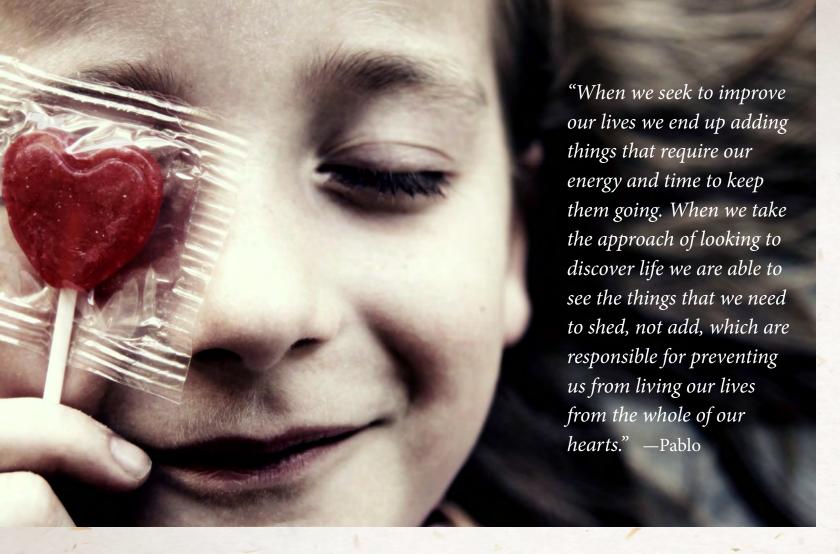


author • speaker • coach • ragamuffin

Media Kit 2014



HOW I SEE THINGS

A Note from Pablo

ulfilling the demands of my profession, I traveled extensively around the world.

For over eight years, I was unable to attend a church or be part of a community. Each week I found myself alone in a hotel room or stadium somewhere around the globe. I had often been told that if I did not belong and meet regularly with other believers I would eventually be taken over by the enemy and would die, yet what I discovered was a completely different reality.

My experience with God went from a corporal one to an intimate and individual one. The less I tried, the more I changed, and the less I forced God to show up, the more he did. Suddenly, the loneliness I felt amidst the crowds disappeared and the joy and affirmation that follows the understanding of being loved surfaced.

I was catapulted into what at first I thought would be hell—yet as each day went by, I discovered the reality of what I believe this walk with God is supposed to look like. As my journey progressed, I was freed from needing and depending on the approval of others. As I learned how unconditionally loved I was I suddenly found myself loving people in a way I was never able to before. The once angry and wounded boy within me was on his way to being healed as he was encouraged to love and embrace every part of himself including the most ugly and dirty parts of his personal life.

In sports we experience the best and most amazing moments when we stop trying to control everything and

start trusting. We accept things as they come and deal with them moment by moment as we remain present. We don't think about the end results during the process, and neither do we try to force things in a particular direction. How similar is this walk with the God within us.

Much of what I learned from the institutional minds was no more than "How To" techniques to make God be on my side so that my life would create an illusion of being complete on the outside. In time I discovered that they amounted to nothing more than a bunch of manipulative formulas that eventually leads all of us to become frustrated and disheartened.

These techniques come from the mind through the clever vices we come up with in the hopes of making things work and God cooperate with our efforts. We strive and toil to somehow edge closer to God, yet what we don't realize is that we can't edge any closer to him as we are already one with him within ourselves.

Meeting Jesus on my own helped me to realize that what he was saying to Nicodemus was not that he needed to be born again, but that he needed to be born from above. This is exactly was has happened to me these last years of my life as I began to live my life from my heart and spirit and no longer just from my mind and body. The Kingdom of Heaven that Jesus spoke so much about has been within me all along, yet I missed it because I was focused on accessing this reality with the wrong parts of my being as I tried to manipulate God and life.

Communities, band of brothers or sisters, and even churches were always meant to be complimentary to our walks—not central. My life is a living testimony that God does not need anyone or anything to open the eyes of the heart of each and every one of us so we can see that His ultimate desire is to show us that he loves us as we are, and not as we are told we should be.

This journey will be beautiful, but also very ugly at times. It will be filled with love and grace, but also with pain, fear, and failure. The important thing to always remember is that there isn't an ideal plateau or grade that we need to make. There is no "sell by date," nor is there any specific set of instructions or steps we need to memorize. All we need to understand is how wonderfully made and loved we are. Once we do this, the rest will follow.

