



*The Leadership Ellipse:
Shaping How We Lead by
Who We Are*
220 pages, 978-0-8308-
3538-6, \$17.00

Available March 2010

Praise for *The Leadership Ellipse*

“Bob Fryling blesses us with a perceptive and well-nuanced approach to effective Christian leadership. These thoughtfully composed ideas and experiences are broadly authentic and much needed.”

—Max De Pree, author of *Leadership Is an Art*

“Bob Fryling is a perfect example of someone whose outstanding leadership is very much grounded in his deep faith. So when he writes about this subject, it comes both from an intellect informed by long experience and a heart shaped by selfless service—a very compelling combination.”

—Dr. Timothy Johnson, medical editor, ABC News, and author of *Finding God in the Questions*

“What makes this book especially valuable among writings on leadership is its richness of detail concerning the fine texture of the leader’s life and personality. The weight the leader must bear, in order to carry through with the calling upon his or her life, simply crushes the person who is not, throughout their being, solidly joined with what is good and with God’s grace upon all of it. So joined, in ways the author makes clear, there is joy and love, space and creativity, no matter what.”

—Dallas Willard, author of *The Divine Conspiracy*

“If St. Benedict were still alive, he would have written this book. Since he isn’t and couldn’t, Bob Fryling has. The result is a rule of life formed over the years by one who, faithfully and introspectively, has lived those years in positions of highly visible Christian leadership. Every person in any role of Christian leadership today, however humble or mighty that role may be, will do well to attend carefully and prayerfully to what is written here.”

—Phyllis Tickle, author of *The Great Emergence*

“Our hearts long for an integrated life. Yet our schedules suggest this is impossible. In *The Leadership Ellipse*, Bob Fryling gives us both hope and a practical handle on how to merge life in the Spirit and life in the fast lane. I can’t overemphasize the significance and timeliness of this message.”

—John D. Beckett, chairman, the Beckett Companies, and author of *Loving Monday* and *Mastering Monday*

LOOK

BOOK DETAILS



Bob Fryling
Publisher, IntersVarsity Press

“Bob honors leadership, and he knows the soul. If you let him, he will help you connect the dots.”

—John Ortberg, pastor and author, Menlo Park Presbyterian Church

“Integrity is a silent quest for many Christian leaders. Integrating a rich spiritual life with a healthy work-life balance is challenging for busy leaders. Bob gives us tremendous insights and understanding toward living an integrated, authentic life. *The Leadership Ellipse* is a thoughtful and challenging guide to help us shape our own journey and calling.”

—Al Lopus, president, Best Christian Workplaces Institute

“In *The Leadership Ellipse*, Bob Fryling provides a smart, useful guide for leaders who want to bring their spiritual lives into alignment with their organizational objectives. For too long, we have seen these as entirely separate spheres, but as this book shows, they are really twin foci that define reality for every leader. Over the next decade, leaders who succeed will be people who bring all of their lives—personal, spiritual and organizational—together. *The Leadership Ellipse* shows us how. Every leader ought to read this book.”

—D. Michael Lindsay, author of *Faith in the Halls of Power*

“As there are learning disabilities, so there are leadership disabilities, and chief among them is the gap that Bob Fryling highlights: between the leader’s outer and inner worlds. I find *The Leadership Ellipse* to be both challenging (dealing with debilitating but often overlooked issues like self-pity and jealousy) and hopeful (chock full of delightful analogies and wise counsel). Read this book to inspire you to leadership which is neither fat with ideas nor thin in practice, but truly elliptical-shaped like Jesus!”

—Leighton Ford, author of *The Attentive Life*

“Christian leaders are often devoured by their jobs, either because they are insensitive and inattentive to what’s happening around them or because they are unaware of what’s going on inside them as they lead. The result of this external and internal inattentiveness is often disaster: for organizations, for the people who serve them and for the leaders who attempt to guide them. Bob Fryling has written a wise, honest, insightful book that encourages leaders to take a closer look at their world and themselves. His coaching is invaluable and—by God’s grace—will help to bring wholeness and integrity to Christian leaders who too often lead in a fragmented, frenetic fashion.”

—Chris Hall, chancellor, Eastern University, and author of *Reading Scripture with the Church Fathers*

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“Bob Fryling’s book is both inspirational and practical. He unpacks the issues and complexities of managing a spiritual leader’s life. With biblical and timeless suggestions, it is a must-read for all who want to lead like Jesus for the long haul.”

—Dr. MaryKate Morse, author of *Making Room for Leadership*

“With intelligence and wit, Bob Fryling wrestles honestly and graciously with some of the great paradoxes and finer nuances of leadership. This book will be a great blessing to those of us who are seeking to remain faithful to God in the trenches of leadership.”

—Ruth Haley Barton, president, Transforming Center, and author of *Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership*

“Written by a publisher, *The Leadership Ellipse* has insightful suggestions for pastors, politicians, princesses or any other person who has a commitment to Jesus Christ and, at the same time, is called to leadership in any of its forms. Bob Fryling hits the bull’s-eye with his reminder and challenge that Christian leaders are ultimately called to have their outer worlds in harmony with their inner worlds—and vice versa! Not content to simply offer us this deepest meaning of integrity, he also suggests spiritual practices to attain it and strengthen it. In doing so, Bob Fryling proves to be a most reliable mentor for leadership in the Christian tradition.”

—Albert Haase, O.F.M., author of *Coming Home to Your True Self* and *Living the Lord’s Prayer*