

Being a part of a team

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

James Helton, February 15, 2026

Some quotes about teams:

Coach Phil Jackson - “The strength of a team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team.”

Helen Keller - “Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”

“When the team’s heart beats as one, anything is possible.”

“It's better to have a great team than a team of greats.”

An African proverb - “If you want to go fast go alone, if you want to go far, go together.”

Coach Pat Summitt - “To me, teamwork is a lot like being a part of a family. It comes with obligations, entanglements, headaches, and quarrels. But the awards are worth the cost.”

“You miss 100% of the shots you don't take.” - Michael Scott/Wayne Gretzky

Soccer player Cristiano Ronaldo - “It's not about being the best on the team, it's about being the best for the team.”

“We're a team – whatever you lack – I got you.”

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Team = two or more; a group of people working or playing together; to join in cooperative activity.

I can't do all the work by myself.
One person can't meet all the needs.

From Wayne Cordero's book doing church as a team:

From page 37 maybe it's time we return to the way God designed the church to function in the first place. The ministry of the church is not the responsibility of a few professionals; it is the divine responsibility of every single one of us. Every member a minister that's what God says in fact He calls us to be full-time ministers! Full-time? Yes! Not just on Sundays, not just at Bible studies, but full-time. Do we love God just part time? Do we serve Him just part time? We are full-time citizens of Heaven with a commission and assignment to accomplish during our stay here on this planet. Before you're a businessman, you're a minister ... before you're a homemaker, you're a minister ... before you're a student, a grandparent or a CEO, you are first a minister.

1 Cor 12:12-31 (*one body - many parts*)

Each person plays a **VITAL** part in the life of the church.

Wayne's book, Page 74, God designed each of us to be intricately involved in His plan. When you are willing to launch out and use your gifts for the sake of the Kingdom, three wonderful things will begin to happen; you will know amazing joy, enjoy healthy accountability and experience accelerated spiritual growth.

First you must **BECOME** a part of the team. Rom. 10:13-16; John 3:16-18

-It is not enough to be a fan or a spectator.

(Rich Young Ruler - Matt 19:16-22)

-Get off the sidelines choose Jesus.

Get off the **BENCH** and get **INVOLVED**.

Our **HUDDLE** = is our Sunday gatherings, our life groups, and small groups.

Our **GAME PLAN** = is that all might know Him.

Being a part of the team means showing up.

It means getting to practice, team meetings, and making it to games.

It also means studying the playbook, knowing what to do in certain circumstances.

It means listening to your coaches taking their advice and putting it into practice.

And if you are going to know the game plan and implement it, you have to get into the huddle and study the playbook.

In the huddle a coach's or leader's job is to...

- Encourage everyone to do their best;
- get after those who are slacking or not giving their all;
- make sure everyone is on the same page;
- remind people what their assignment is;
- get everyone fired up;
- to pull the team together;
- to give people points to work on and to help them out;
- to get everyone focused;
- and pass along the game plan.

So why do we need to be a part of the huddle?

In John 17:20-23, it says that we would become one in heart and mind, so that the world would believe that God sent Jesus into the world.

And John 13:34-35, we are to love one another, everyone will know that we are Jesus' disciples by our love for each other.

Because you cannot fulfill the game plan without the huddle.

The huddle is there for your encouragement.

The huddle is there for accountability.

It is to make sure that we are all focused on the same thing, lifting up the name of Jesus for all to see.

For constant reminders of what we are really here for :

To get excited about Him.

There are things that we all need to work on to get better.

And ultimately to pass on the game plan.

So what is the playbook?
It is the **WORD** of God.

Why do I need to study the playbook?
To become more like Jesus.
It makes it easier to fulfill the game plan.
So that we might not sin against Him.
So we can know the things that we need to work on.
And so that we can know for sure what the game plan is.

Pastor Dave talked to us about this last week from Matthew 9:36-38 - are you on the field? Jesus **SAW** people as they were He had **COMPASSION** for them and He **MET** their needs.

In Matthew 28:18-20 our Coach told us to **GO!**

We were created to be in **COMMUNITY**.

Jesus knew this and knew that we would need to work TOGETHER to fulfill the mission.

Luke 10:1-3 After this the Lord appointed 72 others and sent them 2 by 2 ahead of Him to every town and place where He was about to go. He told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field. Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves.

