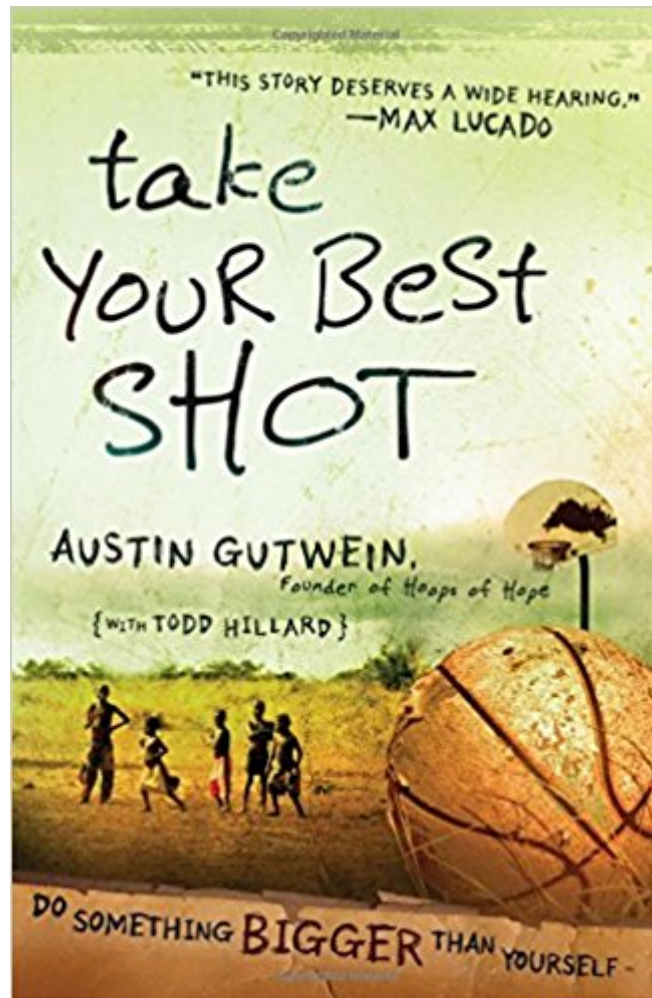




The book was found

# Take Your Best Shot: Do Something Bigger Than Yourself



## Synopsis

Discover how you can respond to God's call in your own life, whether it's in your own town or on the other side of the world. Teen Austin Gutwein has taken his best shot several thousand times to help AIDS orphans in Africa and in the process has built a school and a medical clinic! **Take Your Best Shot** tells how one boy made an incredible difference in the lives of those without hope while challenging the reader to do the same. The interactive dialogue will leave space for the reader to respond. By the end of the book, the reader will know the testimony of Austin and other teens from around the world who are committed to a life of sharing Christ's love, and will have begun to search for God's voice in their own lives. The book will also equip and challenge readers with information on a variety of ministries and organizations around the world to help people, animals, and the environment.

**"Austin is an outstanding young man! He inspires us to dream bigger, reach higher and love deeper. His story deserves a wide hearing."** • Max Lucado "I am very impressed with Austin Gutwein's story in **Take Your Best Shot**. This book is filled with words of encouragement, inspiration, and hope. It's guaranteed to motivate you into action."

• Pat Williams, Senior Vice President, Orlando Magic "I spent a day with Austin and his family and found them inspiring. His story, I believe, challenges us all. The first thing I thought as I drove to the airport was: What was I doing when I was twelve? And then, of course, the next thought: What, exactly, am I doing now?"

• John Larson, Former NBC National Correspondent "When people ask me how they can possibly make a difference fighting a problem as big as global poverty, I tell them about a boy named Austin who, like David, stared Goliath in the eye without flinching. This young man has done more to make a difference in the lives of children orphaned by AIDS than most American churches, let alone individuals. If you are older than 10 and you haven't yet done your part to change the world, read **Take Your Best Shot** and be inspired. Austin Gutwein shows us the way."

