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Von Robertson McQuilkin
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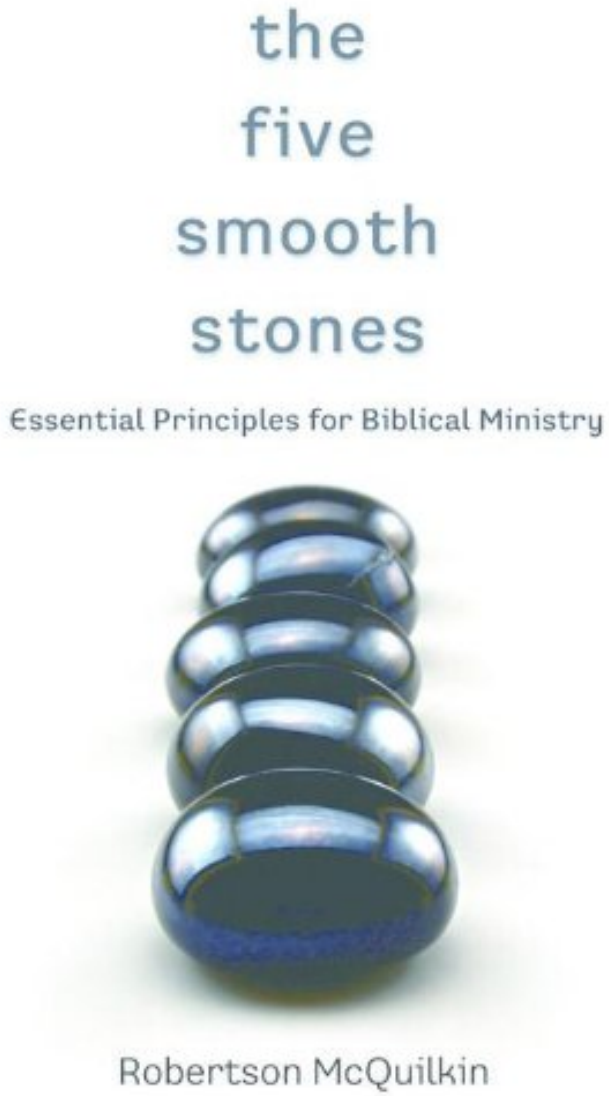

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Von Robertson McQuilkin : The Five Smooth Stones (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Five Smooth Stones (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Good overview on (Christian) LeadershipVon Michael BorowskiRoberson McQuilkin has summarized his experiences within leadership from his 25 years of leadership at Columbia International University ' in this one book. We will