Wayne's book, Page 83, “God does not deserve our leftovers. He deserves the best we can give!”

What does it mean to be part of a team? Written by John Leonard

To become a part of a team is a privilege. The team lifts and elevates the performance of an individual to heights never before achieved. Each individual must also recognize their responsibility to the team. The team is a collection of individuals who have chosen to pursue one or more common goals. Successful teams nurture the individual and expect individual to respond by also nurturing the team.

If you're on a good team be thankful. If you're not, what are you doing to create a good team from the one you are on today?

"Each member of the team has a responsibility to be better today, than they were yesterday, as an athlete and as a person. That's how teams get better."

"On our team, the fastest guys help the slower guys every day. That way when the meet comes around - the slower guys do better, and they also cheer more for the faster guys."

"Team means together. We do things outside of practice together. When you know your teammates as people, when it counts, you can be there."

"We all commit easier to group goals and we do our own goals. We want to not let anyone else down on the team."

"It's more fun to be on a team."

"Teams are like families. It ain't always pretty, but it's much more rewarding to be in one."

TEAM = Together Everyone Achieves More

Questions/Testimony

Zane?

Emerson?

Brenna?

Uriah?

Kelsey?

Will?

Cooper?

What does being a part of the team mean to you?

How has being on a team challenged you to get better?

Why would someone want to join a team?

Application:

1. Have you joined His team? Maybe today is the day!
2. Maybe you need to recommit to the team or to the game plan?

3. I am committed to the team and to the game plan, but I need to get on the field!



What does it mean to be a part
of a team?

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Coach Phil Jackson



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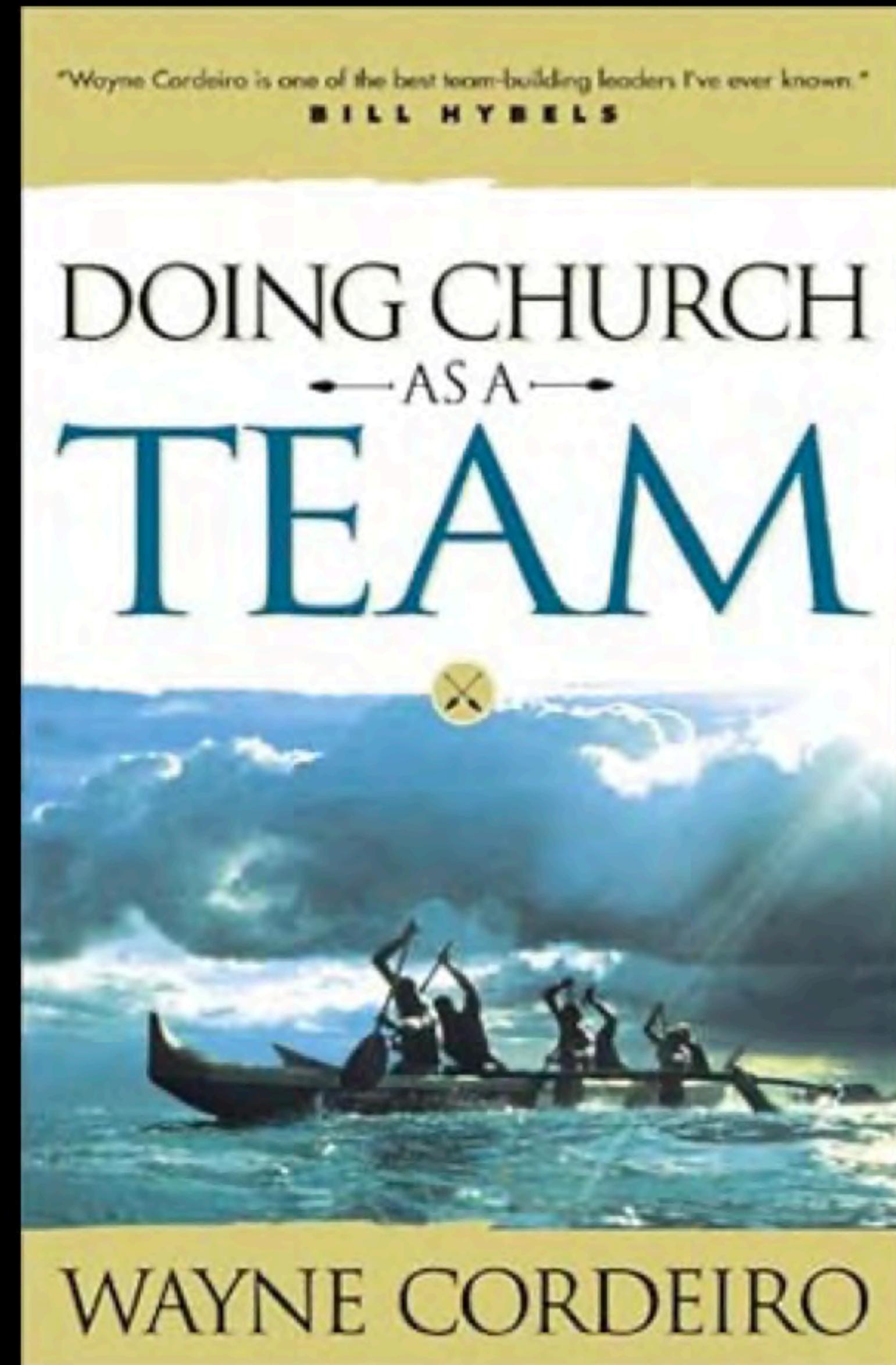
Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

