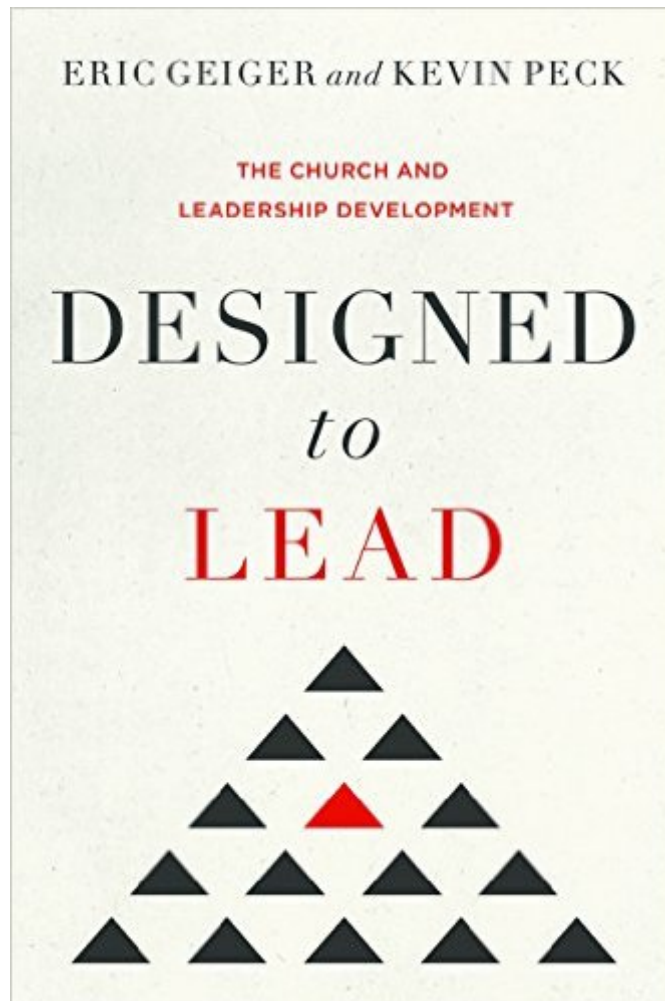


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# Designed To Lead: The Church And Leadership Development



## Synopsis

Most churches merely exist. Many churches do not develop leaders intentionally and consistently. When leaders emerge from some churches, it is often by accident. Something is missing. Something is off. Authors Eric Geiger (author of bestselling *Simple Church* and *Creature of the Word*) and Kevin Peck argue that churches that consistently produce leaders have a strong conviction to develop leaders, a healthy culture for leadership development, and helpful constructs to systematically and intentionally build leaders. All three are essential for leaders to be formed through the ministry of a local church. From the first recordings of history God has made it clear that He has designed creation to be led by His covenant people. More than that, He has decided what His people are to do with that leadership. Whether you are called to lead your home, in the marketplace, in God's church, or in your community, if you are called by God you are called to lead others to worship the glory of God in Jesus Christ. God has designed His people to lead.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Leadership books are a dime a dozen these days. If you're like me, I want to learn from people who are doing leadership well and to learn from the lessons they have learned. I don't know what kind of track record you've had in reading some of these books, but my experience now is that I expect to be disappointed by it. I always think that "this one" will be different because it got great reviews on . Nope. Same song, 12th verse. Another boring, uninteresting, and underwhelming leadership book. And, yes, I felt the same way when B&H sent me a free copy of this book to evaluate: "Okay, here we go again. Prepare to be disappointed" (even though I was pretty excited to hear about what

these two guys have to say about leadership). I wasn't. In fact, I was pleasantly surprised. Instead of being another version of most of the other leadership books out there, "Designed to Lead" was a refreshing challenge to my philosophy of leadership. I didn't agree with everything in the book. However, this book did an excellent job of explaining the importance of leadership and why, as Christians, we should be focused on leadership development. The real strength of this book is how it presents its philosophy and then moves forward into its practical application. My biggest disappointment with the book was that it was so focused on church leadership. The principles and philosophies here could/should also be applied other setting, but the most important setting that could have been addressed was the Christian home. Christian parents need to think of themselves as leaders who are raising up children who are designed to lead (instead of just focusing on their behaviors and making sure they get good grades).

Eric Geiger and Kevin Peck have in this refreshing and revealing book focus on the atmosphere, DNA and soil in which discipleship and leadership can be nurtured and sustained. This is what I would expect from one of the coauthors (Geiger) of "Simple Church." Here they present three simple but key ingredients around which leadership in local churches can be built: Convictions, Culture, and Constructs. Their 3 Cs felt neither forced nor contrived but were a natural and easy-to-understand process for sustained leadership development. They propose that an ongoing discipleship and leadership pathway for churches needs to start with deep biblical conviction, continue with building a culture to support it and create constructs (systems) which will sustain it. It was easy to follow, not easy to argue against and, encouragingly, full of takeaways for anyone wanting to get back into the leadership development business in their church. Geiger and Peck even take it a step further in saying that leaders developed in the context of a local church are being prepared to serve in the marketplace, in government, or anywhere else in God's wide, wide world. Leadership development can start in the church, but doesn't end in the church and should serve a hurting world starved for the kind of leadership the church can model and offer. I found the book to be biblically and theologically sound and incredibly practical-- somewhat rare in leadership books which seem to fall on one side or the other of the continuum.

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