PABLO GIACOPELLI

+972-502-477900 EMAIL:

pablo@uxlinlife.com

WEBSITES:

www.heart-zone.org
www.holdingonloosely.com
www.uxlinlife.com



PUBLISHER

Steve Spillman
True Potential Media
PO Box 904
Travelers Rest, SC 29690
tel: 864.836.4111 ext. 104
fax: 864.610.8047

EMAIL:

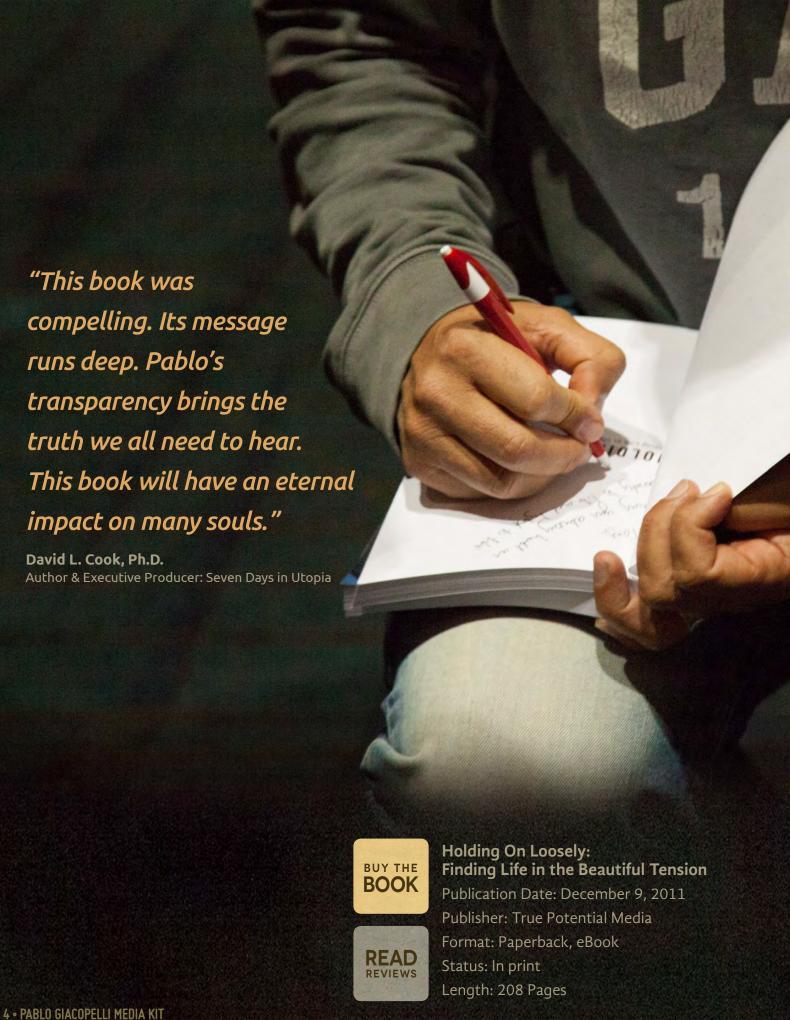
sspillman@truepotentialmedia.com
WEBSITE:

www.truepotentialmedia.com/pablo

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- Pablo



HOLDING ON LOOSELY

Finding Life in the Beautiful Tension

olding On Loosely is one of those rare books that once you start reading it is hard to put it downand even harder to forget.

The staying power of its message penetrates the reader's heart without permission, inviting them into an epic story of loss, love, and redemption.

Holding On Loosely tells the true parable of a man trapped and controlled by the prisons that the wounds of his

past have set up in his life. Such is the ferocious power of the pain he carries that he is unable to see the possibilities, choices, and gifts that are within him—and often staring him right in the face. His reality remains untouched, though he works very hard around the clock to change it, until a dramatic event takes place while he is in an airplane at 35,000 feet above the earth.

As the plane lands in a new destination so does his heart, and he begins a new journey that will continue into eternity. Eyes opened to a new reality, he begins to understand how to relax the control and grip over his life. He learns to exchange the results and the identity he had found in these things for a life on the road of grace—where being good and getting it right take a back seat to engaging in an enriching and fulfilling love affair with the only one who can love and touch our hearts.

While working in a result driven sports environment, Pablo discovers what it means to be present and live in the moment, actively surrendering to the one who holds all things in his hands. No longer seeking validation or viewing his identity as a reflection of his players' results, he is freed to experience not only the best highlights of his career, but more importantly, the feeling that no matter what happens, the integrity of his life and heart are safe.



