

# HOLD ON TO YOUR RAFT

Principles to  
Preserve Godly Purpose

**AUTHOR:**

*Charles Humphrey, Jr.*

*DATE: JUNE 2021*

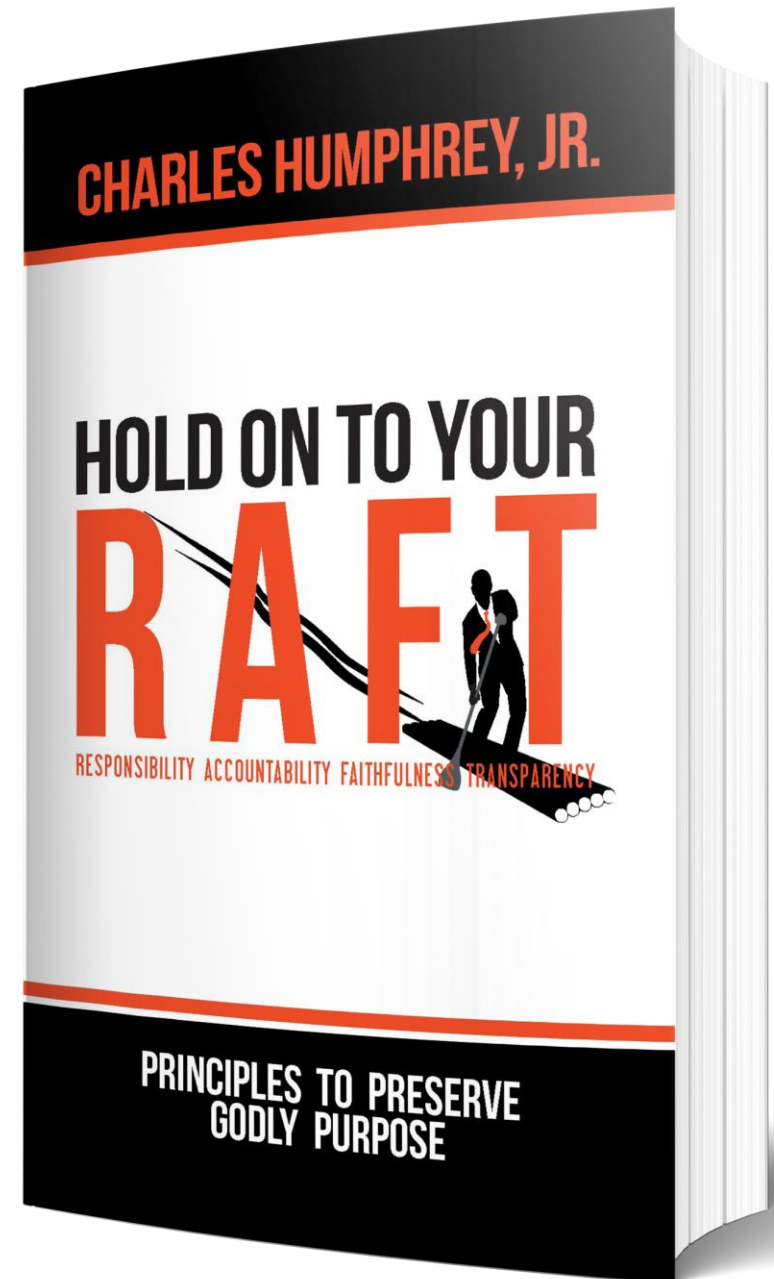
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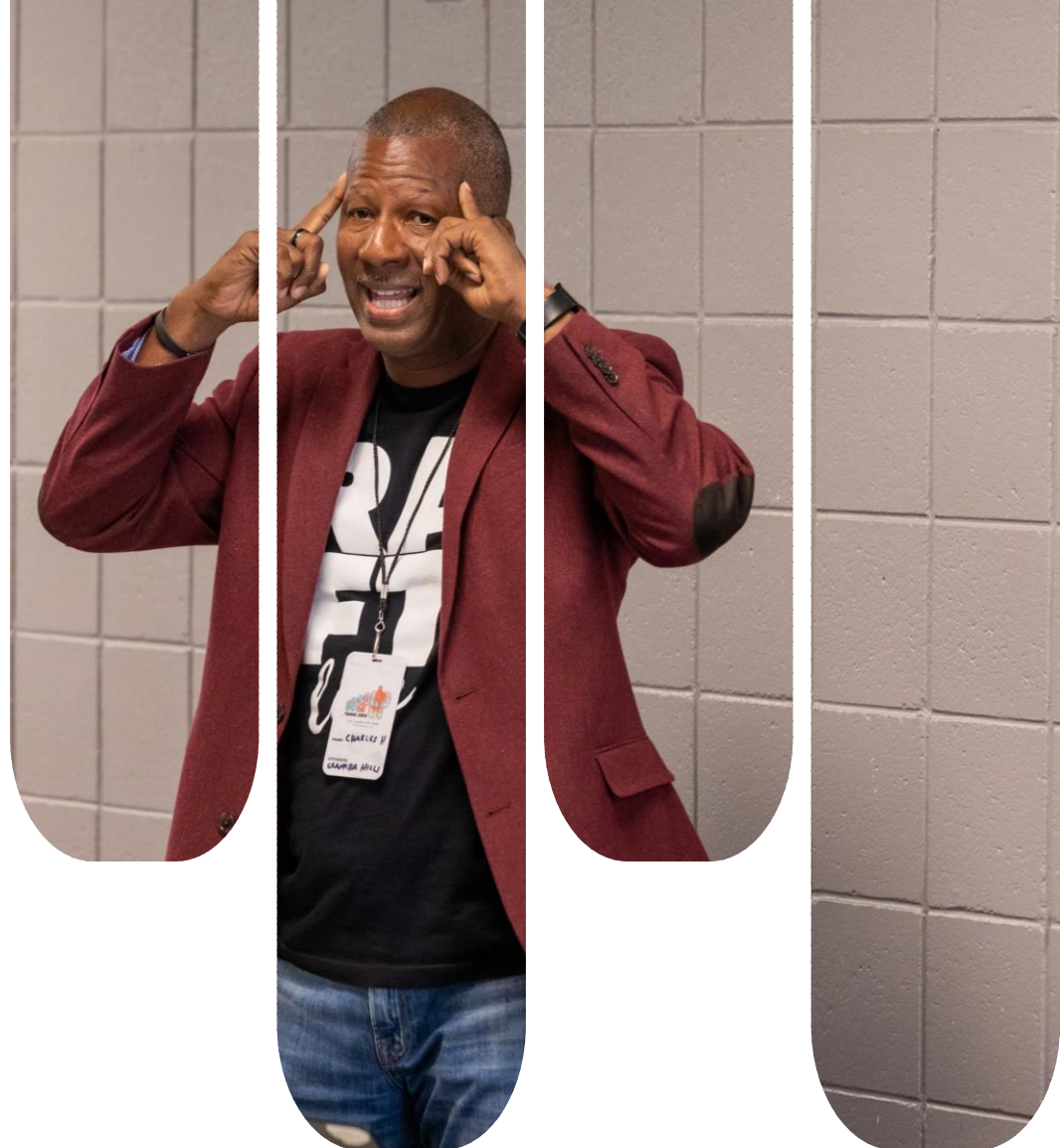
# ABOUT THE AUTHOR:



