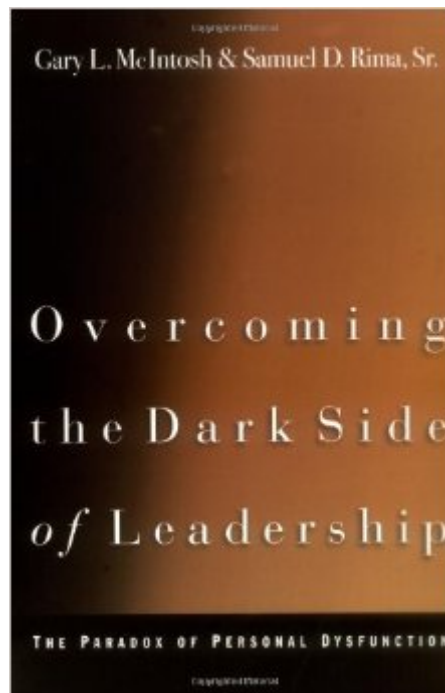


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# Overcoming The Dark Side Of Leadership: The Paradox Of Personal Dysfunction



## Synopsis

Using the early church as a teacher, this video helps you become an overcomer. If your past is chaining down your future, see how you can put aside the beggar's cup for the limitless boundaries of God's blessings.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

As a church leader, I found this book to be revealing and extremely helpful. It helped me in my continuing attempts to walk closer to the Lord. Thus, I feel that this is an excellent book that should be read by all pastors and church leaders. In these days when churches are more concerned with numbers, church growth and attracting people through programs, this book is one which all church leaders need to read and absorb. The authors carefully examine the dark side of the individual, that part of the personality which often colors or determines the course or tone of one's ministry. They present ways an individual can gauge the extent and nature of his or her dysfunctional personality structure. They maintain that the dark side can be harnessed so that it can be used in a positive manner. They do not provide any easy solutions, but ones, which if followed, will allow an individual to grow in holiness day by day. McIntosh & Rima pull no punches. They maintain that character is more important than looks, ability, or charisma. Those who think otherwise, wind up denying their dark side. They become immature and dishonest leaders who, through manipulation and spiritual abuse, lead hurting and needy people away from God's grace. They can do so even with the most altruistic of intentions. Pastors and church leaders who want to make an honest evaluation of

themselves and their relationship with God can begin by reading this book.

Overcoming the Dark Side of Leadership is a sobering account of what can happen when we refuse to allow God to deal with our inner being. Indeed, with the moral failures we have seen in the ministry, business, and politics, anyone can benefit from this book. Among the important points the authors cover include: 1. Characteristics of particular types of leadership personalities. 2. Denying our dark side is dangerous to us and those around us. 3. Examining our past should serve not to assign blame to others, but to understand the influences in our lives and allow God to help us overcome those influences. 4. Beware of unrealistic expectations! (yours or others). 5. The importance of a daily quiet time and periodic retreats. 6. Our position in Christ is much more important than our position on earth. 7. No one is immune from the dark side. 8. Pride, selfishness, and self-deception are some of the tendencies that relate to our dark side. Definitely a recommended read for anyone in a position of leadership or anyone who perceives the need to honestly examine their lives before God.

I've reviewed many books here, and seldom do I say that one is a must-read for every pastor. This title however, falls into that category. Not only is it of enormous benefit to pastors, but it will be very helpful in granting insight to others who want to understand better the enormous challenges we face and the dark side we all possess. For pastors, this book is eye-opening in asserting that all of us must deal with a dark side in one form or another. For people supportive of us, this volume takes us off any super-human pedestal (we never really belonged there in the first place). It does so by providing insight into our very unique humanity that we too often deny. This book is the first of its kind, and hopefully not the last. It is well worth the small investment required to purchase and the short time required to read.

This book has been very helpful to me personally. I think most all American leaders ought to read this or something similar. It did not so much show me something new about myself as distill many things which I knew to be true, and show me how they influenced me as a leader. A more thorough philosophy of the meaning of leadership psychology would have been helpful. At the same time, this would have likely dampened the 'peer to peer' feel of the book. I highly recommend a careful, introspective reading of this book.

This kind of insight is crucial for any leader. Everyone has something in them that is "dark" and

unwieldy. It's simply a part of being human. Too often, however, we want to gloss over our weaknesses and inner struggles. All the while, they are having negative effect on our relationships both professionally and personally. Candidly examining and dealing with the dark sides of our personalities make us much better leaders, parents, spouses, employees, team members, etc. This book provides the necessary encouragement to do just that.

As I was working on an MA at Southeastern University-Lakeland, FL, I was asked to read this book as part of a class on "Leadership Development". You've heard this a million times: "This is a must read book." Well, it is! I can honestly tell you that as a pastor, this was a wonderful read and allowed me to introspectively analyze my leadership style. I really enjoyed the fact that McIntosh did not just outline the leadership styles but he cited Biblical and secular examples to prove his point. This makes for a really good sermon series on Leadership. Just a few weeks ago, one of our high profile leaders was exposed for his darkside. What I really appreciated from Dr. McIntosh's observation was the fact that we cannot deny that we have a dark side... it's called the sin nature. We will wrestle with this until that day when we are called home. Paul struggled with it, and we can't deny that we all struggle with it. If you are a pastor, read this book, get it into the hands of your younger staff, if you are a church member, I really think that you pastor will appreciate this insightful, easy to read tome.

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