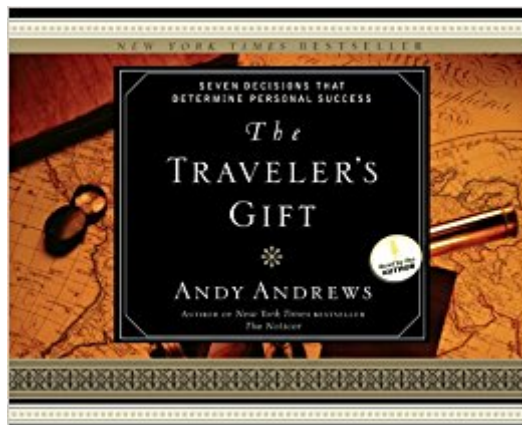


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# The Traveler's Gift: Seven Decisions That Determine Personal Success



## Synopsis

Only a few months ago, he was a successful executive. Now he's a desperate man. But a divine adventure is about to unfold. Join David Ponder on an incredible journey that will help you discover the Seven Decisions for Success. In the tradition of best-selling books by Og Mandino, *The Traveler's Gift* is destined to become a classic.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Christian author and motivational speaker Andrews effectively combines self-help with fiction to catch readers' interest, sustaining momentum while simultaneously passing on instructions for positive thinking. With his can-do style, Andrews (*Storms of Perfection*; *Tales from Sawyerton Springs*) tells the allegorical tragedy of one David Ponder, whose woes begin when he loses his job, his confidence and essentially his drive for living. After a succession of losses, Ponder is rendered unconscious after a car accident, and is magically transported into seven key points in history. At each stopping point, he is met by historical figures such as Abraham Lincoln, Anne Frank, King Solomon, Harry Truman and Christopher Columbus, each of whom imparts one of the seven key decisions that Andrews asserts are essential for personal success. After his travel through time, Ponder regains consciousness in a hospital and discovers he is holding letters given to him by the various heroes. The letters offer familiar self-help counsel: accept that the buck stops with you, become a wisdom seeker and a person of action, determine to be happy, open the day with a forgiving spirit, and persist despite all odds. Although Andrews writes from a Christian perspective, his overall message (trust that God is sovereign, but do your part in making your future happen) will

ring true with a broad spectrum of inspirational readers. Some astute thinkers may be put off by the simplistic story line, but Andrews does an exemplary job at providing positive suggestions for overcoming life's obstacles. Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Comedian and motivational speaker Andrews has crafted a breezy little fantasy reminiscent of *It's a Wonderful Life* and *A Christmas Carol*. Our hero, the likable David Ponder, finds himself at a midlife crossroads: events beyond his control have deprived him of money and his job. With a wife and daughter to support, he becomes seriously distraught and contemplates suicide. A car crash precipitates the imaginary (or is it real?) journey that forms the bulk of the book-individual visits with seven historical notables. Each offers our titular "traveler" gifts in the form of written "Decisions for Success," which he then absorbs. For example, Anne Frank's "gift" vividly demonstrates that happiness is a choice. At book's end, there is a strong element of faith, but Andrews uses a light touch. Readable and less sentimental than Richard Paul Evans's *The Christmas Box*, this will find a ready audience. Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Great book. This is a great book for anyone trying to boost their confidence and reassure their path or even just trying to find their path. It's also especially great for men since it is written by a male and can relate to men that would not make them feel like it's a self help book that so many shy away from if they know it has the type of stigmatism attached to it. It's a great financial resource for inspiration for both men and women. I found it to be astounding for myself and passed it on to several of my friends on both sides of the gender track. I set up a notebook and followed the plan and it brought me out of a great slump I was going through. Even though I have set that aside for a little bit his words remain in my head and still work to remind me and that too keeps me focused enough to keep pushing forward and not falling backwards. Even though I am not fully engaging it all the lessons it still has a lasting impact until I get back fully on to keeping what I started with that notebook and that has to say a lot about a book that brings a topic of help to its readers.

I was enthralled with this book from the start and could not put it down until I finished it! Who of us hasn't faced personal tragedy, strife, or unexpected challenges? The choices we make in the face of overwhelming odds determine not only our future, but the future of generations to follow. David Ponder represents the "every man or woman" who has a choice to make - give up or move forward

in faith? I was engaged by the historical figures and their conversations with David - the fact that these figures did, indeed, face daily challenges, had to overcome overwhelming obstacles, were challenged and criticized by those around them, and had to move forward in faith, understanding that their choices affected the future. This book is not a "read and put on the shelf book". It is a book to open daily - absorb the life lessons it presents and share these with those around you so they, too, can achieve their true potential. I recommend this book for all people as it has a timeless message of hope and potential. Read it, internalize it, practice it, and pass it on!

7 Thought provoking decisions woven into a story that transcends time itself. After talking with people like Abe Lincoln, the traveler decides to change his life, if he makes it back to his place in time.

I've read a lot of books about successful leaders. I drink in the specific passages of their turning point... their "ah-ha" moment. Hoping the success they've found will inspire my story and I will finally find my path and do what God has called me to do. I am called to serve and I have been afraid but I've always known that He has a task for me. I've never read a book written like this... a tale interwoven with faith, leadership, servanthood and truth. He's taken a story and combined it with a simple list that can change your world... Charge!

What a surprise! I rarely read a book I literally can not put down. I read it in two days. Of course over a weekend. I feel every person should read this book. What a great gift for a graduate, a birthday even Christmas! The story has a real life lesson and even if a younger person thinks when they read it is "just a book", they will always remember having read it. I wish every student either enrolling in college or graduating, should have to read it.

While this may well be a work of fiction, the lessons that are imparted are very real, and very applicable to everyday life. We get mired down in the events of our past, becoming stuck and unable to move forward, reverting to a culture of "blame the others" and failing to take responsibility for our actions. I know, it's easy to do.... I've done it myself. The same is true of the protagonist in the story. He gets an incredible gift to go back (and forward) in time, meeting 7 remarkable figures in history that show him that he alone holds the keys to his destiny, and that if he is to move forward, he must give up and let go of his past... and embrace it for making him what he is today. I cannot recommend this book highly enough, especially for teens. This was a book club selection, and many

of the participants found themselves reading it to their children. I found myself one night reading virtually every part of the book to a coworker. She then went and purchased it on her Kindle, and could not put it down, despite me having read the majority of the book to her!! If you are looking for some insights into where you have been, and where you want to be, read this book!!! There are accompanying study guides and discussion questions: get them!! They are very helpful to allowing you to put the 7 Decisions to work in your life. This book is a very quick read. I read it initially on a four hour flight from Chicago to Seattle, and have gone back and reread it twice since then (mid-April). If you are serious about taking stock of your life and changing the course of it.... read this book!! You won't be sorry.

This is a life changing book written with a compelling stretch towards a future of success by becoming the person I was destined to be. I have met different people who had some of the qualities spoken of here... And my greatest choice was to stay close to them because I knew they were real. This book is an encouragement to press on in every thought, attitude, or reaction to become a person who lives a life of being real. I did not want this book to end.

One of the best books I've read this year and my book club agrees. The book was creatively written mixing fiction with some of the greatest men who ever lived. The book gave very important lessons on the skills needed to better one's life. I read it on my e-reader but am buying the hard copy as I want to be able to just pick up and read whatever lesson I might need. I say lesson loosely as the book was so inspiring. I would recommend as gift to yourself and your friends/family. It's a new and much needed twist on "self-help".

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