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Pastor Charles Humphrey, Jr. serves as Senior Pastor of H.O.P.E.'s House Christian Ministries ([www.hopeshouse.com](http://www.hopeshouse.com)) in Granada Hills, California, along with his wife, co-pastor, Dr. Andrea L. Humphrey. As a bi-vocational pastor of 15 years, his greatest passions center around engaging, motivating, and resourcing men to discover their God-given purpose and pursue their God-given dreams. In doing so, he challenges men to take their rightful place in God's Kingdom to impact family, ministry, and community positively.



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# ABOUT THE BOOK:

**AUTHOR:**

*Charles Humphrey, Jr.*

**CATEGORY:**

*Christian/Self-Help*

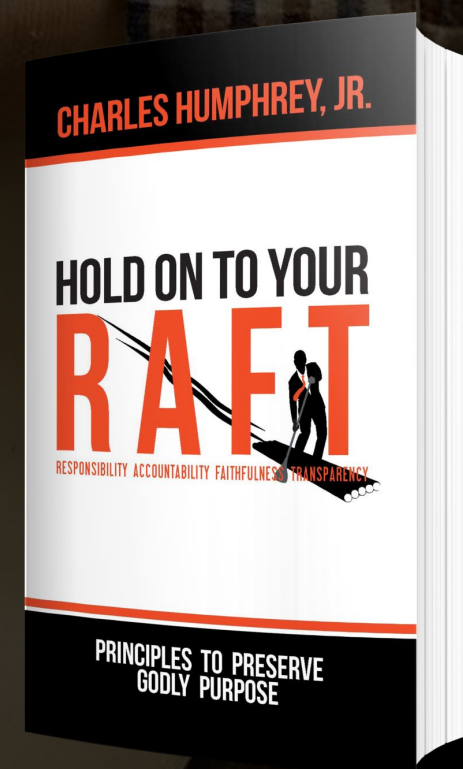
**PRINT ISBN:**

978-0-692048-11-5

**DIGITAL ISBN:**

A man operating in God-given purpose can accomplish extraordinary things. The ingenuity to erect skyscrapers, the creativity to create blockbuster movies, and the charisma to engage sold-out arenas with words or music can literally transform the human experience. These same men can also fall prey to extraordinary failure that transforms lives negatively. The failure, however, is not the inability to dominate a professional sport, perform in front of sold-out arenas, or run a political campaign. The failure is typically an inability to “hold on” to some basic principles of life – principles that these same men likely applied at a young age to achieve success in the first place.

Pastor Charles Humphrey explores the role that the everyday life principles of RESPONSIBILITY, ACCOUNTABILITY, FAITHFULNESS, and TRANSPARENCY (R.A.F.T.) play in both the successes and failures of men of all backgrounds. He observes that the R.A.F.T. acts as a life-saving device to keep a man’s purpose afloat through turbulent times. Further, it helps a man to escape remote desert islands of isolation. Finally, it is critical for transporting men towards life success. When a man chooses to “Hold On” to his R.A.F.T., incredible opportunities, adventures and experiences await him and the spouses, families, communities, and institutions they are connected with.





## TARGET MARKET

- Primarily men (women will benefit)
  - Christians
  - Pastors, ministers, evangelists,
  - Church leaders and teachers
  - Book clubs
  - Bible Study leaders/small groups
  - Christian college students/professors
- 
- Learn that every man needs a R.A.F.T. (women, too)
  - Learn how everyday life principles of RESPONSIBILITY, ACCOUNTABILITY, FAITHFULNESS, and TRANSPARENCY (R.A.F.T.) play in both the successes and failures of men of all backgrounds.
  - Learn how R.A.F.T. can help you negotiate life's turbulent waters



## BOOK BENEFITS



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# TESTIMONIALS

“Man, this book is awesome. You're an incredible writer, and men will find it an easy read yet anything but shallow. It's profound. It's also going to bear much fruit—eternal fruit.”

**Larry Titus**

**Kingdom Global Ministries**

“Hold On To Your R.A.F.T is an on-time message that reminds us that we are either in our R.A.F.T. or drowning in the depth of life looking for one. It blessed me, and I'm sure it will Bless you. Thank you, pastor Charles for sharing your wisdom and allowing the Lord to you through this powerful book ...

The R.A.F.T.”

**Mark Crear.Ph.D**

**Two-Time Olympian/ Motivational Counselor**

“The framework works to help men have an identity that works in all of their relationships. It helps men hold onto a R.A.F.T. that gets them through all of life's confusion and challenges. We all need this RAFT to hang onto. The reader will be able to relate to all of the stories and life lessons in this empowering book.”

