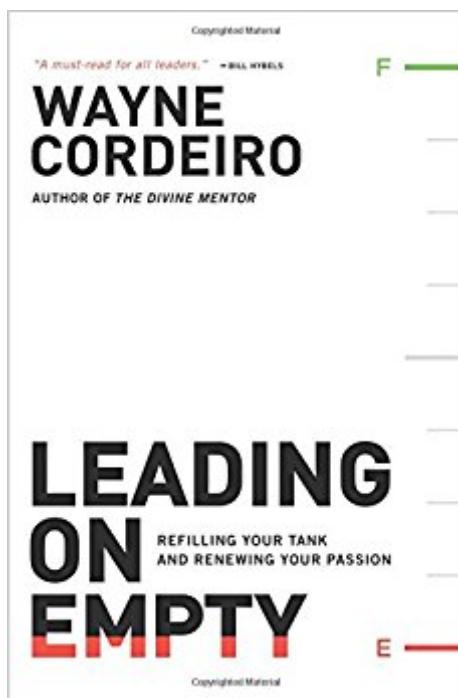


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# Leading On Empty: Refilling Your Tank And Renewing Your Passion



## **Synopsis**

A message of revitalization and encouragement for leaders before they leave the ministry. Wayne Cordeiro, author of Doing Church as a Team, found himself paralyzed by burnout. He had been in ministry for 30 years, and 10 years after founding what is now the largest church in Hawaii, he found himself depleted. Wayne took a season out of his growing ministry to recharge and refocus on the truly important. He got back in touch with his life, got back in proper balance, and re-energized his spirit through Christ and came back to serve with new passion and joy. Wayne first gave this message at a Willow Creek Leadership Summit, where it was the highest-rated presentation by those in attendance.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Are You Leading on Empty? It was a balmy California evening. I had gone for a jog before I was to speak at a leadership conference. I still can't recall how I got there, but I found myself sitting on a curb weeping uncontrollably. I couldn't tell if it took place suddenly or gradually, but I knew something had broken inside. I remember lifting my trembling hands and asking out loud, "What in the world is happening to me?" I had been leading on empty. That incident began a three-year odyssey I could never have imagined. It was a journey through a season of burnout and re-calibration that would radically change my lifestyle, my values, my goals, and even adjust my calling. Are you leading on empty? If you're a church or ministry leader, you probably identify with Wayne Cordeiro's experience of being overwhelmed by the demands of ministry. At times you may

find yourself depleted of energy and longing to escape the constant pressure. In *Leading on Empty*, Wayne Cordeiro candidly shares his experience with the hope that it will encourage others headed down the same path. He was able to get back in touch with his life, get back in proper balance, and allow God to reenergize his spirit in a way that propelled him forward to greater levels of service. Learn from his experience how you can continue a fruitful ministry. Better yet, take advantage of Wayne's helpful advice early on and avoid burnout altogether. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Don't Let Burnout Get the Best of You "This is a must-read for all leaders. God often calls us to lead smarter, not harder, for the sake of His kingdom. We can all learn from a veteran leader like Wayne Cordeiro as he shares his decades of experience in this book." --Bill Hybels Senior Pastor, Willow Creek Community Church Chairman of the Board, Willow Creek Association "Having experienced burnout personally earlier in my career I can attest to all Wayne has written, and especially to the fact that out of such a fire can come spiritual growth and maturity. I particularly want to encourage young pastors and Christian leaders who are just starting out in their ministries to devour this book and follow its wise counsel." --Archibald D. Hart, Ph.D., FPPR. Senior Professor of Psychology and Dean Emeritus, Graduate School of Psychology, Fuller Theological Seminary "Sooner or later, we all find ourselves trying to lead on empty. It's a tough place to be. But the wisdom, transparency, and godly advice Wayne offers in these pages can spare us the grief. He shows how to keep the tank from running dry--or how to refill it if it's gone empty. If you're in ministry, you need to read this book." --Larry Osborne Senior Pastor, North Coast Church, Vista CA "I strongly recommend *Leading on Empty* to any church planter, seasoned minister, or emerging leader. This book will help protect your flame and passion for ministry until we all reach our God-intended purpose and destiny." --Talo Sataraka Senior Pastor, New Hope Tokyo Director, New Hope Japan and Asia Association --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