The journey leads him to the place where he is able to start seeing the much-needed inner healing we all so desperately need. And through a dramatic chain of events, he is given the ability and courage to face the biggest wound of them all, inflicted during his childhood by a father that didn't know any better.

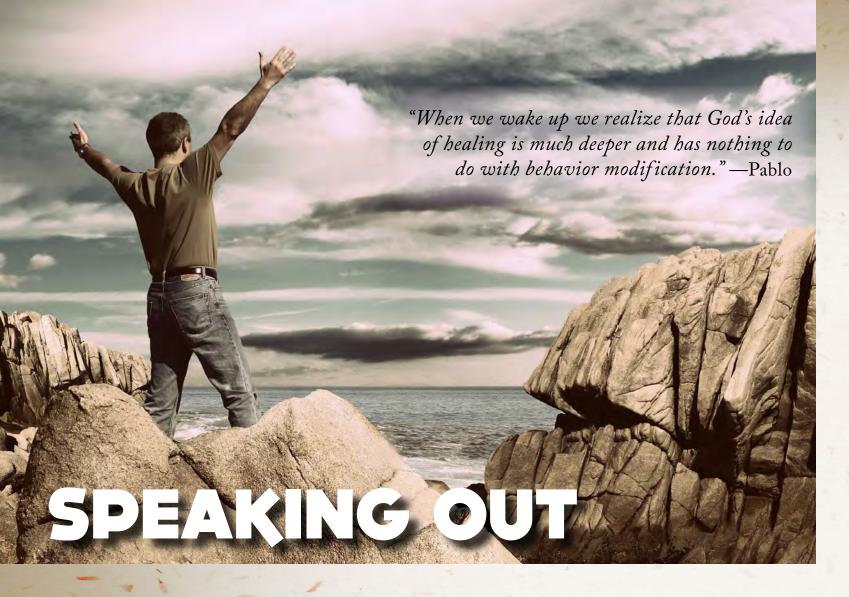
As with all great stories, the experiences Pablo lives through serve as

symbols for universal life lessons. The external story reflects the hardships experienced internally by us all as we journey to find the true meaning of life, to be fearless and free, and above all else, to accept that God's love is not dependent on what we do or how good we are—but that we are loved by Him for who

Most of us struggle through life, unable to neither recognize nor accept our authentic selves. This inability to see things as they truly are leads us towards listening to lies and making choices that shape our lives into an external identity based on nothing more than what others say about us and the results we manage to accumulate along the way.

As you journey with Pablo through the pages of Holding On Loosely, you will quickly realize that this is not another "how to" book, nor does its message impose yet another challenge upon you. Instead, you will sense a strange warming in your heart as you find yourself accepting an invitation into a new reality—a reality away from the illusion of control, resignation, and a false identity—and into a journey where you will discover the real you.

Get ready to understand real love, life, freedom, and how well you are loved moment by moment by the only one who can.



The main message of Jesus is centered on the announcement that the Kingdom of Heaven is here and it is within us.

"None of us fear the unknown.
What we fear is letting go of what we know so we can step into the unknown."

esus' approach was simple and based on facts that invited people to search further into what he was saying. He understood that people needed to undertake a journey so they would be able to see how special they were and that they were loved. Jesus used the simple things in life to communicate and relate to people, making the truth accessible and easily understood by all—children and adults alike.

My approach to speaking is very much the same. In every opportunity I am given, I aim to present the truth the way Jesus did with the shared intention of not gaining converts, but setting people on a journey that will eventually lead them to the truth that will set them free.

It is interesting to note that when Jesus spoke, people began to follow him. The bible doesn't say that these people were converted, or that they were immediately transformed by his teachings. What's implied is that in following Jesus, a journey had begun and in time, transformation would take place. When given the opportunity to connect with others, I, too, encourage this individual journey.

I believe people are asleep to the truth that lies within them mainly because they believe the lie that to be part of God's family, you have to somehow make a certain grade or incorporate a certain lifestyle whose expectations are simply impossible.

In my talks, I challenge this illusion and present a different reality—a reality where the only transformation that needs to take place is the ability of the individual to be able to see things as they truly are already, and not as they think they are. I do this by encouraging people to make a connection with their hearts and not their minds to the reality of the God within them, a God who is fused together with them and has made their true self in his image.

