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5Q: Reactivating The Original Intelligence And Capacity Of The Body Of Christ



Synopsis

In the pages of this book, Alan Hirsch takes us on a really deep dive into the fivefold (APEST) typology of ministry as articulated in Ephesians 4:1-16, but he takes us to a depth and scope that a few (if any) have ventured before. By laying out the most comprehensive model of APEST to date--one that incorporates deep theology as well as innovative practice--Hirsch once again demonstrates an almost uncanny capacity to change not only the nature and content of conversation itself, but also the scorecard on how we understand calling, church, leadership, and organization.

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Customer Reviews

5Q is a five-star masterpiece... A breath-taking achievement that is life-giving for the church.

— Leonard Sweet, Best-selling author, professor (George Fox University, Tabor College, Drew University) and founder/contributor to preachthetory.com With remarkable passion, and with Scripture as his guide, Alan Hirsch delves ever deeper into the symphony that is God's church. More than practical, 5Q really informs and inspires. — David Fitch, BR Lindner Chair of Evangelical Theology, Northern Seminary. Author of Faithful Presence Comprehensive, brilliant, revelatory. This exciting new book by Alan Hirsch ushers in not just new information, but a whole new way of thinking about what it means to be the Church, what it means to follow Christ and serve others, and what it means to be human. — Linda Bergquist, Church planting catalyst and adjunct professor. Author of Church Turned Inside Out and The

Wholehearted Church Planter In this book, Alan distills his previous thinking into a rich, practical, multidimensional understanding of Paul's primary paradigm on ministry, leadership, and organization. Not so much a book of ideas as a pair of glasses through which to see the world differently. •Michael Frost, author, *Surprise the World!* and *To Alter Your World* 5Q is precisely what the Church needs to understand in order to move forward and be who Jesus has made us to be. For those wanting to stop circling in the ecclesial wilderness, get this book and take the journey! •Christine Caine, Founder of A21 & Propel Women, author, and speaker This must read book will blow the minds of those who still believe the fivefold functions (APEST) are relegated to the first century and no longer relevant...A category-changing book indeed. •Bill Easum, President The Effective Church Group This is Alan Hirsch at his very best • brilliant! •Dr. Sam Metcalf, President, Church Resource Ministries -US, Author of *Beyond the Local Church* Alan Hirsch's 5Q is an erudite and innovative theological analysis of the Ephesians 4 ascension gifts that uniquely explores their nexus to missiology, ecclesiology, biology, creation, and culture. An intellectual adventure. •Frank Viola, author of *God's Favorite Place on Earth*, *From Eternity to Here*, and *Jesus Speaks* (with Leonard Sweet) Alan Hirsch has done it again. A modern day prophet offering ancient wisdom wrapped with future hope!...Get it. •Danielle Strickland, International social justice advocate, author and speaker. In 5Q Alan Hirsch continues to be on the leading edge of calling the church back to a genuinely Biblical understanding of ministry that will lead us into a highly impactful future. •Read 5Q! •Gregg Nettle, President of Stadia Global Church Planting This book is a must read for anyone who has been placed in a position of leadership or influence in a church, Christian network, or denomination. •Jimmy Carroll, Lead Pastor, Journey Church, Raleigh NC. •President, Liberty Church Network As is always the case in his writings, Hirsch brings his genius to bear on this essential subject with insight and profound breakthroughs. •Neil Cole, Author of *Organic Church*, *Primal Fire*, *One Thing*

I have to say that I believe I was born to write this book. Writing it, for me, felt like my own personal Ph.D. program. I discovered that the scope and depth of APEST (Eph.4 typology of functions/purposes/callings) was much bigger than I had ever imagined. 5Q is my attempt to articulate these discoveries. I believe 5Q can help usher in real health, maturity, and wholeness to the church in our time. But this is not just a book. There is a whole system of tools, assessments, coaching options, consulting and training that is also offered to back it up. Go to

5Qcentral.com and take a look. ã ã Also, it is worth sneaking in over here, the book is offered significantly cheaper on the website than here on and there are discount options for bulk purchase as well. ã ã Go to 5qcentral.com/books/ ã ã

