

What Leaders Throughout the Vocations Are Saying About *The Great Opportunity*

“Dave’s heart for disciple making is inspiring and desperately needed today, both in the church and throughout the vocations. I’ve benefited greatly from people pouring into my life. I have seen its value in my walk with the Lord and I have a heart to do the same for others. I highly recommend *The Great Opportunity* and definitely encourage disciple making!”

Jeremy Camp

Musician & Author, Founder of Speaking Louder Ministries

“A great book on making disciples should not merely be the product of a mind. It should also be the product of a life, one devoted to fashioning souls in the image of Jesus. Dave Buehring has lived this kind of life, and so he has been able to give us this kind of book. May we use *The Great Opportunity* to change our generation.”

Stephen Mansfield, Ph.D.

New York Times Bestselling Author

Founder of GreatMan

“For the last 15 years, Dave Buehring has discipled me to reflect the ways of God in my platform of the music industry. I am now making disciples through my “Sisters” group of female Christian artists. In *The Great Opportunity*, Dave lovingly and practically equips you how to walk out the Great Commission in the same way that he taught me.”

Mandisa

American Idol Finalist, GRAMMY Winning Artist

"If you are new to the term ‘vocational disciple making’ you have found the right guide in Dave Buehring. *The Great Opportunity* both gives vision for how this concept can change the world and reveals how it is key to engaging a new generation with the truth of God’s calling for each of our lives. An essential read for any person of faith.”

Gabe Lyons

President of Q Ideas and Author of *Good Faith*

“Dave Buehring has been my friend for a long time. It is wonderful to see his dedication to being a disciple of Jesus and his focus on the mission of making disciples of Jesus in every vocation throughout society. His mission is also meant to be our mission. In *The Great Opportunity*, Dave shares with us why and then shows us how.”

Scott Hamilton

Olympic Figure Skating Gold Medalist and Commentator
Scott Hamilton CARES Foundation

“*The Great Opportunity* addresses a glaring need that can still plague the Body of Christ: the sacred-secular divide. Dave Buehring shows us how to join God in the work of seeing people’s lives transformed into the image of Jesus in the context of our everyday lives at work. I highly recommend this book to anyone who desires their work week to be right on the cutting edge of the Gospel!”

Eddie Broussard

International Vice President, The Navigators

“I grew up in a Christian church where being a pastor was the only job that was valued. That’s a common error in American Christianity, and it’s produced a multitude of injurious downstream effects, inside the faith and in the country. Dave Buehring’s passion is to help every person discover the ways that their unique talents and personalities are part of a bigger story and have divine purpose. *The Great Opportunity* is aimed at helping Christians be agents of service—especially to those who are most in need and on the margins — rather than seeking conquest and domination.”

Jon Ward

Political Reporter, Yahoo News

“Walking with Dave Buehring for 17 years now, I’m so glad that he finally wrote down what he’s been teaching for many years. The biblical principles on vocational disciple making in Dave’s book, *The Great Opportunity*, have changed the way I think and how I live out the purpose of disciple making in the NFL locker room.”

Kent Chevalier

Chaplain, Pittsburgh Steelers

“Many see work as something that takes us away from our faith rather than as a calling where we can represent and glorify God. Women in the workplace desire to bring their whole selves wherever they spend each hour of their days, including their workplaces. *The Great Opportunity* both inspires and equips Christians to integrate their faith and work and is a great resource for all believers. It is exciting that we can know God and make Him known while serving Him in the professional world.”

Diane Paddison

Founder and Executive Director of 4word

Author of *Work, Love, Pray*

Former Global Executive, Fortune 500 & Fortune 1000 Companies

“After fighting for my country, my entry into politics and government was also out of a desire to serve. It’s a calling rooted in my faith and how God made me. I’ve been blessed to have a Christian who has worked in this world walk alongside me and guide me as I try to make decisions based on Biblical principles. *The Great Opportunity* will help me do the same for others who work in my field.”

Joshua Revak

State Senate, Alaska

Former Main Battle Tank Crew Member, U.S. Army

“Dave Buehring is a seasoned spiritual leader that has the experience and authority to give you a powerful gift in this easy-to-read book that will inform, inspire, and ignite you to action into one of the greatest missing keys for the transformation of the nation and the world for Jesus and His Kingdom. Jesus said, ‘Go, disciple all nations.’ Dave writes how in *The Great Opportunity!*”

Loren Cunningham

Founder, Youth with A Mission (YWAM)

“With a friend like Dave Buehring, there is nothing you enjoy more than those too few times when you get to be together, and have a deep, life-giving chat about things that really matter. Reading *The Great Opportunity* provides that kind of experience as Dave converses with you deeply about our core calling: being whole-hearted and whole-minded disciples in the contexts of life where He has placed us.”

