Book Review
by Sharon G. Johnson

Leadership Prayers
Richard Kriegbaum
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This small book is a wonderful resource authored by a man who was the president of Fresno Pacific University from 1985 to 1997. He now directs administrative systems for the Fresno Leadership Foundation, a faith-based community development organization.

The book covers 30 topics, including such topics as identity, trust, fear, planning, marketing, change, and budgeting. For each topic, the author offers an initial Bible quote, a summary statement of the fundamental leadership issue, a prayer, and a page of "reflections" mostly taken from the author's own experience as a faculty member and an administrator.

An excerpt will demonstrate the nature of the book's discussion:

ANGER

Give me your anger, God, against what is evil, not against myself or the people I love.

Anger provides enormous energy. Righteous anger empowers leaders to conquer evil. Wrongful anger turns leaders against the persons they love and serve. Turned inward, it can induce severe depression. …

Prayer: "Lord, you know that anger will come sometimes, but I do not want to live and lead in anger. I want to live and lead in love. … But I do not want any anger at all that results from defense of my wounded ego. If my ego is that vulnerable, I should not be leading anyway." …

Reflections: "… My dad walked across the field [where the author was playing a pick-up game of football when he was 10 years old] to me and firmly reprimanded me for losing my temper. 'You lose your temper sometimes,' I impudently shot back. There was a pause of awful silence during which I came to

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> *my childish senses and became frozen in fear. Dad spoke in a measured tone. 'We are both wrong to waste our energy by losing our tempers. I will work at controlling mine if you will learn to control yours.'" …*

I have found this book to be an excellent personal devotional book and also useful for classroom devotionals.

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