Two questions have been rolling around my head lately: "Jesus healed the sick and raised the dead. Why isn't His Body (the Church) being like Him?" and "Our paradigm of church is not deep or broad enough to meet the more rounded, right-brained views of this new millennium. What needs to change?" 5Q answers both these questions for me. First, as Hirsch points out in the introduction, we've been trying to put this concept into our reformation-based, proclamation-focused paradigm of church. We need to unlearn in order to relearn and Hirsch has written this book to set us on our way. He lays out a new paradigm or lens through which to look at all of life, revealing God's pattern of APEST - not just in the church, but in the world at large. Some of us have long seen how the four prominent personality types overlay on APEST. I'm so glad that Hirsch addresses this, as well as using popular genre to point out the global depth of this paradigm. Next, I just asked some friends recently what a systematic theology for this post-modern age might look like. I think Hirsch has done a good job at taking a stab at it as it relates to APEST. He explains the redemptive work of Christ and how this theory is applied to all spheres of life. Having taught the five-fold ministries as a college course this last year, I felt that something was missing from our book options. This is what was missing. Similarly, a good companion book for this is Carolyn Tennant's book ã ã . What was so fun about this book is that I've watched Hirsch work with this paradigm over the years and it is as if he said, now...does this really work? And pushed all the boundaries of sciences to discover if the paradigm actually fits. It does. Excellent work!!!

Alan Hirsch writes books that change the way the church thinks and operates (for example, "The Forgotten Ways" or "The Shaping of Things to Come.") I suspect that "5Q" will be no different. I have read several books on the 5-fold ministries mentioned in Ephesians 5 (APEST--apostles, prophets, evangelists, shepherds, teachers) but this is the first one that has taken the 30,000 foot view, looking at the topic through the lens of secular history from the beginning of time. The traditional church today, mainly led by pastors and teachers, is losing ground. For the church to regain her effectiveness, the whole spectrum of spiritual gifts, especially the apostolic and prophetic, needs to operate together. Alan's descriptions of the characteristics of each of the ministries and how they operate in the world and in the church are extensive and profitable to study. His sections on how the 5-fold ministries have operated throughout church history and how the 5-fold can apply in our

churches today are practical and effective. I found the book to be highly readable. It could even change the church landscape!

I grew up in a religious tribe that prided itself on its Biblical teaching prowess. The fivefold of Ephesians 4 was, however, eviscerated--we were taught that the apostolic and prophetic had died out around the end of the first century with the death of the Twelve and the completion of the New Testament. It's no wonder that we were big on knowledge but small on mission. "5Q" doesn't just describe what the fivefold looks like intellectually. It gives it hands and feet. It encourages the reader not just to know, but to jump in, repent, and do. This is not a book to skim. It's a book to sip and experience; to ponder and wrestle with. And it's past time for the church to change and truly engage every disciple in the mission of Christ--to help them discover their place in 5Q, live out their gifting, and together attain the fullness of Christ. Pastors, this is not the latest trend. This is not a quick fix. But it can be life-changing for you and your church. I can't wait to get started with our missionary family.

5Q is theological-conceptual-practical-original. It challenges the status quo while simultaneously laying the groundwork for a new way to think about how the gospel intersects the culture through the church. Alan integrates a wonderfully eclectic array of ideas and perspectives into a coherent "frame" through which one can "see" ministry anew. Read it for praxis and read it for high concept because it somehow accomplishes both.

I have been expecting this book for awhile and was happy to dig in when released. 3 of us are gathering over a pint to chat through to challenge one another currently. The APEST model isn't just for the church but the entire body. Last week I started implementing within my pub. Finding some of my staffs passions and turning them loose to better their jobs and other around them has already enhanced our culture and work habits. Thankful for the words on paper and encouraging me to rethink a few areas of life.

When a book takes something that we have become radically familiar with, and then revives it and renders it afresh and anew to the people of God, it has the potential for significant impact. And this is exactly what 5Q does in redynamizing the power of the Five-Fold ministry for the life of God's people. The work on the front end makes it trustworthy and the work on the second half helps one see the multiple manifestations of such thinking as it takes on flesh and gives life to the people of

God. Without being unhelpfully cerebral, it provides a solid base for those questioning this proposal, and helps one see the trajectories of the APEST model in all of life. It would have been a 5 star, but I felt like a couple more tools or ideas could have been laid out in terms of where to go with the idea. However, in further discussions with the team, it sounds like there is a lot in the works for equipping the church to use this as a tool going forward. I look forward to benefiting from some of these future tools, and I trust you will too!

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