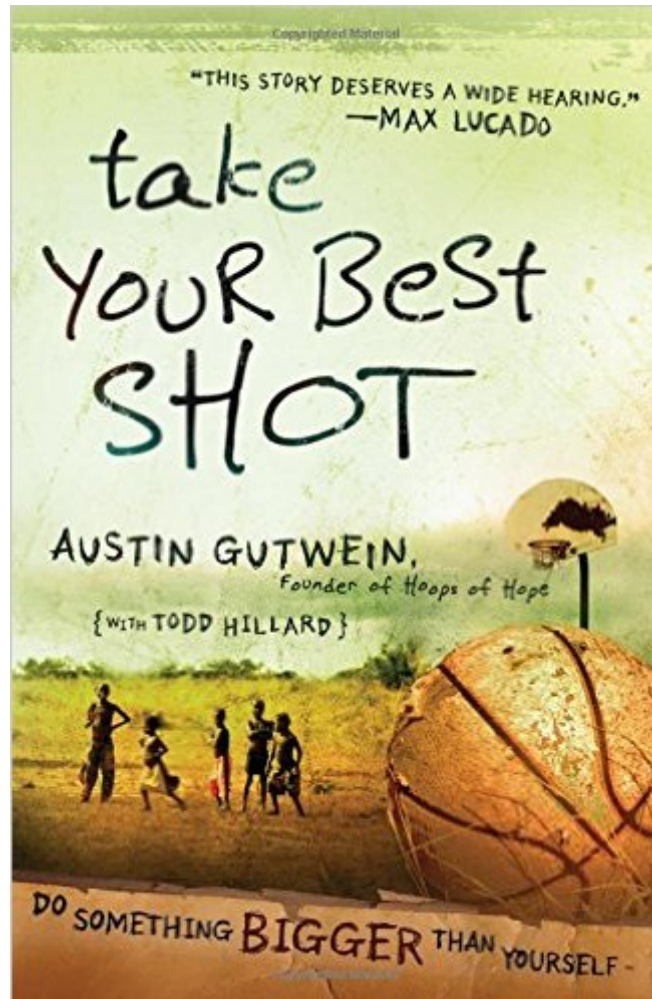


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# Take Your Best Shot: Do Something Bigger Than Yourself



## 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. • Daniel Biro, Hawk Nelson

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I LOVE THIS BOOK!!! Austin has left me with a sense of anticipation to see just how God will use my family as we begin to simply take our best shot!!! In his first book, Austin Gutwein tells the story of how Hoops of Hope began when he was just 9 yrs old! Austin is the founder of Hoops of Hope....THE FOUNDER!!! He founded Hoops of Hope at the tender age of 9!!! Austin blew me away in the introduction when he said, "...I'm a normal kid who heard, 'Austin, God wants to use you' enough times that I started to believe it." He tugged at the very heart of my being with the statement, "Kids are really trying to make a difference in the world." Yes, dear Austin, that is exactly what they desire to do! My own precious daughters have warmed my heart as they have given from within themselves...and they are not alone. Austin says it so well, "They're reaching out to people in need, and they're stepping out of their comfort zones....They want to do something bigger than themselves." Austin's heart was touched when he watched a video of a girl named Maggie that lived in Africa. Watching the video started a fire in his heart, one that he could not extinguish...and didn't! With his parents support, his family began sponsoring a child through World Vision. However, it didn't stop there....Austin wanted to do more for the aids victims in Africa and as I read his story, I was shaken to the core to see how God used the gifts a 9 yr old boy could bring to change so many lives in a far off continent! This book...the Hoops of Hope organization...they aren't about Austin, and he knows it. They are about reaching out to the orphans and those less fortunate, just as God

calls us to do.

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