9 Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: 10 If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. 11 Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? 12 Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

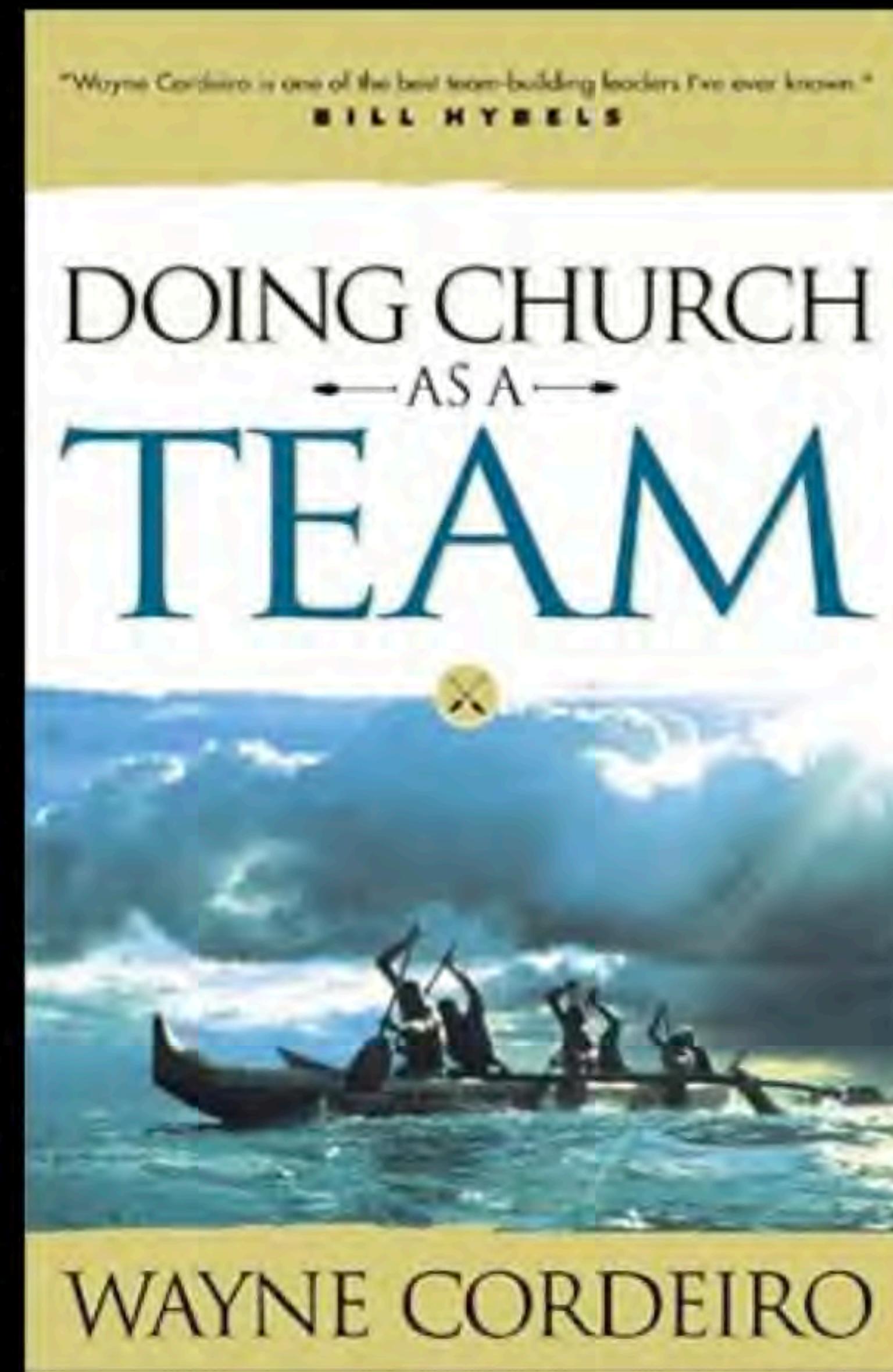
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Doing Church As A Team

