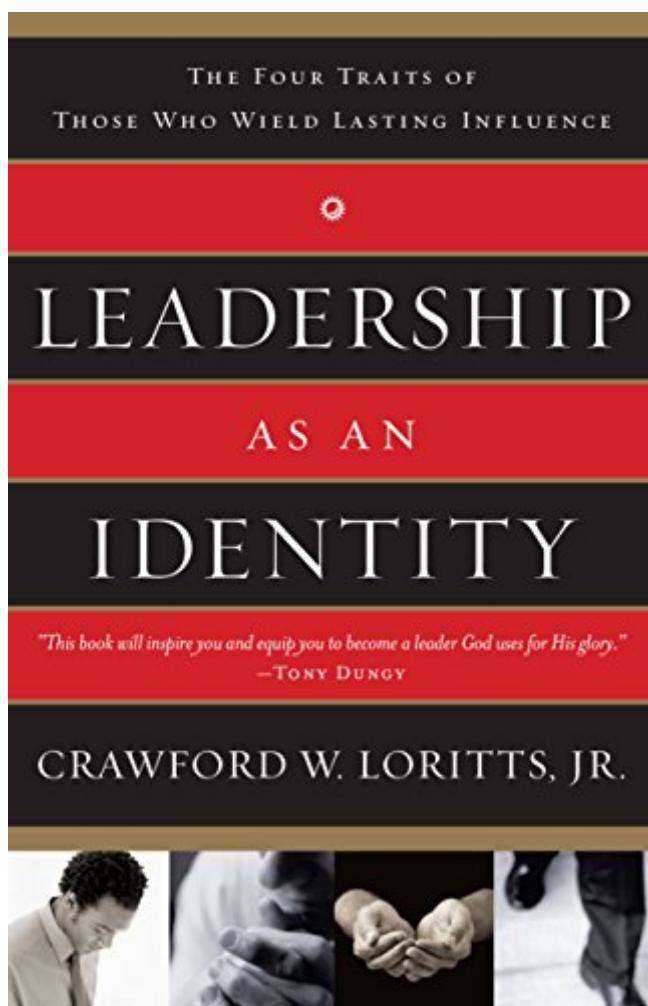


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# Leadership As An Identity: The Four Traits Of Those Who Wield Lasting Influence



## **Synopsis**

Ask yourself this question: What type of character qualifies the people God chooses to use? The question itself assumes an atypical answer, simply because it leaves out so much. To ask only about one's character seems inadequate when defining a leader. We surely need to ask about character, but also about personality, communication skills, IQ, education, previous experience, and more... don't we? Crawford Loritts disagrees. He answers the question with four simple words: Brokenness, communion, servanthood, and obedience. These four traits form the framework for Leadership as an Identity. By examining each trait, Loritts undermines many pervasive assumptions about leadership that are unbiblical. According to Loritts, God doesn't look for leaders like the world does. He looks for disciples, and ironically, as these disciples follow Him, they will lead.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I have now read this book twice and I still consider it the best leadership book I have read. Lorritts' emphasis on our identity in the Lord points us in the right direction for strength and purpose. This book will be required reading for all leaders in my church from here on out. Character grounded in our identity in Christ is more important than talents and gifting for leaders in the church.

Reading this for the second time. Lorritts has has, by God's grace, given us a book that will be relevant long after the next dozen cycles of leadership hype are gone and forgotten.

This is a rare book that brings together the author's strengths (wisdom, experience and excellent articulation of truth) with with the timeless truths that surpass us all and the necessary moment by moment dependence on the Lord. This is a must read.

This is an important book for today's culture. The author presents leadership as an assignment from God. This perspective provides an entirely different starting point from where most modern leaders start. As a result, the overwhelming pride and sense of entitlement that many current leaders display is shown to be antithetical to the type of leader that Crawford Lorritts describes. The four identity characteristics that the author describes and elaborates upon are (1) brokenness (2) uncommon communion with God (3) servanthood and (4) radical & immediate obedience. I will highlight just a few valuable statements that make me want every pastor and government leader to read this book. A quotation from Dr. Joseph Stowell who said, "leaders fall when they stop following" (p.44). The implication is that if a leader is not following God, then he can quickly go astray. But, the author doesn't merely stop there, he points out the solution "When you can embrace mistakes - and even failures - you've opened the door for growth and a different outcome for the next time." (p.68) Lorritts also offers some important questions that a leader should ask himself/herself including "are you concerned with visibility and recognition, or with significance?" (p.136) Another insight expressed is "Sometimes God has to send us a painful reminder that His assignments are not meant to be about us." (p. 139) I hope this provides you with a picture of the contents of the book and why I believe it can be a helpful tool to all leaders and potential leaders.

Amazing book. I'm going through it with a group of like-minded young business owners/leaders. Every week we are encouraged and humbled by the wisdom shared from this book and through each other. Highly recommended!

I really enjoyed reading this book and it helped me put many things in perspective concerning leadership. This book would make a great gift for school principals, pastors or leaders at church, and even supervisors or leaders in business and military sectors.

I have read several books on leadership, and found this to be far more helpful. Clear biblical principles that are brought to bear on leadership. If you like lists and categories and how to's, this isn't a book for you. Crawford's emphasis is on developing character and functioning within a philosophy of leadership that is both biblical and appropriate. Humility marks the life of a leader and character (or the lack thereof) is revealed in the small everyday choices that we make.

Leadership as an Identity is a significant work on a subject that we talk about a lot in church. Other books on leadership focus on the abilities and actions of an effective leader who navigates the Christian environment. However, Crawford Loritts' puts the focus on how a leader must "BE" to be truly and fully used by God. It's our "being-ness" as a person (e.g., the four traits outlined in the book) that determine a leader's effectiveness, not a 4-part action plan.

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