**Barry Rowan Biography**

**Long Version**

Barry Rowan has a broad-based executive background and a strong track record of transforming companies from a range of C-Suite roles, primarily in the technology and communications space. Barry’s career has included building eight businesses through periods of hypergrowth and dramatic turnarounds, including the sale of one company for $10 billion. Grounded in a character-based approach to leadership, he has served as a division general manager, led two private companies as CEO/President, and has been CFO for four public companies, including Fluke Corporation, Nextel Partners, Vonage, and Gogo. Barry has also served as a director for public and private companies.

Motivated by his desire for giving back to the community and investing in the next generation of leaders, Barry has served as a trustee for Seattle Pacific University (where he was also the founding chair for the Center for Integrity in Business) and Gordon College, the board of advisors for the Honors Program in Entrepreneurial Leadership at Gonzaga University, and as President of Bellevue Christian School. He has served on the national board of InterVarsity and chairs the board of the Harvard Business School Christian Fellowship and Alumni Association.

Barry and his family are committed to helping the poor locally as well as through bringing clean water to the people of Central America. They have made over twenty trips to the region, and he and his wife, Linda, serve on the National Leadership Council for World Vision. Barry has taught university courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels and is a frequently requested speaker at a wide variety of forums.

Barry earned his M.B.A. from Harvard Business School in 1983, and his B.S. *summa cum laude* in Business Administration and Chemical Biology from The College of Idaho in 1979.

While Barry recently retired from a full-time executive role, he has not retired from life. He and Linda have been married for over forty-two years, and after completing a month-long silent retreat (the one thing on his bucket list!), he and Linda are now pursuing an “encore calling”. Flowing from a life of prayer, this new season will include multiple lines of service—walking with the poor, serving on corporate and non-profit boards, writing, speaking, teaching and "holistic accompaniment” of leaders who have been called to live fully for God in the world.

Barry came to a surrendered faith out of a crisis of meaning in work, and ultimately developed a transformed perspective of work which animated the last twenty-five years of his career. The power of this experience, the energy it brought to his career, and seeing so many emerging leaders wrestling with the same questions compelled him to write *The Spiritual Art of Business: Connecting the Daily with the Divine.*

Barry and Linda raised two beloved sons, Mark, and David, who are both married to wonderful women, and they have three young “grands”. An avid reader and lover of the outdoors, Barry enjoys skiing, hiking, golf, and many other sports, even if it’s meant trading in his mountain bike for an e-bike.

The *Spiritual Art of Business* may be purchased at [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) and at leading booksellers and the free downloadable Discussion Guide may be found at [barrylrowan.com](http://barrylrowan.com).

**Short Version**

Barry Rowan is a Harvard Business School graduate who spent his entire career serving in C-Suite roles. He has been instrumental in building and transforming eight businesses, primarily in the technology and communication space, with one selling for $10 billion. His leadership experience spans both private and public companies, including Gogo (the inflight connectivity company), Vonage, Nextel Partners, and Fluke Corporation.

Based on his belief in giving back, Barry serves on both for-profit and non-profit boards, mentors young leaders, and leads international study trips. His non-profit boards have included InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, Seattle Pacific University, Gordon College, the Gonzaga University Entrepreneurial Leadership Program, and advisory boards for Harvard Business School. He also served as president of Bellevue Christian School.

Deeply immersed in Scripture and the classic spiritual writers, Barry is deeply committed to contemplation and prayer which led him to complete a month-long silent retreat immediately following his retirement from a full-time executive career. His friends have dubbed him a “corporate mystic.”

Barry is married to Linda, his wife of over forty-two years, and they have two adult sons. Together they are now engaged in multiple lines of service including walking with the poor and investing in the next generation of leaders. Their commitment to the poor has taken them to Central America over twenty times. They are members of the National Leadership Council of World Vision and support local organizations breaking the poverty cycle through sustainable programs.

The *Spiritual Art of Business* may be purchased at [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) and at leading booksellers and the free downloadable Discussion Guide may be found at [barrylrowan.com](http://barrylrowan.com).