• Richard Stearns, President, World Vision US, Author of *The Hole in Our Gospel* "When people ask who has most impacted me over the last year, without hesitation I can say Austin Gutwein and the story of *Hoops of Hope*. I am around amazing leaders all the time, and Austin rivals all of them. Austin is my friend. And Austin is one of my heroes. You can't be around Austin or the amazing work of *Hoops of Hope* without being deeply impacted and inspired. Trust me. Do yourself a favor and read this book and the incredible story. But once you do, be prepared to be changed and challenged. You'll see the world and your significant role in helping those less fortunate in an amazingly fresh way."

• Brad Lomenick, Executive Director, Catalyst "Austin's story is one of modern day heroism. He represents a

new generation that can carry us all into the twenty-first century: a world of hope, peace and selfless love. Austin completely inspires me. —Â•Â Â Daniel Biro, Hawk Nelson

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Todd Hillard is a free-lance writer from San Antonio, Texas. He lived in Turkey for two and a half years and has written more than 15 books. Todd regularly blogs at [www.GetInTheSurge.com](http://www.GetInTheSurge.com).

Wow is an understatement about this book. I was reluctant to get a copy and read because I just figured it would be another pipe dream to read about. I was wrong. "Take your best shot" is one of the most well written books I have ever read. This is a story of how one young person caught a vision of hurting people and decided that he had to do something about it. Austin understands that without God at the center of it all, it would all be futile. Austin Gutwein in this book shares a very personal story of how doing something that you love, even if you are not the best at it, you can give it your best shot and do miracles. Austin takes you on an adventure to Africa where thousands of people die every month of Aids and thousands of children become orphaned in the process. This book will challenge you to do something to make the world a better place for everyone including yourself. This book will help you to understand that no person who has a desire to do something bigger than yourself should let obstacles get in your way. Not age, young or old. Not gender, male or female. Not finances, whether you have a little or a lot. Get this book and devour it! Ronnie

This book is amazing. It chronicles the story of a young man (Austin) who decided that he was going to do something to make a difference in this world. That decision and action has grown into the organization Hoops of Hope and has impacted thousands of kids across the world. In his book, Austin encourages kids (and I think adults too!) to think big and to think outside of themselves for ways to impact this world for the better. He shows us that a simple idea can have an enormous impact! And parents, this book isn't just for the kids. I also think its a great model for us to follow. Not only does it demonstrate that anyone can have a big impact, but I also think it shows that we need to encourage and support our own kids when they want to do something to help others. A great read no matter how you look at it.

When you first pick up this book and start to read it you get the sense that a kid is writing the story. Not that this is a bad thing, he is a great author. When he describes his experiences and how he came to start Hoops of Hope he shows a wisdom well beyond his years. I plan on having my two older boys read this and tell them that when they put their heart into it there is nothing they can't accomplish. This is a great read for anyone who needs to see what can happen when you turn your life over to God and listen to what he wants you to do for not only yourself but others.

This book is a great one. It opens your eyes and shows you what is really happening in the real world. I would recommend this book to anyone who enjoy learning and loves God!!!! I would give this book a rating of a 9

I bought this book for my 12 year old son who plays basketball. I started reading it first and could not put it down. This is an amazing story of a boy's compassion for children orphaned in Africa due to AIDS. He is determination to make a difference and succeeds beautifully. It is contemplative, funny, and inspiring! And it has our family thinking differently now as we too are aiming to make a difference in the lives of those in need. I want to buy this book for all of my nieces and nephews and my son's basketball team.

I am so amazed at the faith of a 10 year old boy and how he has let God direct his life. When he listened to God he was part of many miracles and yes they do happen. I was granted God's gift myself. Please read the book then open up your ears and hear where God will direct you.

This book was a great book to read to get in touch with the power of "how much difference" one

person can make. I highly recommend reading it if you want to be inspired in that way.

Austin Gutwein is an incredible witness as to what we can do when we hear our calling and respond.

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