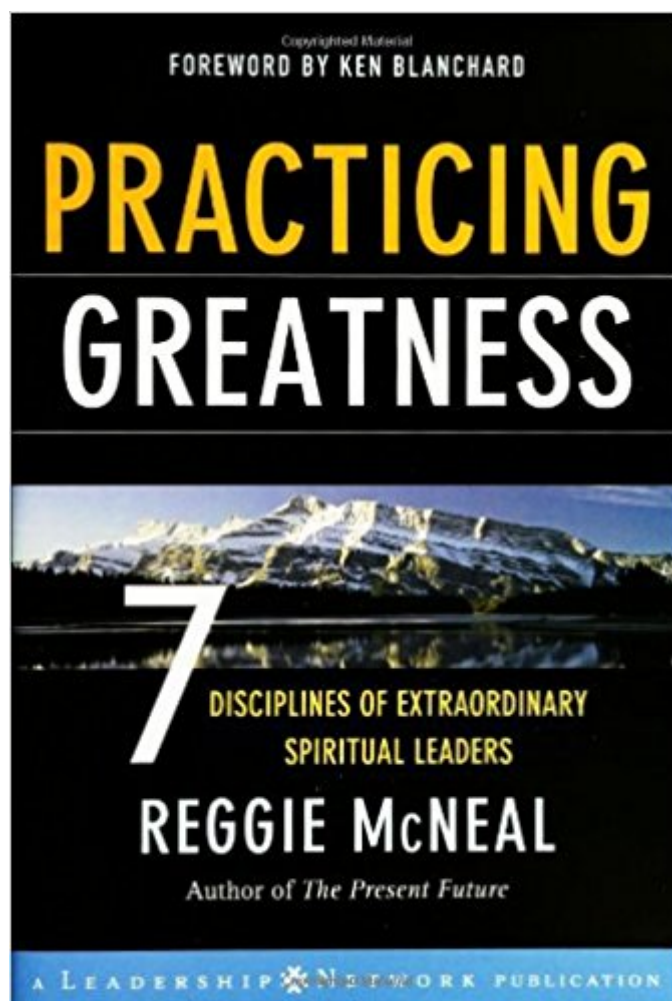


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Practicing Greatness: 7 Disciplines Of Extraordinary Spiritual Leaders



Synopsis

Based on his extensive experience as coach and mentor to many thousands of Christian leaders across a broad spectrum of ministry settings, Reggie McNeal helps spiritual leaders understand that they will self-select into or out of greatness. In this important book, McNeal shows how great spiritual leaders are committed consciously and intentionally to seven spiritual disciplines, habits of heart and mind that shape both their character and competence:

- The discipline of self-awareness "the single most important body of information a leader possesses"
- The discipline of self-management "handling difficult emotions, expectations, temptations, mental vibrancy, and physical well-being"
- The discipline of self-development "a life-long commitment to learning and growing and building on one's strengths"
- The discipline of mission "enjoying the permissions of maintaining the sense of God's purpose for your life and leadership"
- The discipline of decision-making "knowing the elements of good decisions and learning from failure"
- The discipline of belonging "the determination to nurture relationships and to live in community with others, including family, followers, mentors, and friends"
- The discipline of aloneness "the intentional practice of soul-making solitude and contemplation"

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"This is a compelling and practical book that will help develop great spiritual leaders to meet the challenges of leadership as the church seeks to bring the gospel to a changed world."

— "Insights" magazine (Sept. 2008)

"Practicing Greatness is a hard-hitting leadership book, not just a collection of inspirational thoughts." — from the Foreword by Ken Blanchard, author of *The One-Minute Manager* and *Lead Like Jesus: Lessons from the Greatest Leadership Role Model of All Time* "The depth and breadth of wisdom in this book is just short of unbelievable. Good leaders aspiring to be great leaders will do well to read this book and allow it to probe and shape their lives." — Bill Easum, Easum, Bandy & Associates "I have always been challenged by Reggie McNeal's insights. And this book is packed with insights for any leader wanting to move from good to great." — Robert Lewis, pastor and men's fraternity founder, Fellowship Bible Church, Little Rock, Arkansas "Someone once taught me a powerful lesson: If you are without discipline, you are without power. In this revitalizing work, Reggie has tapped into a power source for all leaders' disciplines. Grab hold of this book and begin a newly charged life today!" — Wayne Cordeiro, New Hope Christian Fellowship Oahu, Honolulu, Hawaii; author of *Culture Shift: Transforming Your Church from the Inside Out* "We owe Greatness to God. Reggie McNeal challenges us to this standard and gives us some practical how-tos in this clear and compelling new book. I recommend this book for all who aspire to a meaningful Halftime and Life II." — Bob Buford, author, *Halftime and Finishing Well*; founder and chairman, Leadership Network

In my top 10 favorite books. I've given away 20 copies. It's a must read for anyone in church leadership.

I recently completed reading this book as part of a seminary course on Biblical Foundations of Leadership. This is very well written and give excellent insight into the characteristic of what makes great leaders. From my extensive experience in the high tech sector this has applications in the secular as well as the sacred space.

Great Book, very self-revealing!

I'm within a year of retirement from 35+ years as a Senior Pastor. This book contains a lot of practical applications and lessons I had to learn the hard way. So it's a must read for young new leaders (and not just pastors) of today. Now that I'm looking at a change in direction for future ministry, this book and Reggie McNeal's book, *THE PRESENT FUTURE: Six Tough Questions*, gives me the courage to take the next step and make the paradigm changes necessary to be an apostolic leader that our new culture and world demands. Now maybe

I'll be free to do what God has really been calling me to!

This has become one of my all-time favorite books on the subject of leadership (and I've read books by some of the most well-known leadership experts). Usually I run into two problems with other leadership books. First, some of them are just boring to me. Sometimes I have felt like I'm reading through some dry, academic work. This is not too fun--it seems counterintuitive to try to sharpen your skills with a dull book. Secondly, some leadership books are too repetitive and vague. The information kind of runs together, with one chapter looking suspiciously like the previous chapter. McNeal's book is different. It was a joy to read, and each of the 7 disciplines made a lot of sense to me. Practicing Greatness is more about being a leader than "doing" leadership roles. This book further confirmed my decision to stay in my current ministry and continue to do something that I'm gifted for and passionate about. I hope you'll take time to read it.

This is a book that I don't intend to spoil anything. Like any good "self help" books there are a lot of nice principles and efforts in this book that will increase your self awareness and give you tons of inspiration to be great!

Reggie McNeal offers great help to all Christian leaders. He demonstrates that great spiritual leaders need to be people who depend on God, then take God's counsel and act upon it. He also demonstrates ways Christian leaders are and allow themselves to be, thwarted in their desire to provide great Christian leadership. This book is a "must read" for all Christian leaders, whether in a spiritual community or in the world. The spread of such principles to the world would revolutionize the art and practice of leadership. *Practicing Greatness: 7 Disciplines of Extraordinary Spiritual Leaders* (Jossey-Bass Leadership Network Series) 1st (first) edition

I have read number of books on the topic of leadership in this has to be one of the best that I have read in a long time. It is challenged me to look at my own preconceived ideas and reinvent who I am in light of who God is and I can honestly say this book has changed my view of everything.

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