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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Excellent** | **Adequate** | **Insufficient** |
| ***Focus****: author’s thesis; book’s content* | Clearly communicates the author’s thesis/main idea and succinctly summarizes the book’s content | Adequately communicates the author’s thesis and summarizes the book’s content | Does not clearly communicate the author’s thesis and/or summarize the book’s content |
| ***Critique****: evaluation on behalf of the leadership community; not a personal reaction* | Interacts with and critiques the author’s ideas at a high level on behalf of the leadership community | Adequately critiques the author’s ideas on behalf of the community | Does not offer a helpful critique, and/or does not critique on behalf of the community, and/or too much personal reviewer bias |
| ***Application****: applied aspect for Christian leaders; not limited to reviewer’s personal context* | Shares clear and practical application of the author’s ideas for Christian leaders | Adequately applies the author’s ideas for Christian leaders | Does not sufficiently apply the author’s ideas for Christian leaders, and/or application limited to reviewer’s personal context |
| ***Recommendation****: to read this book or not, and why* | Clearly and strongly recommends whether to read the book, including a summary of reasons why | Adequately recommends whether to read the book | Does not strongly recommend whether to read the book and/or include reasons why |

Note: “Author” refers to the book author; “reviewer” refers to the book reviewer.

Reviews should ideally be 500-750 words. If the review is much more than 1,000 words it probably needs to be trimmed down.

If appropriate, some information about the author might be included: Who is he/she? Why write this book? Any information about what makes the author an authority on the book’s subject is helpful, especially if the author is relatively unknown.

Things that should *not* be in a review:

* Rants about negative or positive aspects of the book.
* Expressions of personal prejudices: “I liked/didn’t like X aspect of the book…”
* Overly personalized application: “This book helped/influenced/taught me…” Remember: the book review is on behalf of *JACL’s* readership, which is the leadership community.