

(Mobile book) What's Best Next: How the Gospel Transforms the Way You Get Things Done

# What's Best Next: How the Gospel Transforms the Way You Get Things Done

*Matthew Aaron Perman*

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## Matthew Aaron Perman : What's Best Next: How the Gospel Transforms the Way You Get Things Done

before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised What's Best Next: How the Gospel Transforms the Way You Get Things Done:

34 of 36 people found the following review helpful. "Mind Like Tsunami"? Gospel-Driven Productivity (GDP) Inspires Hope and Extends Help for GTD, ZTD, and GRAW Practitioners By Daniel E. Burrow Disclosure: Matthew Perman generously provided an advance PDF copy of this book. I'm so very happy he did! Perman candidly testifies that his hope of achieving a "mind like water" was very rarely ever achieved through GTD practices. Instead, he

found his state of mind of being one of "mind like a tsunami" (15). Mine, too. "Getting Things Done" (GTD, Allen), "Zen to Done" (ZTD, Babauta), and "Getting Results the Agile Way" (GRAW, Meier) are brilliant and practical authors whose methodologies have helped me in becoming more efficient and productive. Yet, too many good things have been left undone, too many people have not been loved and served as I would want to be loved and served, and too many opportunities to do great things of eternal impact have been wasted. These facts have left me heartsick. What have I been doing wrong in implementation? Was there a better tool than OmniFocus that I needed to find? Should I switch from Moleskine to Rhodia? Was there no hope? I'm a full-time pastor of a small but thriving country church in rural Washington. My wife's chronic, debilitating and incurable disease is ever worsening. My own recently diagnosed Polycystic Kidney and Liver disease, according to the exceedingly caring and thorough docs at the VA, will continue to degrade my energy level. Could it ever be true that there was a system that would adapt to not only a "mind like tsunami" but a "life like tsunami"? Brother Matthew has helped me to see that I've been first looking for a system that would enable productivity when I should have been first looking for a person--the Savior! Perman writes, "Productivity is specifically about doing 'the will of the Lord.' It's about specifically orienting our lives and decisions around God's will. We are to ultimately be Christ-centered, not just principle-centered.... It makes productivity personal in the fullest sense, and makes our whole lives one of fellowship with God, rather than a following of principles. It gives us even more guidance than simply being principle-centered, for God is a living being" (56). This is good news! Further good news, and hope, is offered when Matt writes, "I mentioned earlier that effectiveness must be learned. Here's the good news: Drucker found that everyone who worked at becoming effective succeeded" (42). In the pages of this book you will find foundational concepts and practical helps toward becoming a hope-filled knowledge worker who can expect to succeed as you continue working "at becoming effective" while living out a loving life of good works that brings you abiding joy and magnifies God's glory through Jesus. Daniel Burrow, Pastor for Preaching, Open Heart Baptist Church, Selah, WA 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A practical theology of work and gospel-oriented advice for ordering your life By E. Johnson Matt Perman's book "What's Best Next: How the Gospel Transforms the Way You Get Things Done" is not a traditional productivity book, although it does include some ideas and practices for working and living more effectively. It's more like a combination of a practical theology of work and gospel-oriented advice for ordering your life. The book starts by building a strong case for a biblical view of productivity, and distinguishing it from the world's view of getting things done. It lays the groundwork for understanding why a good theology of productivity matters, how it will help us become better Christians, and what benefits it will provide (other than getting more things done). After establishing a strong foundation of how the Bible defines productivity, he then moves into more practical application of those principles. Some sections I found especially helpful were: how and why to create a mission statement in light of the gospel's timeless truth, how to define your roles in light of the gospel's commands, how to set up your week with a view for serving others, and how to delegate for the benefit of others (not just for yourself). This book will challenge your thinking! It's not a fast read, although it's well-written and engaging. But it requires a lot of thought and calls for some "homework" along the way -- for instance, the chapter on creating a mission statement or defining your roles requires time out to do just that. It's not a book worth rushing through. Thankfully, each chapter closes with a box (literally called "The Box") that includes the chapter's core point, core quote, and core Scripture passage; a task for immediate application; common questions and answers; and further resources about the chapter's content. Additionally, the book ends with a "toolkit" that can be revisited time and again, whenever you need a refresher on some aspect of gospel-driven productivity. It includes things like a 500-word recap of the topic; an easy reference guide to key issues in productivity (pointing to various pages within the book itself); an annotated bibliography for further reading on key productivity-related topics; and a list of tools available for free online, including five bonus chapters and other helpful articles. Highly recommend for any Christian who wants to get anything done... no matter what your role may be! It shares a strong biblical worldview, keeps Scripture as the highest authority, and strikes a fine balance between grace and law. It is a resource I will be returning to in the future whenever I need a refresher on "what's best next." 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A very unique and practical book By D. Dale This is a great book. It's great for people like me (who supposedly have the gift of administration) because it reminds me to keep the bigger purposes and priorities in mind (glorifying God and loving people) rather than just cranking through a list of todos or trying to find the perfect 'system'. It's also great for people who might be on the other end of the spectrum, who may not feel like a lot of organization is necessary in their lives, because he makes it clear that doing our work well glorifies God and is actually a practical demonstration of love to others. If you're a GTD addict who has tried every system and tool available, this is for you. If you're a person that has a hard time staying on task or finishing things, this book is for you. It's a long read, but a good investment. It's a unique book, the likes of which I've never seen before.

Do Work That Matters Productivity isn't just about getting more things done. It's about getting the right things done---the things that count, make a difference, and move the world forward. In our current era of massive overload, this is harder than ever before. So how do you get more of the right things done without confusing mere activity for actual productivity? When we take God's purposes into account, a revolutionary insight emerges.

Surprisingly, we see that the way to be productive is to put others first---to make the welfare of other people our motive and criteria in determining what to do (what's best next). As both the Scriptures and the best business thinkers show, generosity is the key to unlocking our productivity. It is also the key to finding meaning and fulfillment in our work. What's Best Next offers a practical approach for improving your productivity in all areas of life. It will help you better understand: Why good works are not just rare and special things like going to Africa, but anything you do in faith even tying your shoes. How to create a mission statement for your life that actually works. How to delegate to people in a way that actually empowers them. How to overcome time killers like procrastination, interruptions, and multitasking by turning them around and making them work for you. How to process workflow efficiently and get your email inbox to zero every day. How your work and life can transform the world socially, economically, and spiritually, and connect to God's global purposes. By anchoring your understanding of productivity in God's purposes and plan, What's Best Next will give you a practical approach for increasing your effectiveness in everything you do.

"This book is simply extraordinary.... I doubt there is a person on the planet who knows both theological issues and time management literature to the depth and extent Matt Perman does."