Rev. David R. Wells M.A., D.D.

General Superintendent, The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada

“As a practicing physician, I have been honored to interact with, learn from, and be encouraged by Dave Buehring for over 20 years. I have not encountered a leader with more integrity, insight and passion for making disciples! Long before it was popular, Dave was encouraging us to make disciples. In *The Great Opportunity* you will find well-researched, intelligent and practical steps we can all implement, regardless of our vocation!”

John McB. Hodgson, MD, MSCAI, FACC

Director of Cardiology, Wilson Health
Professor of Medicine, Case Western Reserve School of Medicine

"Humans are wired to search for significance. We want our passions to be tied to a purpose, and for Christians, that should be to use our gifts and skills for God's kingdom. *The Great Opportunity* shows us how to do that. Dave has taught me these principles and I am passing them on to teens that I mentor and professionals in my church who want to merge their previously separated silos of work and faith. Every pastor and leader need this tool to help others live out their calling."

Dr. Sean Holland

Senior Pastor, Epicenter of Worship in Lansing, Michigan
Social and Emotional Learning Specialist, Purpose Prep
Director of Transformational Leadership, One Love Global

“*The Great Opportunity* is a breakthrough book addressing the Great Co-mission of Jesus in the world of work. From teaching the importance of calling to the power of relationship to the need for obedience, it teaches us how to be the disciple makers Jesus calls us to be. Dave Buehring has written a treasure of a book that is packed with practical wisdom, experience, and encouragement.”

Phyllis Hendry Halverson

Inaugural President/CEO of Lead Like Jesus

“In *The Great Opportunity*, Dave really captures the heart of what it means to be a follower of Christ. Dave challenges the norm that so many Christians have adopted in how to live our daily lives. He challenges us to seek and find our God-given calling and to intentionally make disciples of others along the way. This is a must read for believers seeking more than ‘a job.’”

Mi Yung Park

Government Relations Director for A21
Former Federal Prosecutor, U.S. Department of Justice

“In *The Great Opportunity*, Dave Buehring gives us practical steps, rooted in Scripture, to invite others into the natural rhythms of our life and to begin to disciple them in simple, attainable ways, whether it’s on the soccer field, in the classroom, or in the office. It ignited a passion in me to invest in others who will then turn around and pour into others. Just imagine the impact!”

Andrea McMaster

IF: Gathering Leader and Regional Coach
Public Relations Executive and Former TV News Anchor

“As a Christian living and working in Silicon Valley, it is challenging to spread the message of Jesus. But believers can and should pursue careers in science and technology because our work matters to God. Biblical ethics and morality are needed when dealing with issues of privacy and the proper use of artificial intelligence. *The Great Opportunity* provides an essential blueprint for starting the discussion on how our vocational calling can honor God.”

Jim Chiang

Senior Director, Artificial Intelligence
Engineer and Data Scientist

“Corporate America and the fast-paced world of technology needs moral and ethical leaders, ones who reflect and live out their faith. I try to use my gifts and skills “as unto the Lord,” but *The Great Opportunity* inspires me to intentionally pass on what I have learned to those I lead.”

Julie Smith

Fortune 500 Company Technology Executive

“In *The Great Opportunity*, Dave Buehring inspires us to view our vocation as a God-given calling and envisions us to see a world that is shaped and molded by the ways of God. Buehring challenges us to see our marketplace as our mission and our job as a ministry. He gives us practical tools to personally walk in the ways of Jesus and to shape others in the ways of Jesus. This is a must-read for every follower of Jesus and every leader who wishes to disciple others in the ways of Jesus.”

Heather Zempel

Discipleship Pastor, National Community Church
Washington, D.C.

“The first job God ever gave us is to steward His creation. That responsibility hasn’t gone away. In fact, it’s gotten more complex and in need of solutions. Christians should be at the forefront of advancing science, technology and energy innovation all for the benefit of the environment. In doing so, we can help solve the world’s greatest earthly challenges while pointing people to the Only One who can solve our deepest spiritual challenges. *The Great Opportunity* provides valuable insights and practical ideas about how we can live out those mutual callings.”

Drew Bond

CEO, PowerField Energy Inc.
Co-Founder & CEO, C3 Solutions

“Dave Buehring was born to write this book. In *The Great Opportunity*, he makes the case that the Great Commission isn't just about making disciples of Jesus in our churches, but also in the vocations where God has placed us. Dave delivers both a convincing vision and a compelling plan—something that every pastor should want their flock to understand and undertake!”

