# ❑ Option 5: Board Retreat Read-and-Reflect Worksheet

*Great boards read at least one book a year to improve their governance competencies!*



## Lessons From the Church Boardroom

## 40 Insights for Exceptional Governance

by Dan Busby and John Pearson

❑ 40 short lessons

❑ 10 practical sections

❑ 40 guest bloggers: [*www.churchboardroom.blogspot.com*](http://www.churchboardroom.blogspot.com/)

**Do it yourself version!**

☑ **Step 1:** Read Lesson 1, “Wanted: Lifelong Learners. Would you trust a surgeon who stopped learning?”

☑ **Step 2:** Appoint a “Leaders Are ReadersChampion” (see “8 Ways to Use This Book at Your Church”) and inspire that board member to create a customized “Read-and-Reflect Worksheet” that aligns with the current and specific needs of your church board.

☑ **Step 3:** Read the book review and/or the guest blogger posts on *Lessons From the Church Boardroom* blog and select various topics and emphases that address your board’s unique situation. Visit: [*http://churchboardroom.blogspot.com*](http://churchboardroom.blogspot.com/)

**Attn: Church Boards**

Review the worksheet formats in Option 1 and Option 2—and create your own version of a *Lessons From the Church Boardroom* Read-and-Reflect Worksheet, or customize the worksheet here in Option 5.

☑ **Board Retreat Topics from: *Lessons From the Church Boardroom***

[*http://churchboardroom.blogspot.com/*](http://churchboardroom.blogspot.com/)

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| **PART 1: The Powerful Impact of Highly Engaged Boards** | |
| ❑ | 1) Wanted: Lifelong Learners |
| ❑ | 2) Ask the Gold Standard Question |
| ❑ | 3) Guarding Your Pastor’s Soul |
| ❑ | 4) What Could Possibly Go Wrong? |
| **PART 2: Boardroom Tools and Templates** | |
| ❑ | 5) Do Unwritten Board Policies Really Exist? |
| ❑ | 6) Enhance Harmony by Clarifying Your Participant Hat Expectations |
| ❑ | 7) Eliminate Fuzziness Between Board and Staff Roles |
| **PART 3: Nominees for the Church Board Member Hall of Fame** | |
| ❑ | 8) Thrive With Four Kingdom Values |
| ❑ | 9) Listen to the Wisdom of Many Counselors |
| ❑ | 10) Prioritize Prayer Over Problems |
| **PART 4: Epiphanies in the Boardroom** | |
| ❑ | 11) *Tap! Tap! Tap!* |
| ❑ | 12) Looking for Consensus but Finding Division |
| ❑ | 13) Caution! Understand the Governance Pendulum Principle |
| ❑ | 14) Be Intentional About Your First 30 Minutes |
| **PART 5: Boardroom Bloopers** | |
| ❑ | 15) Do Not Interrupt! |
| ❑ | 16) The Bully in the Church Boardroom |
| ❑ | 17) Don’t Be Late or Annoying |
| **PART 6: Boardroom Time-Wasters, Trouble-Makers, and Truth-Tellers** | |
| ❑ | 18) Never Throw Red Meat on the Board Table |
| ❑ | 19) Alert! The ER Factor Causes Value Extraction |
| ❑ | 20) Apply for a Staff Position and You Can Deal With That Issue! |
| ❑ | 21) Back Off the Ledge of Dysfunctional Mayhem |
| ❑ | 22) Big Rocks, Pebbles, and Sand |
| **PART 7: Boardroom Best Practices** | |
| ❑ | 23) Pastor Pay—It’s About More Than Just Money |
| ❑ | 24) How Many Board Members Are Present in Your Boardroom? |
| ❑ | 25) Address Absentee Board Member Syndrome |
| ❑ | 26) *Before* the Board Meeting |
| **PART 8: Boardroom Worst Practices** | |
| ❑ | 27) Defending Risks Everywhere Is Not a Strategic Plan |
| ❑ | 28) Where Two or Three Are Gathered on Social Media… |
| ❑ | 29) Keeping the Boardroom Afloat |
| ❑ | 30) 7 Ways to Avoid a Financial Train Wreck |
| **PART 9: Building a 24/7 Board Culture** | |
| ❑ | 31) Watch Out for Boards Asleep at the Wheel |
| ❑ | 32) Loose Lips Sink the Boardroom Ship |
| ❑ | 33) “Good Is the Enemy of Great” |
| ❑ | 34) Break Bread, Not Relationships |
| ❑ | 35) Common Misconceptions of Board Members |
| ❑ | 36) You Made Me Better Than I Was |
| **PART 10: Boards That Lead** | |
| ❑ | 37) Is Your Board Color-Blind to Hazardous Condition Signs? |
| ❑ | 38) Leverage the 80/20 Rule in the Boardroom |
| ❑ | 39) Don’t Stretch Credulity With BHAGs and Stretch Goals |
| ❑ | 40) A Board Prayer |

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**Attn: Board Members**

Use this worksheet as you prepare for your 10-minute presentation on your assigned lesson at our church board retreat. Limit the worksheet to one-page only and bring copies for every participant. We suggest you divide your time as follows:

* Your presentation 3 minutes (one big idea)
* Discussion in groups of two 3 minutes (one question)
* 30-second group reports 4 minutes (post insights on flipchart)

You’ll receive a Chick-fil-A gift card if you finish your 10-minute segment before the buzzer!

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| MY NAME |  |
| Lesson Number |  |
| Lesson Title |  |
| Lesson Subtitle |  |

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| --- | --- |
| My favorite quotation: |  |
| My ONE BIG IDEA  or take-away from this lesson: |  |
| Insight or implication for our church board: |  |
| Question for groups of two discussions: |  |