All my talks are heart-inspired, as they are born out of my firsthand experience and not from knowledge that has been accumulated over a number of years. The lessons I share are relevant and simple for all to understand.

My international work and worldwide travel with many professional tennis players has also given me

the ability to relate and connect with audiences from all backgrounds, creeds, and beliefs. Like Jesus, I aim to adapt and meet people where they are instead of expecting them to elevate themselves to a place that is impossible for them to see or reach.

POPULAR SPEAKING TOPICS

Breaking Free from Negative Religious Conditioning

The Place of the Church and Communities

Understanding the Spiritual Message of Jesus

The Three Most Important Words in the Bible: God Is Love

Wounding and Agreements

Experiencing a Life of Contentment, Peace, Love, and Freedom

Walking in the Present Reality of God's Kingdom

Religion and Spirituality

Becoming a True Apprentice of Jesus

Overcoming Life's Misplaced Dependencies for Love, Worth, and Acceptance

Freedom from Phariseeism and Codependency

Stillness Under Pressure

Self Observance vs Self Absorption

Control and Resignation

The Heart and the Mind

Learning to Live in the Now

How Smart Do You Have to Be to Know God?

Dealing with Disillusionment with God

Understanding Your True Identity in God

God and Christ Separated from Religion

A LIFE-CHANGING MESSAGE: TESTIMONIALS

Pablo's message is paradigmshifting and life-changing. Spoken with passion and authority, his presentation penetrates the heart and stirs up life. More than a skillful coach and charismatic speaker, Pablo is first a humble follower of his Heavenly Father. He loves people deeply and he lives his message.

Hunter Wright, Lead Pastor Ignition Church Tennessee

Pablo is full of passion, power, love and sincerity. I was drawn in and fully engaged immediately listening to the message that he was sharing of God's relational pursuit of our hearts. Not having an earthly Father growing up, I loved being reminded that I do indeed have a "Daddy" who wants to be involved with me daily. Pablo reminded me that I don't have to "perform" to be accepted, which has freed my mind and heart up to be who God intended me to be.

Bonny Mate Michigan

Pablo has spoken to our men here at Resurrection Life Church. He has been very well received. His message has always been motivational and inspirational. He is a passionate speaker and effective communicator. I am sure Pablo will be a blessing to you.

Tom Smith, Senior Associate Pastor Resurrection Life Church Michigan Pablo Giacopelli is a truly inspiring coach, speaker, and friend. His experience, authenticity, and messages leave a lasting impression. His insights are profound, practical, and ignite a transformational opportunity in the hearts of his audience. I whole heartily recommend him.

Robert Ricciardelli, Founder The Converging Zone Network

Pablo is one of the most engaging, passionate, and kingdom-minded individuals that I have had the privilege to work with. His desire to dig deep into the grace and mercy of his Heavenly Father is contagious to anyone who comes into contact with him. No matter what venue you are bringing Pablo into, he will challenge you and speak to your heart.

David Brouwer Certified Professional Coach Director of Tennis at East Hills, Orchard Hills, and Michigan Athletic Club

Listening and reading about what God has done through Pablo's life has arrested my heart. God is mysterious, and in my walk with Him I often sought to understand Him better. But something greater than understanding the Father has taken place after my time with Pablo. After hearing him share his heart, Daddy's heart, I have had an experience with God in such a way that it has changed my identity. Thank you, Pablo.

Priscilla Molina Knoxville, Tennessee

One of the missing narratives in the world today is the pure, unfiltered Gospel. That is the Gospel that simply says that we are not required to strive or work to attain the free gift of salvation that was given to us by Jesus' sacrifice and love. When that message is shared, and that truth is learned, it sets a man free. We begin to realize that our Father, Daddi, loves us and wants nothing more than to be present with us in each passing moment. It's in those moments that our hearts are transformed and our lives are renewed. That is the heartbeat and the message that God has placed within Pablo. His confidence in this Gospel and God's call on his life are evident the moment you see his smile and hear his message. Pablo's message has not only profoundly affected me, but it has revitalized and sharpened the lives of my leaders and those with whom we have had Pablo share.

Michael Robison, Lead Pastor Uncommon Church Austin, Texas

With the proliferation of speakers available today, finding someone with a truly unique voice is rare. Pablo engages his audience with a vulnerability, integrity, and honesty that is evident from the moment he begins.