Wayne Cordero



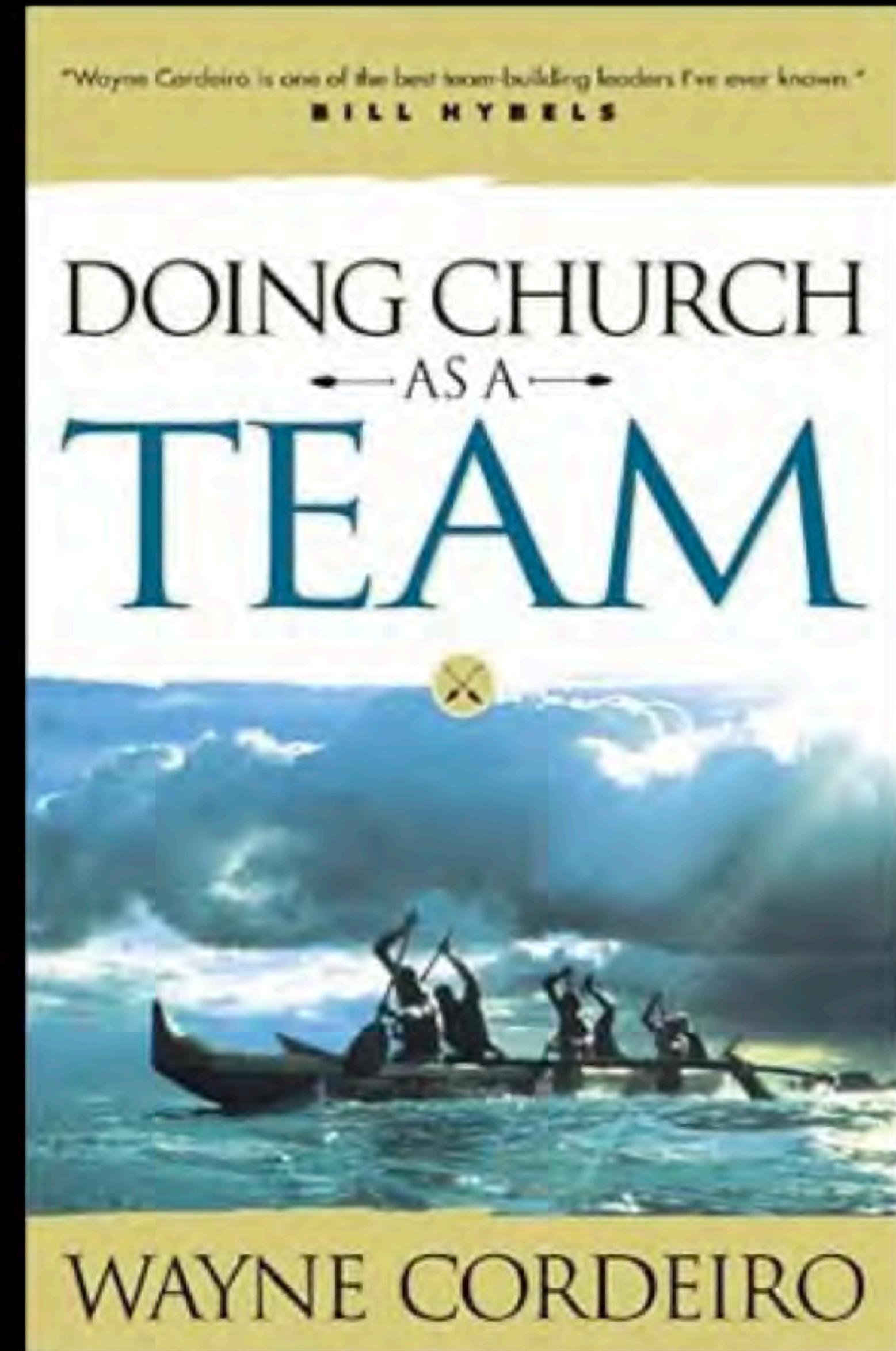
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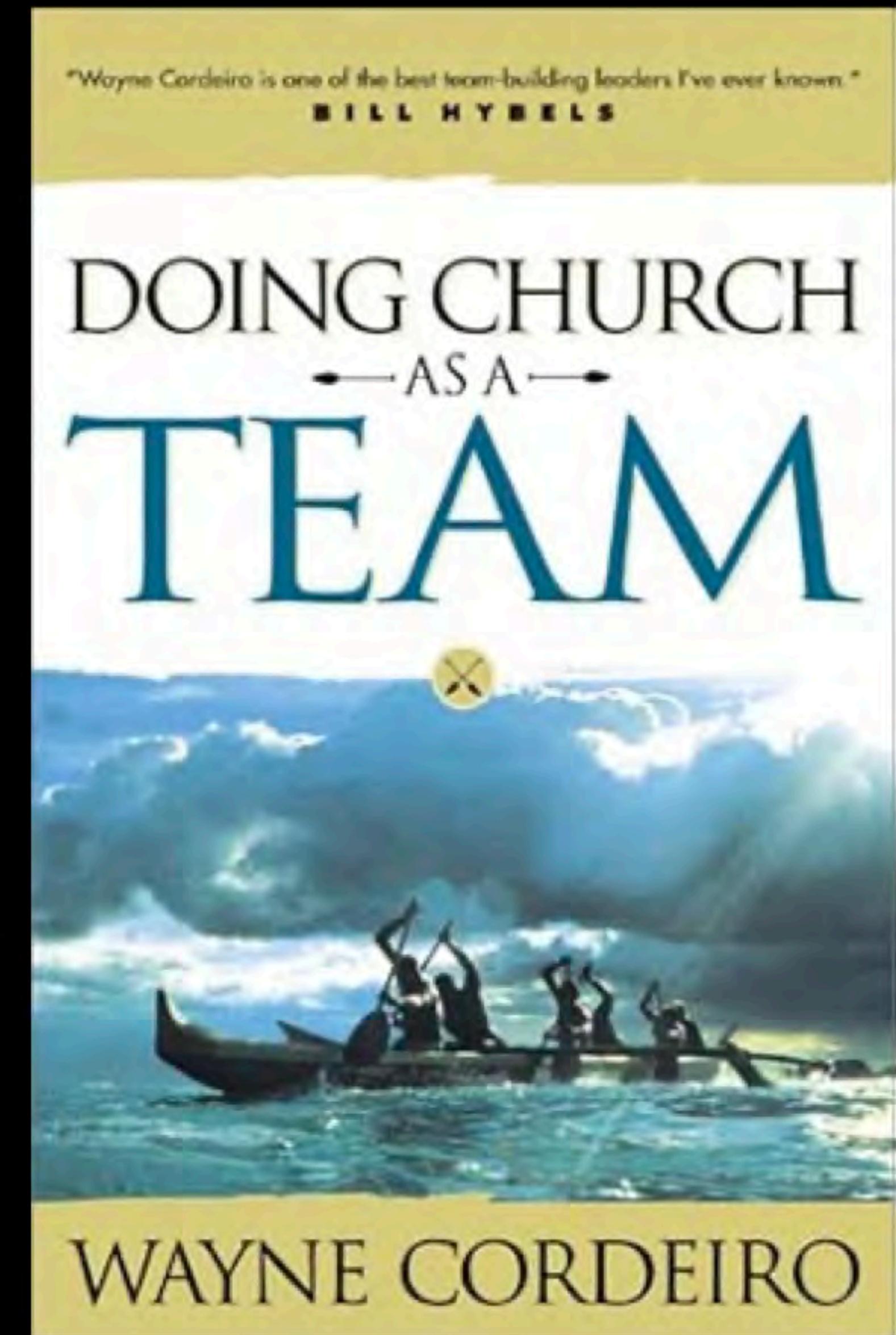
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Team Question Panel



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