

David DeWolf

I am passionate about business, technology, and leadership. I believe in the dignity of the person – that all people are innately worthwhile. My leadership style and approach to business are shaped by this belief. I blog at the intersection of these passions, sharing my thoughts and the lessons I learn. I try to share something new at least 3 or 4 times per week. You can stay on top of my latest posts by subscribing to my RSS feed or email updates.

I started my company (3Pillar) by accident. I never intended to be a CEO. In the early days I was an independent contractor, providing product management, product architecture, and software engineering services. My intent in starting the firm was simply to have the opportunity to pick the products I worked on and the people I worked with. I am passionate about building truly innovative products, the type that change the way we live and work. I wanted to have the opportunity to find those types of ideas and help assemble teams that could deliver on the promise. I figured being independent would afford me the best opportunity to have that flexibility.

It turns out I was wrong. Through a series of fortunate events I built a boutique consultancy without even thinking about it. I'll never forget that "Aha!" moment when I realized that I had 6 employees. It hit me like a ton of bricks that I was now responsible for feeding all of those families. That realization came in early 2008. It was the day that changed my life. 5 years later, in the spring of 2013, 3Pillar had 100 times as many employees. We're still growing, and most importantly, I'm still having a blast.

More importantly than my business success, I am a husband and a father. Sometimes I'm not a very good one, but I try really hard. As a passionate entrepreneur and certified workaholic, I'm learning to be self disciplined, live an integrated life, and manage all of these responsibilities. I coach baseball, run carpools, and love spending time with my kids. Luckily, I have a saint for a wife.

I believe that every person has been given a unique set of gifts and talents. I believe that these talents are to be used, to the greatest extent possible, for God's glory. My gifts happen to be in leadership, strategy, and business building. I happen to know the Tech, Media and Education sectors fairly well. I feel called to be in the world, but not of the world, using my success and the way I go about it, to change the world. I probably won't preach at you, but I also won't hide who I am.

Here are a few interesting facts about me.

- I have lived all over the world. Growing up in a military home, I moved throughout the United States and world as I grew up, moving 11 times between birth and graduation from high school.
- I started my first company at the age of 19. DeWolf Productions produced and sold 2 Christian Praise albums in the late 90s. I did fairly well with the business – it afforded me a few dates, an engagement ring and my honeymoon. I learned a lot from the experience.
- I'm a technologist at heart. Before starting Three Pillar and moving to the business side of technology, I spent many late nights and early mornings writing open source software.
- I am passionately Catholic. While I love business, I consider myself, first, a Christian. I feel called to be in the world, but not of the world. My vocation is business. I probably won't preach at you, but, I strive to always live an integrated life.
- I am always seeking mentors. I love to learn from others and I enjoy meeting entrepreneurs and executives that I can look up to and learn from. The mentors I've found are a big part, if not the single most important part, of my success. I've had them through every stage of my career.