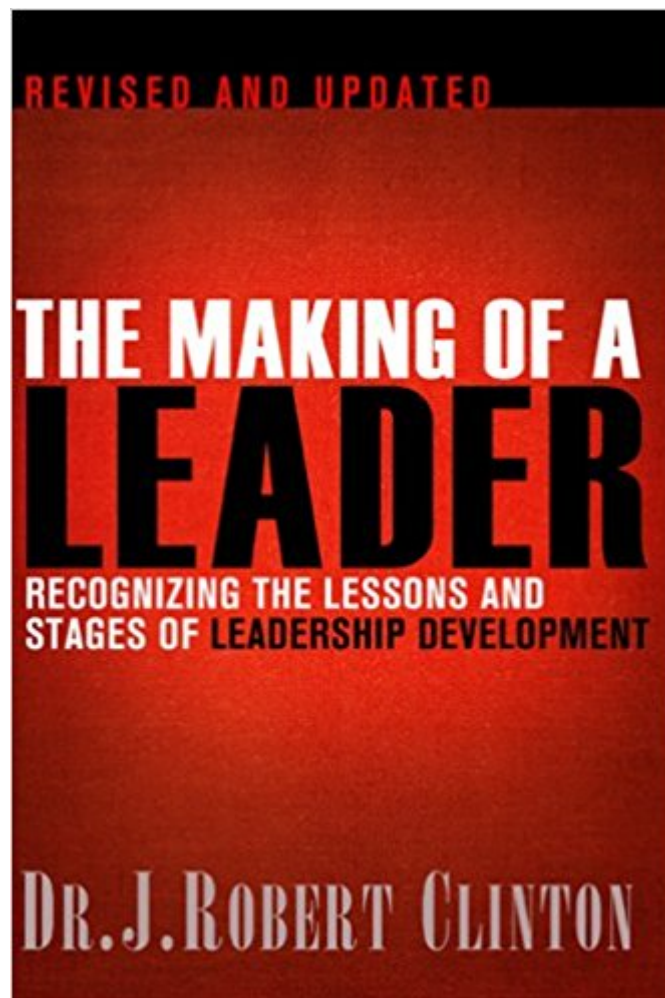




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# The Making Of A Leader: Recognizing The Lessons And Stages Of Leadership Development



## Synopsis

After examining the lives of hundreds of historical, biblical, and contemporary leaders, Dr. J. Robert Clinton gained perspective on how leaders develop over a lifetime. By studying the six distinct stages he identifies, you will learn to:

- Recognize and respond to God's providential shaping in your life
- Determine where you are in the leadership development process
- Identify others with leadership characteristics
- Direct the development of future leaders

This revised and updated edition includes several new appendixes and expanded endnotes, as well as an application section at the end of each chapter.

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## Customer Reviews

Your job title, education, and training won't make you a great leader—only God can do that. But *The Making of a Leader* can help you see where you are in the process and what steps you should take next. By studying the lives of hundreds of historical, biblical, and contemporary leaders, Dr. J. Robert Clinton has gained perspective on how leaders develop over a lifetime. By studying the six distinct stages he identifies, you will learn to:

- Recognize and respond to God's providential shaping in your life
- Determine where you are in the leadership development process
- Identify others with leadership characteristics
- Direct the development of future leaders

This revised and updated edition includes several new appendixes and expanded endnotes as well as an application section at the end of each chapter. The expanded endnotes are of special help, as they connect to Dr. Clinton's ongoing research and his

further written material on leader development that has occurred in the twenty-three years since the original book was published.

DR. J. ROBERT (BOBBY) CLINTON is senior professor of leadership at the School of Intercultural Studies of Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California. He coordinated the leadership concentration in the School of Intercultural Studies for thirty years before retiring. Clinton modeled and taught the concepts of lifelong development and the focused life as well as the importance of mentoring in developing leaders.

In my opinion, it is difficult, if not impossible, to improve this book. Why do I say this? First off, Clinton has regularly been updating this book to be relevant to the current leadership team, taking and cultural differences and integrating them into timeless leadership truths. This book has material that is highly applicable for all leaders in all organizations, even though it is written in such a manner the only Christian leaders would consider reading it (due to its high level of spiritual content). Perhaps my most critical comments on about the book is how spiritual it is, in that it limits those who need the lessons most from learning about them. The point is valid, that the lessons must be taught with a spiritual component, as the leadership concepts and principles taught in this book are based off of Y'shua's leadership in Scripture and G-d's overall intent for our lives. My only other criticism is that this book is highly applicable in nature, which requires the reader to evaluate themselves and implement the changes immediately, instead of reading and a theoretical capacity. Then again, this is also a benefit and that it requires maturity and growth instead of informing about it, but leaving the reader without taking action. Full of anecdotes and examples, Clinton does indeed write a singular title. The applications in this book are not limited to leaders, as what Clinton describes are everyday life processes. In this capacity, I believe that Clinton could have easily titled this book "The Making of a Christian" instead.

I love this book! I even bought extra to give to my friends in leadership positions : ) This book has made a huge impact on how I view my growth, spiritually, academically, emotionally etc. Every adult should read this.

From my actual position as a senior pastor and from a team leader perspective (both at church and at work for a multinational company), this book was an amazing trip back to some turning points, crossroads and intersections traveled by me during these past 25 years. It made for a great

refresher and profound introspection regarding the how's and what's of the ways God uses to form character, inner life and ministry skills on His servants. Also, it allows you to assess your present status and your path forward (sort of a road map) of the way God intends to use you in the future, for His glory. Dr. Clinton summarizes and develops the five stages an effective leader goes through in his developmental seasons, gaining experiences and learning that will last for a lifetime.

Particularly interesting is the final transition between Phase IV and V, where a good, effective leader gets either stuck in a less-than-satisfactory role due to organizational issues, or gets to the point of what he calls "Convergence", where the leader is freed and able to maximize his/her potential and leave a lasting legacy to future leaders. It is a great read, that does not get a "5 star rating" due to some technical terms that Dr. Clinton starts using at the beginning of the book, and defines later on. Still, highly recommended!

This book is now on my top three books to read, when I recommend books for other people. At first, I was reluctant to read this book, having been exposed to a myriad of leadership studies at West Point and in the Army; however, when I began to read this book, I was struck by the 'long view' that Dr. Clinton takes on leader development. This book is very effective at taking case studies in historical, biblical, and contemporary leadership, and extrapolating models that serve both emerging leaders and mentors very well. As a Christian, a member of the Navigators Military Mission, and an active duty officer, this book is an invaluable resource.

This is, by far, my favorite book on leadership. Clinton has researched this topic thoroughly. I found this book very practical, and I use it regularly when teaching about life lessons, and how they have formed us to be the people we are today.

Great book for all who are or who aspire to be a great, Godly lead and formed leader. For the current leader it places challenges and exercises to assess how God has been developing you all along. For the beginning leader it can help to identify what areas need addressing for future leadership and to give a template for your development.

Great read - makes you stop, think, and take a personal inventory.

One of my all-time favorite books. This book has helped us make sense of many challenges and difficult seasons of ministry. I refer to this book often!!

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