summarize the basic ideas and, secondly, review the book briefly.In his first section, McQuilkin addresses the importance of making the bible the de facto authority: Following a certain pattern, every church leader should be able to find out the biblical teaching of a certain practical or doctrinal question. However, there are cultural issues which require our attention: the postmodern mindset of our culture ('work with the advantages, beware of the problems') and the psychological emphasize of the framework within the humanities ('appreciate sound contributions, acknowledge practical limitations, and be aware of problematic approaches').In his second section, McQuilkin addresses the four functions of the church, which a leader of a spiritual congregation must peruse: The worship of God ('upside'), the making of disciples ('inside'), reaching out for the world ('outside'). McQuilkin adds the importance of serving the people of the outside world as well. With the second section, McQuilkin provides a structure of a spiritual leadership: Which areas need to be addressed?McQuilkin proceeds with his third section by explaining the question of both spiritual guidance and power: spiritual gifts have a goal, namely to support the efforts of the church to act according to its functions. Gifts are neither talents nor fruit of the spirit. They are just spiritual gifts, which need to be trained like every other skill. Finally, McQuilkin addresses the four functions of prayer in this section, which would be Gifting, Guiding, Empowering and Providing.In his fourth section, McQuilkin deals with God's 'plan of redemption': First of all, there is a foundation of mission, which could be sketched by summarizing what God did, what God promised and what God (i.e., Christ) commands us to do. McQuilkin makes, then, an important distinction between 'witnessing' and 'evangelizing', but emphasizes the need for evangelism at the same time. Good ways to do so 'for everyone' would be short-term ' commitments and sending money instead of people. Finally, we need to take care to provide strategic spiritual (i.e., prayer) and financial support (with regards to the latter, McQuilkin provides a compelling 6-level ' framework of giving; reaching from non-giving to faith-giving).In his last section, McQuilkin addresses the question of the 'Lordship of Christ': Leaders need to have the right approach on leadership in theory in praxis: It is servant leadership in theory, which needs to be accountable in praxis. McQuilkin names 11 attributes of such a leadership: shared authority, loving, purposeful, shepherding, free of compulsion, eager, non-coercive, modeling, humble, faith-filled. McQuilkin then addresses the aspect of unity, which would have friends (regeneration, faith, prayer, humility) and enemies (doctrinal differences, leadership/group/personal/structure failure, cultural problems and, if not guided with caution, change). Finally, McQuilkin addresses the aspect of the purity of the church: One who sins deliberately and continuously, needs to be addressed privately, sometimes even removed from fellowship or even excommunicated.All these principles need to be understood and applied especially by leaders of spiritual communities. However, it is the leaders task not to set in practice everything on his own, but to take care that the community as a whole does not get these spiritual features wrong or neglects (some of) them.McQuilkin's book is an overview on almost everything of pastoral leadership and church-life in general. This has eminent consequences: It must be an overview which cannot go into details, and some issues will be repetitive with regards to other reads, at least for the advanced reader. However, McQuilkin draws from a lifetime of scholarship and leadership experience, and it does not surprise that the result is not just another guide for leadership and church life, but full of balanced development on those features which must be set into practice, and full of thoughtful advice how to do so. Therefore the book is recommendable for new pastoral-students as well as for church-leaders and lay workers who want to refresh or deepen their understandings on biblical ministry as a whole, or to check if one is not missing an important aspect of it.

Kurzbeschreibung"Bemused by the constant rising and falling of new methodologies when he began a career in ministry over fifty years ago, university president Robertson McQuilkin has ever since committed his work to a core group of enduring ministry principles that he calls the five smooth stones. In summary, these principles are: the Bible (making it the functional authority), the Congregation (aligning it with the biblical purposes), the Spirit (releasing his energizing power), the Plan of Redemption (the mission of every disciple), and the Lord Jesus (model of servant leadership). While that outline may seem very obvious, one must ask why so many churches and other ministries fail somewhere along the way. Could it be a simple lack of commitment to relentlessly measure every effort by these key standards? McQuilkin has witnessed the success of his method through five decades of dynamic service, from church planting to foreign missions to the academic arena. The Five Smooth Stones is his invitation to join in the deep reflection, honest evaluation, and courageous integration of each principle here in order to bless every aspect of your ministry."Kurzbeschreibung"Bemused by the constant rising and falling of new methodologies when he began a career in ministry over fifty years ago, university president Robertson McQuilkin has ever since committed his work to a core group of enduring ministry principles that he calls the five smooth stones. In summary, these principles are: the Bible (making it the functional authority), the Congregation (aligning it with the biblical purposes), the Spirit (releasing his energizing power), the Plan of Redemption (the mission of every disciple), and the Lord Jesus (model of servant leadership). While that outline may seem very obvious, one must ask why so many churches and other ministries fail somewhere along the way. Could it be a simple lack of commitment to relentlessly measure every effort by these key standards? McQuilkin has witnessed the success of his method through five decades of dynamic service, from church

planting to foreign missions to the academic arena. The Five Smooth Stones is his invitation to join in the deep reflection, honest evaluation, and courageous integration of each principle here in order to bless every aspect of your ministry."ber den Autor und weitere MitwirkendeRobertson McQuilkin is president emeritus of Columbia International University in Columbia, South Carolina. His previous books include "Understanding and Applying the Bible, Life in the Spirit, " and "A Promise Kept." He is married and has six children.