Steve Berger

Senior Pastor, Grace Chapel
Franklin, Tennessee

“Most of my life I have heard it taught to go out and get as many people saved as you can, but I wasn’t taught so much on discipleship. But Jesus thought and taught otherwise. It’s one thing to be a Christian, but it’s quite another to be a disciple, and to make disciples. In *The Great Opportunity*, Dave Buehring has written an easy to understand book, full of Scripture and practical know-how. After reading it, you’ll be a better disciple and be able to better fulfill The Great Commission!

Ricky Skaggs

Singer, Musician, Producer & Composer
Country Music Hall of Fame

“*The Great Opportunity* will challenge and excite you about making disciples in your family and may result in a paradigm shift regarding others with whom you journey through life. A must-read for every Jesus follower, no matter what your vocation in society may be.”

Paris Goodyear-Brown, LCSW, RPT-S

Child and Family Therapist, Author and Speaker

“Going and making disciples is not just for those who dedicate their professional lives to ministry. As a scientist, I don’t have to choose between my vocation and my faith. We need to listen to, teach and walk with young people in science and technology fields so that they use their God-given gifts and talents to reflect Jesus. If you are willing and brave enough to do so, *The Great Opportunity* is an excellent tool to make disciples. We can learn a lot from the examples of professionals whose stories are told throughout this book.”

Dr. Stan Ecklund

Physicist, SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory (Retired)

“Dave Buehring brings a wealth of wisdom, stories and experiences in the *The Great Opportunity*, giving us fresh eyes to see our vocation and work as disciple making. I have always believed that our work IS our mission field and as we need to embrace it with an intentional and Godly focus. This book will open your eyes to see how your daily vocation IS your calling and purpose in the Great Commission.”

Mary Tomlinson

President On-Purpose Partners
Former General Manager, Walt Disney Company

“I highly recommend Dave Buehring’s book *The Great Opportunity*. It provides a description of what it means to raise-up disciple makers in the various spheres of life. It is very practical and real-world, revealing decades of experience by one of the country’s top disciple making leaders.”

Bobby Harrington, D.Min

Point Leader of Discipleship.org and Renew.org

“We live in a time when the foundations of family, community, morality, and faith are being destroyed or already are in ruins. Having spent a lifetime making disciples and helping others to do the same, Dave Buehring is a 'wise, master builder'. In *The Great Opportunity*, Dave clearly lays out the case for how we can practically restore societal foundations as each of us lives out our Great Commission role within our vocation!”

Bob Sladek

Head of School, Mission Viejo Christian School

"In *The Great Opportunity*, Dave Buehring makes the argument that work isn't just about success, accomplishments, and the bottom line; but also about what you have

poured into those around you. In addition to professional development for those that you lead, it's about imparting Jesus' character, ways, and mission into them so that they can turn around and do the same. Then, Christians aren't just connecting our faith and work but we are powered by it."

Elizabeth Knox

Author, *Faith Powered Profession*
Founder and Principal, Matchpace

"Anything Dave Buehring writes, I'm a believer in. This book on vocational discipleship is no different. When I first heard Dave teach what he's now written, I knew it could transform not only our church, but the entire Pittsburgh region. The biblical principals in this book flow from Dave's heart to see communities, cities, regions and nations changed for Jesus."

Pastor Scott Stevens

North Way Christian Community
Pittsburgh, PA

"We are witness to an awakening among Christian leaders who God has assigned to serve in the marketplace. In Dave Buehring's book, *The Great Opportunity*, he connects all the dots and reveals what it means to practice vocational disciple making. If you serve in the marketplace, you'll gain great clarity, definition, and the ultimate objectives as one who has been called to develop disciples of Jesus in the place where you are – today!"

Tami Heim

President and CEO, Christian Leadership Alliance

"Dave Buehring masterfully provides a solid and scripturally informed framework for making disciple makers through the calling of our vocations. God has endowed us with gifts, abilities, capacity, and influence to accomplish His means in this world. *The Great Opportunity* is a call to the sidelines to get in the game with God's plan for changing the world, right where you are, in what He's called you to do!"

Mel Mills

Entrepreneur, Digital Marketing and Communications Strategist

"Since people spend most of their waking hours at work, I cannot imagine a worthier pursuit than equipping them to see their vocations as platforms to be and make disciples of Jesus. Yet many Christians hear very little from their leaders about the

vital connection between God's calling and their career. Dave Buehring brings a lifetime of practical experience to teach new insights into how we can influence the world through vocational discipleship."

Clay Smith

Senior Pastor, Johnson Ferry Baptist Church

"As a business owner, Dave Buehring has helped me connect my Sundays to my Mondays. In *The Great Opportunity*, Dave provides a fresh look at our vocations, masterfully laying out the great opportunity we all have of connecting our calling and The Great Commission with where we work. There are many resources available on disciple making, but none like this one!