**Lowell Goecker,**  
**Coach and Mentor**



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**HOLD ON TO YOUR RAFT****Principles to Preserve Godly Purpose****CHAPTER 1: EVERY MAN NEEDS A R.A.F.T.**

If you are like me, you have gone to conferences, read articles and books seeking answers to this perpetual male dilemma. There has been no shortage of effort put into seeking to solve the “man problem.” Allow me to share a few discoveries other great motivators of men have already made in efforts to get to the root of the matter:

- A tremendous mentor and spiritual influence in my life, Larry Titus of Kingdom Global Ministries, writes in his book, *The Teleios Man* that a man must discover his identity to become “teleios” or complete. Larry, I couldn’t agree more!
- In his best-selling book, *Wild at Heart*, author John Eldridge gives men permission “to be men” and to rediscover their “masculine heart” without resorting to being the typical “Macho Man.” That makes a lot of sense to me, John!
- Dr. Tony Evans, one of the country’s most respected leaders in evangelical circles, also addresses the “man problem” in his book *Kingdom Man*. He writes that the world is falling apart, not due to the lack of males, but the lack of “Kingdom Men”—men who will align themselves with the comprehensive rule of God. Pastor Evans, your insight is profound as usual!
- The late Dr. Myles Munroe, in his book, *Understanding the Power and Purpose of Men*, also noted that men are in crisis of purpose due in part to their misunderstanding of their roles in society.
- Now, I could fill several pages with quotes from the late Edwin Louis Cole (father of the modern Men’s Movement), former University of Colorado football Coach Bill McCartney of the Promise Keepers movement, or Bishop T.D. Jakes of ManPower and He-Motions fame.

Just thinking about their collective God-given insight on the subject makes me to want to go back and re-examine the ABC’s of my own personal understanding of manhood.

Even with all their incredible insights on men, I believe there are still more truths that will help men effectively combat the tendency to spiral into abusive and destructive patterns and a life without purpose. And, as much as my understanding of “all things men” is still developing, I am compelled to share what God has given to me in this area. So, as I say, “Yes and Amen,” to the great men that have gone before me, I want to re-present principles that address the man issue.

All the quoted authors will agree that:

- Every man has a God-given calling;
- Every man has a God-ordained purpose.

But, today the issue before us is not what every man has. The issue before us is what every man NEEDS to walk out that calling and purpose.

I submit to you that EVERY man NEEDS a R.A.F.T.

- If you are the custodian in the bathroom, the clerk in the mailroom, the attorney in the courtroom, or the CEO in the boardroom, you need a R.A.F.T.!
- If you live in the hood, the hills, the burbs, the barrio, the ghetto, or in a gated community, you absolutely need a R.A.F.T.!
- You may be nerdy, techie, trendy, messy, sloppy or a foodie. You need a R.A.F.T.!
- You may be a creative artist, a recording artist, or a sandwich artist at the local Subway. You still need a R.A.F.T.!

The R.A.F.T. I am talking about is not a bright yellow flotation device (though that works, too!). It is a lifesaving device of sorts...and much more!

In this book, you will discover that the R.A.F.T. I am speaking of has multiple purposes. It can be:

- A craft to help you NEGOTIATE life’s turbulent waters.
- A vehicle to TRANSPORT you to your God-ordained destination.
- A platform for developing meaningful CONNECTIONS with other men.
- A vessel that allows you to EXPERIENCE the ADVENTURE of a lifetime.
- A system that enables you to SURVIVE floods of adversity.

The R.A.F.T. I am talking about is not the gift, purpose, or the calling, but a framework that is God-designed and enables you to walk in that purpose and calling with success.

The R.A.F.T. enables men to return from places of natural and spiritual isolation and back to the mainland of their PURPOSE.

I want to invite you to join me and other men on a journey back to a purpose that you can only experience on the R.A.F.T.!

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# INTERVIEW QUESTIONS



1. What made you decide to write **HOLD ON TO YOUR RAFT**?

How long did it take you to write it?

2. How did you come up with the title and subtitle of the book?

3. Do you believe in writer's block?

4. What do you want your readers to receive from the book?

5. How did publishing your first book change your process of writing?

6. Do you view writing as a kind of Spiritual practice?

7. How many hours of the day do you write?

8. What did you edit out of this book?

9. What's the one thing you would give up to become a better writer?

10. The world is on its way to coming out of isolation due to COVID. In Chapter 5, **Escape From Isolation**, how does the world handle escaping from isolation?



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## **BOOK ORDERS – INTERVIEWS – SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

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