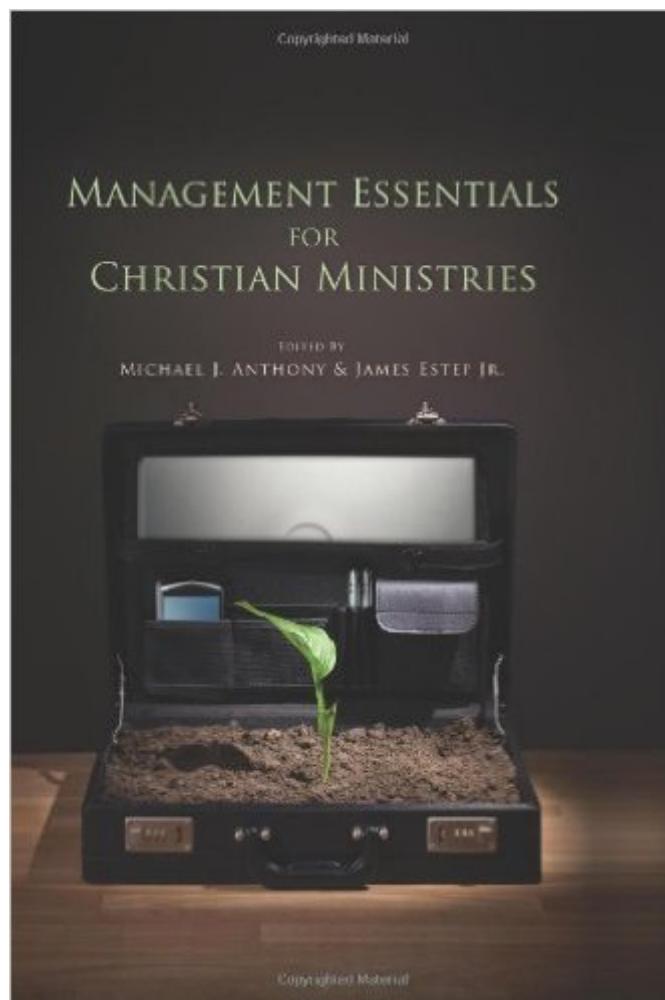


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# Management Essentials For Christian Ministries



## **Synopsis**

Management Essentials for Christian Ministries is a thorough examination of management principles for Christian ministries including churches, denominations, and parachurch organizations.

Contributors represent a diverse denominational cross section. Study of management principles is required coursework for seminary students today. Management Essentials for Christian Ministries represents a thorough treatment of all issues regarding church administration and functions and provides a theological grounding for organizational approaches to church management.

## **Book Information**

Hardcover: 464 pages

Publisher: B&H Academic; 49983rd edition (March 1, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0805431233

ISBN-13: 978-0805431230

Product Dimensions: 6.2 x 1.4 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (20 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #199,129 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #162 inÂ  Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Churches & Church Leadership > Church Administration #162 inÂ  Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Churches & Church Leadership > Church Institutions & Organizations #43685 inÂ  Books > Religion & Spirituality

## **Customer Reviews**

Estep Jr. has stepped up to the highest standards and principles for church administrators and leaders. His work is very practical and speaks to todays church administrators / leaders who feel that they have to do everything in order to prove their office. Estep says it well, that the church is in a world of growing complexity and diversity, it is a living organism made up of real people made in Godâ™s image; and it is almost impossible for the administrator to control every issue or circumstance that presents in the body. I love his spin on this by politely reminding us that we were all born in the image of God, given gifts as indicated in Ephesians; whereas those gifts are to be used for the accomplishment of the Great Commission and Mission of the church. Estep is the man! Your work is pristine and relevant.

I used this book as the text for a course, and found it to be a very interesting read. It covers almost

all the areas of what we call Church Administration. If this is an area of interest for you, then get a copy of this book.

I learned a lot from this book. Information within this book I can use for life and for wherever God installs me in to work. Biblical leadership/management is key for a Christian regardless if it's in the home, business, church, society, politics, etc. This book will help aid you in becoming a better Christian leader/manager. It is full of applicable biblical verses to help aid a believer into becoming a Christian leader/manager, but more importantly, a man of God!

Although the intellectual material in this book is very informative and useful, a great reference book, the book itself is very poorly constructed. I purchased it new and had to send the first one back because it arrived with some of the pages already fallen out. I'm handling the second one gingerly because it has pages that are just barely hanging onto the spine. This refers to the B&H 2005 edition.

**Path:** The book is a compilation of various authors who have written on the six key categories of administration: integration, planning, organizing, staffing, directing, and evaluating. **Agreement:** One particularly helpful chapter was that which dealt with vision. The author of the article lists fourteen possible contributors to the loss of vision (pg. 72). These included being out of touch with God, burnout, poor leadership, absence of accountability, and a many others. **Disagreement:** There were several areas where I disagreed with the authors. One of those was their distinction between ruling elders and teaching elders (pg. 21). I believe that they are one and the same and there is no need for a distinction. Also, I thought that the Scripture passage used to "capture the idea of vision" (pg. 74), namely Acts 2:17, was a misuse of Scripture. **Personal App:** One chapter which I found very helpful was chapter eighteen (pg. 313-332) which dealt with mentoring. I found the concepts included in the chapter to be very insightful. I have been mentored at various stages of my life, few were official, but all helpful. The one which began as official never amounted to more than the first meeting. The participation in these various relationships only gives me a desire for another, deeper mentoring relationship. I see it as absolutely necessary, and desire to do it myself with men in my church and my spheres of influence. I plan on using ideas from several of the chapters, but I am not sure that it would be a book I would reread regularly.

This is one of my current textbooks, and I have taken classes from Dr. Anthony, the editor. I can

guarantee you that Dr. Anthony is a seasoned minister, a brilliant teacher, and a passionate Christian. He is incredibly wise. This book teaches all of the administration stuff that pastors generally do not like to do, but have to in order to minister. This text comes from a strong Biblical perspective and will help you make your administrative processes more efficient. I have known many, many successful pastors who always say that this book was one of the most useful they ever bought.

I was specifically looking for a book that would help me organize the plans I had for the new Dance Ministry I started at my church. I wanted a book that understood how the unique business of a church runs and would help me organize and present my ideas to my pastor. This book is more than perfect. It seems to be written for people just like me. I recommend it for anyone starting a new ministry, or just looking for a way to organize or maintain an existing ministry.

Where internal church organization and planning has had to debrief established business practices, this is a well written and easy to follow and understand comprehensive guide for all of the organizations and committees inside a church. Totally non-denominational, chapters reveal planning stages and steps, and why they are important. We don't want to hurt anyone's feelings in the church. Planning and management guidelines provided are relevant and action oriented. We don't just put it in God's hand to accomplish, we open and read this essential book He has delivered.

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