After 14 years of running my own ministry and increasing health issues from a chronic illness, I was burnt out. This book was like a cup of water (more like a barrel!) to a thirsty soul. I highlighted until my Kindle version stopped allowing me to highlight. Then I took the author's advice to heart. I cleaned my home office from top to bottom so my brain could think, I prayed daily about where God would take my ministry, I cut back on busy work, and started spending more quiet time with the Lord simply trying to listen. I took a second look at my passions and the purpose for going into ministry in the first place. And in just four months I have gotten back to what my passions truly are -- --

speaking and writing. In fact, I have just completed my first book in a couple of years. The author felt like a who understood without condemnation. His willingness to show his own weaknesses and vulnerabilities made me feel like what I was going through was normal. Not only has his advice helped me personally, but it has made my ministry for those with chronic illness more focused so that many have benefited in the end. This will become one of those top 10 books in my life but literally changed my life. Some reviewers have labeled this book "unremarkable" or "not satisfying." I would have to say that if this book is considered unremarkable to you, then perhaps you are just not in that place yet where you are fully burnt out.

I found not only the hope I so desperately needed in this book but practical - how to - advice that is helping me lay out a path for permanent change...not just a quick fix that won't last. I do want to take hold of that which Christ first laid hold of me. Being burnt out...worn down by the trials of life...working harder and not smarter are NOT the way to get there. Amid tears...a firm reality check...and some much needed laughter...Pastor Cordeiro used his own life to show me how to find mine! Thank you sir.

**Leading on Empty: Refilling Your Tank and Renewing Your Passion**When I read the title, I was excited. Not so much when I read the book. I feel there is a great need for something in this space. I had very high expectations and maybe that wasn't fair. I expected something thought provoking and possibly potential solutions. I am not sure being prescribed an anti depressant and/or taking 6 months off work, is really what I was looking for. I don't feel either is practical for most people who find themselves in this situation. I still think there is a need for some good advice to people who are Leading on Empty. From the void we have in most leadership positions, the best thing we could do is RECOGNIZE when we are leading on empty. Once we acknowledge this, maybe we can start finding some real solutions to the issue. As for the recommendations made in this book, well they just didn't appeal to me at all. I wanted to like it, I just couldn't. I found myself being even more discouraged at the thought that there wasn't any advice about how to overcome this situation. This is just my opinion and not everyone will agree. That's what makes everything, especially leadership so challenging in today's world!

I read this during my sabbatical from full time missions and I wish I had read it sooner. Every Christian, whether in full time ministry or not, should read this. Highlights the importance of our personal devotions with God, exploring what drives you and your passions as well as the

importance of rest. The author is candid and honest about his journey and in turn this encourages the reader to go on their own journey in discovering the life God meant for us to have. I cannot recommend this book highly enough. It has truly changed my life. My faith is stronger than ever before.

This book made me look in the mirror and ask questions regarding my ministry philosophy. I've now read the book twice and more than likely will read it again.

Excellent book of preventative medicine for pastors or church leaders. Personally found it a bit melodramatically in many places. Still a good guide in taking care of yourself to prevent burnout.

Many times we as people, esp. leaders, pour ourselves into whatever we're doing with everything we have, and ministry is no exception. In fact, ministry can become an even bigger monster because it is "ministry". In this book Wayne shares openly and painfully from his first hand experience of burnout in ministry. He also shares first hand from his experience of walking out healing including the changes he needed to make in perspectives and disciplines to find rest in his co-laboring with Jesus. This book is well written, engaging, and profound while still being an easy read (people facing burn out do not have energy for more.) I am so thankful to Wayne for his willingness to be transparent on such a personal subject, and know firsthand the benefits of reading and applying the lessons found here, as I believe God used this to help spare my good friend and senior pastors ministry (and possibly his life.)

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