

SELF DIRECTED LEARNING

- Discovering the area of learning that is most beneficial RIGHT NOW.
- We learn best when we self identify a need and pursue the knowledge to overcome that need.
- After finishing a book, revisit these questions to evaluate if you want to learn more on the same topic or select a different topic.
- Recording your answers is helpful for future reference.

1. My ideal self - What kind of a leader do I aspire to be?

2. My real self - Who am I? What are my strengths and gaps?

Further questions to help identify strengths/gaps:

- What areas of leadership do I enjoy or find energizing? (Strengths)
- What areas of leadership would others say I am gifted at? (Strengths)
- What area of leadership has the most room for improvement? (Gaps)
- What area of leadership drains me? (Gaps)
- What are my current needs/challenges in leadership? (Gaps)

3. My learning agenda - How can I build on my strengths while reducing my gaps? What areas of leadership do I most want to improve? (Top 2-3)

4. What area of leadership do I want to focus on first?

- Leading from a Healthy Soul/Spiritual Leadership
- Leading with Emotional Intelligence
- Leading through Coaching
- Leading through Problems
- Leading through Change
- Leading with Vision
- Leading Difficult People
- Leading with Personal Productivity and Efficiency
- Leading with Good Listening/Interpersonal Skills
- Leading in Good Decision Making

5. Answer these questions for the leadership area you selected. This will help clarify your goals and evaluate progress.

- What knowledge or skills do I need to learn?
- How do I need to grow or change? (attitudes, behavior, character)

6. Choose a book.

- Below is a list of books for each leadership area. Books will often cover more than one area, but they are grouped in the areas that I found most helpful.
- Find the leadership area you want to focus on and select the book that is most applicable to you right now.
- Most books listed below have a short summary here:
<https://farran.abwe.org/resources.html>
- Many of these books are not Christian books, but read them through the lens of the Bible. They often teach us practical ways to fulfill the command to “love one another” and to lead with a “skillful hand”.

7. Make learning stick.

- Don’t let books run through your mind like water through a pipe. Here is how you can make learning stick:
- **After finishing a book write your own short summary (1/2 - 1 page).** This crystalizes the main points in your mind. Occasionally reviewing it will refresh your memory in the future.
- **Write a few action steps:** “How am I going to apply what I have learned?” (Change of attitude, thoughts, behavior or actions)

LEADERSHIP AREAS & SUGGESTED BOOKS

Leading from a Healthy Soul/Spiritual Leadership:

- Leading on Empty
- Dangerous Calling
- Replenish
- Top 10 Leadership Commandments
- The Heart of Leadership
- Spiritual Leadership
- Leading with Love

Leading with Emotional Intelligence:

- Emotional Intelligence 2.0
- Primal Leadership
- The Definitive Book on Body Language

Leading Through Coaching:

- The COACH Model

Leading Through Problems:

- The Advantage
- Sticky Teams
- 5 Dysfunctions of a Team
- Extreme Ownership

Leading Through Change:

- Start with WHY (also see video)
- Primal Leadership
- The Leadership Challenge
- Switch
- Leading Change
- The OZ Principal

Leading with Vision:

- The Leadership Challenge
- Primal Leadership
- Courageous Leadership
- Leading from the Sandbox

Leading Difficult People:

- Crucial Accountability
- The Advantage

Leading with Personal Productivity and Efficiency:

- Essentialism
- First Things First
- The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People
- The Power of Habit

Leading with Good Listening/Interpersonal Skills:

- How to Win Friends and Influence People
- 92 Ways To Talk To Anyone
- See Me As A Person
- Love is the Killer App
- Power Questions

Leading in Good Decision Making:

- Blink
- Principles: Life and Work