George Kehoe

Owner, Kehoe Marketing

"In *The Great Opportunity*, Dave Buehring profoundly identifies Jesus' words in Matthew 28:18-20, as our "True North." In a world constantly changing and devaluing any godly ideals, Dave realizes our vocation is the battlefield, where we must make our stand to solely imitate Jesus' character and make disciples. If not, then the life of Jesus will not be revealed, and His Kingdom, which brings grace and hope to a lost world, will not advance."

CH (LTC) Kevin Mateer

U.S. Army Chaplain

"Dave Buehring does not write as an abstract armchair theologian but as a hands-on, transformative practitioner. His words are rooted in Scripture and confirmed by a life of obedience. He writes of timeless truths in ways that are impactful and fresh, never irrelevant or stale. Be prepared not only to read *The Great Opportunity*; expect to be challenged to apply it, because—as Dave will tell you— when you respond to revelation with obedience the result will be transformation!"

David Joel Hamilton

Vice President for Strategic Innovation

YWAM's University of the Nations

"*The Great Opportunity* is not just another book with insight, it is a book filled with foundational principles and a perspective to literally change how you live life in your vocation. For nearly two decades, as I general managed worldwide tours for some of the biggest entertainers, I have been discipled by Dave Buehring. That has allowed

me to impact people as I first actively put what I was taught into practice daily. I am a doer and not a reader, however, this book will be on my desktop and used as a reference for "what I do" and "how I do it" for decades to come!"

Laurie Frey

General Manager for Entertainment Tours

"As a pastor of young adults, my first thought within the first chapter of reading *The Great Opportunity* was, 'I need to get this book into the hands of every high school graduate or first year college student.' If young adults can see themselves as disciplined missionaries who portray Jesus in every vocation, what an empowered church on mission we will be!"

Chet Ingram

Pastor, Ebenezer Baptist Church
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

"Dave Buehring demonstrates the clear understanding and wisdom on how to integrate our faith and work to become the disciple makers that Jesus calls us to be. *The Great Opportunity* teaches us the importance of calling, relationship, obedience and planning in 'passing on to others what Jesus has passed on to us.'"

Nancy Reece

Executive Coach, Consultant, Senior VP YMCA

"*The Great Opportunity* is a powerful book. It provides a practical roadmap for developing disciples who reflect God's character and His ways in the vocations into which God has called us. If you want to communicate well what Jesus is teaching you, this book is the resource you need."

Dr. Teresa Moon

President & CEO, Institute for Cultural Communicators

"You couldn't ask for a better friend or guide in your journey of vocational disciple making. Dave Buehring's heart is fully engaged in caring for individuals and coming alongside them as they follow Jesus' calling to make disciples wherever God has placed you. In *The Great Opportunity*, Dave shares how you can follow Jesus in doing that too!"

Jonathan Graham

Vice President, East Coast, Mastermedia International

"I have enjoyed a life-long friendship with Dave Buehring. We are two of four members of our own "Band of Brothers" walking with one another in friendship and accountability. There is no other human soul I know so consistently dedicated to the mission of disciple making. In *The Great Opportunity*, Dave will ask you, 'In whose ears are your words big'? Your answer may reveal those you are destined to disciple. Dave's words are very, very big in my ears."

L. Daniel Hammond

Founder, Past Chairman & CEO Publishing Group of America

"What is urgent? The Gospel is urgent! Our urgency is to raise up disciples of Jesus in recognition that this is His Kingdom strategy to overcome the world! Dave Buehring, who has impacted thousands of lives by his teaching, including my own, underscores this urgency in *The Great Opportunity*, providing tools to transform lives in our relationships and vocations. Read it prayerfully, and apply it daily in the power of the Holy Spirit!"

Ed Kelaher

Rector, All Saints Church
Chevy Chase, Maryland

"Dave Buehring has deeply impacted both emerging and seasoned leaders at our church, where he is a favorite speaker. In *The Great Opportunity*, Dave invites the reader into a partnership with God to change the world from the unique placement of one's vocation. This biblical, practical, and engaging book will inspire you to see that God has placed eternal purpose in your everyday work."

Bill Shuler

Senior Pastor, Capital Life Church
Arlington, VA

"God cares about your career! *The Great Opportunity* is a practical guide to viewing your vocation through God's eyes. Dave Buehring has provided spiritual guidance to my career for many years with profound impact. Now his wisdom is available to you."

Gabriel Smith

CEO, AdCritic

"Dave joins others who have dedicated their lives to teaching us that our work is more than a means, but also an expression of how God works out his calling for us."

Dave's work in *The Great Opportunity* is so authentic and he is fully qualified to disciple us in making disciples of Jesus in the vocations.”

Bill Hull

Author and Leader of the Bonhoeffer Project