
Greg Schaller

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freedom impact the issue of faith and orthodoxy? These are important questions that must be answered as Hamel’s concepts are considered. Finally, Christian leaders must wrestle with the question, what is our bottom line? In Hamel’s view, organizational priorities should shift from “institution → individual → profit” to “individual → organization → impact” (pp. 149-150). What is the impact? What is the Christian leader’s ultimate goal? And how might we restructure our organizational model to best accomplish that goal?

Though What Matters Now does not answer all of the questions Christian leaders might have, the fact that it prompts these questions makes it well worth reading. Hamel’s ideas should resonate with Christian leaders, especially those who embrace the truth of the priesthood of all believers and the responsibility of every disciple of Christ to be engaged in service to fulfill the Great Commission. Though some may think Hamel’s ideas too radical to be of practical value, the Christian leader should remember that our ultimate Leader, Jesus Christ, was a revolutionary in His own time. Christian leaders continue to draw inspiration from His remarkable vision. Perhaps Hamel’s book can help Christian leaders restore some of the vitality and innovation that the church has lost. For this reason, I highly recommend this book to all Christian leaders who are ready to change the paradigm of leadership and who desire to empower the people they serve.

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TRANSFORMATIONAL COACHING: EMPOWERING LEADERS IN A CHANGING MINISTRY WORLD

By Steve Ogne & Tim Roehl
Hardcover, 286 pages
Reviewed by GREG SCHALLER

In Transformissional Coaching, Ogne and Roehl share practical insights into holistic coaching. They establish a biblical basis for coaching that is anchored in examples such as Jethro coaching Moses, Barnabas coming alongside Paul, Paul’s call to equip the body for acts of service, and many Proverbs that summon hearers to act wisely.

Why coaching? According to the authors, coaching offers breakthroughs in a Christ follower’s transformation and growth. The old paradigm for initiating change is telling others they need to change and/or providing information that will lead to change. In contrast, the coaching paradigm for transformational change provides a relationship in which the Christ follower recounts his reality and experiences discovery of needed change followed by strategic action steps and accountability. Examples of needed transformation include getting unstuck in transitions, clarifying God’s calling, addressing personal character issues, and becoming more self-aware.

This book underscores the significance of listening and asking key questions for effective coaching. Ogne and Roehl advocate probing by asking questions and actively listening to the one being coached. This is counterintuitive and challenges the natural instinct to dictate solutions, an act which interrupts the possibility for self-discovery that leads to transfor-
mation. But key questions and listening allow for effective clarification, self-discovery, and a self-motivated action plan to occur in a coaching relationship. The authors include a whole series of helpful questions.

Ogne and Roehl’s significant contribution to coaching, however, is linking coaching to young leaders in the postmodern setting. They suggest that the young postmodern mindset is looking for relationships, proximity, and affinity. Authenticity, story, and experiences matter to a millennial living in a media-saturated society. The genius of coaching is that it is not a program; rather, it is a coming alongside another person to facilitate the release of God-given potential. This personal coaching offers a key to personal leadership transformation that institutional programs cannot replicate. The authors successfully argue that coaching fits exceptionally well with the young postmodern worldview.

TransforMissional Coaching would likely most benefit people above the age of 40 in understanding how to relate and link to the millennial generation. Leaders serving in urban and/or highly educated settings with concentrations of millennials would specifically resonate with Ogne and Roehl’s ideas. The book’s bibliography includes a number of coaching classics as well as 11 coaching websites. TransforMissional Coaching forms an excellent primer on coaching and deserves my highest recommendation.

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THE LIVING GOD AND OUR LIVING PSYCHE: WHAT CHRISTIANS CAN LEARN FROM CARL JUNG

By Ann Belford Ulanov & Alvin Dueck
Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans (2008)
Paperback, 111 pages
Reviewed by SAMUEL GARBI

As suggested by the title of this book by Ann Belford Ulanov and Alvin Dueck, Christians not only can, but should learn from Jung (pp. 3, 19, & 23): “Evangelicals need Jung” (p. 107, reviewer’s emphasis). According to Ulanov and Dueck, this is because Jung’s work functions as a needed corrective to an over-spiritualized (and therefore ineffective or dangerous) faith (p. 25). As such, Jung’s work is presented as useful for leading towards genuine spiritual growth and making Christian leaders more effective. The authors see the fear some Christians have of Jung as precisely the most telling reason they would benefit from his ideas. They say Jung can [help] us to acknowledge some of the blind spots that often keep us from living out more fully our core convictions” (p. 25). I agree with the authors’ views, based not only on personal experience and observation, but also on abundant biblical material that points out the special difficulty we who claim to be religious have in acknowledging our blind spots (e.g., Revelation 3:17; Jeremiah 17:9; John 1:5, 10, 11).

The body of this book is comprised of three essays that are critical to Christian growth and leadership. The second essay (pp. 51-68) contains a most helpful section on the Shadow archetype—that part of themselves which many “advanced” Christians are least aware of in themselves and which therefore most easily trips