In each chapter Mohler goes through a leadership principle. Chapters range from communication to belief. Passion to power. Each principle is Biblically based, and Mohler ties in experiences from his own life to hammer the points home. The primary thrust of this book is that: truly effective leaders have true convictions. Because they are so driven by what they believe, passion exudes their persona. This conviction is therefore the essential foundation to any leader, and without it--no one will follow. But conviction alone is not enough. It must be paired by communication, competency, knowledge, vision...etc (as discussed in the book). My favorite chapter surprisingly is the one entitled "The Leader and Death." In it, Mohler tells about an interesting artifact that can be found on his writing desk. "A realistic model of a human skull. Mohler explains: "If you look at some of the most historic portraits in the historic tradition, you will see a skull in the painting. This was known as memento mori, the memory of death, which was intended to motivate the subject of the painting to make the most of the time given to him...It is a constant reminder of mortality as essential to the human condition, and an impetus to be aware that every passing day removes one tick from the column marked Future and adds to the column marked past." Death, according to Mohler is the great motivator--that reminds us that our time here is short, and one day we will be held accountable for the time allotted us. All in all this is a great book. Mohler writes with a background of a visible leader with immense responsibilities. With this background, he speaks of talking to the media and using power--which may appeal more to the executive or mega church pastor. Though I am neither of those, the vast majority of principles are applicable to all who fit under the umbrella of "leadership." I therefore thoroughly recommend this

book to anyone who leads.

The BEST book on Christian leadership I've read to date. Dr Harry Reeder's book on leadership talks about how Christian men look more to the corporate world for leadership "how-to", which is all backwards. They need to be looking within God's Word on what God says a leader should be and do, then take that out into the world. Dr Mohler has done an excellent job in his newest book and I find myself thinking through his point on a regular basis. As a leader in my community and business owner, the truths taken from God's Word for a "Conviction to Lead" couldn't be more relevant to today's culture. We live in a time when it appears America is going to hell in a hand-basket. Now, more than ever we need men willing to stand up and lead all the lost souls wandering aimlessly - are you one of those men??? If so, buy this book, read it over and over and start leading the way God intended men to lead. Men like Dr Mohler, Dr Reeder, and others. Join the fray men and make a difference while there is still time to turn the tide and pray God will bless our efforts in this great Nation that He established!

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