



Culture Short Books

Overview

Here is a list of short books about culture change, along with a Christian perspective. Don't be deceived with the length or a perceived juvenile style. These books are quick reads with long-lasting lessons.

Who Moved My Cheese?

by Spencer Johnson

- **Overview:** A parable that illustrates how people deal with change in their lives and work. It follows two mice and two little people in a maze, searching for cheese—a metaphor for happiness and success.
- **Focus:** Change management, adaptability, and mindset shifts.
- **Christian Perspective:** This book's core message about embracing change resonates with the biblical principle that life is filled with seasons (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8). Just as the characters must adapt to their changing circumstances, Christians are called to trust God's guidance through life's transitions (Proverbs 3:5-6). It also highlights the dangers of fear and complacency, reminding us of the Israelites' reluctance to enter the Promised Land due to their fear of change (Numbers 13-14).
- **Biblical Connection:** *"Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" (Isaiah 43:19)*

Journey to the Heroic Environment

by Rob Lebow and Randy Spitzer

- **Overview:** A leadership fable that highlights the importance of creating a positive workplace culture based on trust, respect, and responsibility.
- **Focus:** Corporate culture, leadership, and team building.
- **Christian Perspective:** The book emphasizes creating a culture of trust, respect, and responsibility, which aligns closely with biblical teachings on servant leadership and community building. The concept of a "heroic environment" mirrors the early church's selfless and supportive community (Acts 2:42-47). Leaders are reminded that true greatness comes through service, reflecting Jesus' teaching that "whoever wants to be first must be your servant" (Mark 10:44-45).
- **Biblical Connection:** *"So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you" (Matthew 7:12)*

Fish!

by Stephen C. Lundin, Harry Paul, and John Christensen

- **Overview:** A workplace parable set in the Pike Place Fish Market in Seattle, offering lessons on how to create an energized and positive culture at work.
- **Focus:** Motivation, team culture, and workplace happiness.
- **Christian Perspective:** *Fish!* promotes joy, enthusiasm, and a positive workplace culture—qualities Christians are encouraged to bring into their daily lives. The book's focus on choosing



one's attitude aligns with Paul's instruction to "rejoice always" and give thanks in all circumstances (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18). Additionally, the value of service and engaging others joyfully reflects Jesus' model of leadership through humility and love.

- **Biblical Connection:** *"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord" (Colossians 3:23)*

The Four Agreements

by *Don Miguel Ruiz*

- **Overview:** A guide based on ancient Toltec wisdom that outlines four principles—be impeccable with your word, don't take anything personally, don't make assumptions, and always do your best—to create personal and cultural transformation.
- **Focus:** Personal growth, mindset shifts, and cultural values.
- **Christian Perspective:** Although rooted in Toltec wisdom, the principles of *The Four Agreements* harmonize with Christian values:
 - **Be impeccable with your word:** Reflects biblical teachings on honesty and integrity (Ephesians 4:25).
 - **Don't take anything personally:** Resonates with turning the other cheek and forgiving others (Matthew 5:39).
 - **Don't make assumptions:** Encourages open and loving communication (James 1:19).
 - **Always do your best:** Reflects Paul's exhortation to work as if for the Lord (Colossians 3:23).
- **Biblical Connection:** *"Let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No'" (Matthew 5:37)*
- **Toltec Wisdom:** Toltec Wisdom originates from the ancient Toltec civilization of Mexico, known for its deep spiritual and philosophical traditions. The Toltecs, whose name means "artists" or "builders," believed that life is a form of art, and each person has the power to shape their reality through their thoughts, actions, and choices. Central to Toltec teachings is the idea that human suffering stems from false beliefs and self-limiting agreements formed through societal conditioning. These teachings emphasize personal freedom, self-awareness, and living with integrity.

Our Iceberg Is Melting

by *John Kotter and Holger Rathgeber*

- **Overview:** A fable about penguins facing a melting iceberg that serves as a metaphor for organizational change, based on Kotter's 8-step change model.
- **Focus:** Change management, leadership, and adaptability.
- **Christian Perspective:** This parable about facing change as a community reflects the biblical call for unity and preparedness. The penguins' journey echoes the story of Noah, who faced skepticism but followed God's direction to prepare for a great change (Genesis 6-9). It also emphasizes the importance of listening to warnings and acting together, much like how the early church navigated persecution and growth through collective faith and wisdom.
- **Biblical Connection:** *"The prudent see danger and take refuge, but the simple keep going and pay the penalty" (Proverbs 22:3)*