John Pulley
Dallas Band of Brothers

Pablo brings a fresh and authentic perspective to a grace-filled life. Every time I listen to Pablo, I find my faith stretched and my heart encouraged. He puts words to things I've felt but not known how to articulate. Maybe what I like best is the way his coaching background shines through as he masterfully guides people to learn how to walk with God.

Darrell Amy, Leader Arkansas Band of Brothers

I stumbled across an invitation to "A Night with Pablo Giacopelli" and had no idea why I was compelled to attend. His message is powerful and simplistic. His unique way of speaking from the heart will encourage you to find yours again and to follow it!

Wanda Everett Conway, Arkansas

Pablo has the unique ability to trust the Father's heart in any given speaking situation. He delivers a clear and compelling message of God's grace with tremendous ease. We've hosted him two different years and he is a delight to be with and listen to. Pablo shares the Life that he has found in Jesus in such a way that people are drawn to want to know more about Christ and his great love for us. I highly recommend him for your next speaking engagement.

Kevin Miles Go the Distance Ministries Grand Rapids, Michigan

Hearing Pablo share pieces of his journey out of the frustrations and limitations of performancebased religion into a space of very real and honest engagement with Father God was, for me, both a refreshing experience of honesty, and a confirmation of the voice that my own heart was speaking. Having come to my own conclusion that all my religious endeavors had done very little to make any real difference in the world, it was wonderful to hear someone sharing similar thoughts, and to witness God releasing him to the body of Christ to say so. In days like these, when perspectives are changing, and loving and relating with God and with others is again finally being considered our first priority as believers, voices like Pablo's are challenging us to reexamine, to readjust, and to reinvest in living present with God, and in doing so, better represent him to the world He so longs to engage.

Kim Miller Charlotte, North Carolina

Pablo is a man transformed by the grace and love of God! His relationship with God reveals what it is like to move from performance to dependence and peace. His message is delivered with passion and authenticity and his engaging speaking draws the listener through transparent honesty into the story of his life, and ultimately to the Father. Pablo is a blessing!

John Nesbitt, Executive Pastor West Shore Free Evangelical Church Pennsylvania

I had been encouraged by many of the men from West Shore Evangelical Church to read Pablo's book, Holding On Loosely. I found the book to be a surprisingly incredible read, having a great impact on how I view daily life. Soon after I finished the book, I was excited to hear that Pablo was actually coming to my church to speak. He sure made his printed words come to life and his presentation did not disappoint. I found his life story inspiring and his speaking style genuine. Needless to say, I highly recommend Pablo and his book. If you're ever presented with the opportunity to hear this dynamic speaker, don't pass it up.

Donna Kerr Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

Pablo came to hang out with the men in our area. Whether sitting around the campfire, in the classroom setting, or at our major "on stage" event, Pablo exuded the love and the confidence of Jesus. What I mean by that is he was genuinely able to let us *feel* the love of Jesus, plus authentic enough to have his own opinions without having to "weigh" every word. I think it is the confidence he has in the simple message of a "daddi" type of love that makes his teaching and speaking incomparable.

Rick Hartsell
Detroit Band of Brothers



"By myself I am not large enough to call the whole man into activity..."

—C. S. Lewis

UXL LIFE COACHING

EMPOWERING EXRAORDINARY ACHIEVEMENT

ablo's commitment to helping individuals discover who they truly are reaches well beyond a seminar or conference.

Over the years, Pablo has become increasingly aware that the message he shares with others impacts their lives, for they are presented with truth never seen before. Once such a discovery is made and a chord has been struck

within our hearts, we can potentially journey to a new place. It is often the case, however, that people get stuck, burdened by the baggage and pain they encounter as they begin their journey inwards. There are many who fall short simply because they don't have a trusted friend to walk their journey with them without condemning them.

Pablo has helped many people make it through these challenging spaces in their lives by offering compassion and understanding instead of shame and embarrassment. His proven understanding of how to access our inner world to discover who we really are puts him in a unique place to walk with others as they journey into that part of themselves that will lead them to an unprecedented experience of self, life, and God.

Pablo has learned that our lives are not a destination or a set of results, but instead a journey of discovery where each day we unlearn something that was responsible for preventing our real self from emerging from within.

Pablo's coaching work has been producing breakthroughs for the past 21 years. He has helped athletes overcome barriers in both their professional and personal lives. He has the keen ability to help people see their real identity, and once this is established, he then coaches them

to step into and experience this reality.

Evidenced by the careers of several top tennis players, Pablo gained a reputation for helping ordinary players achieve extraordinary results. His achievements range from helping Kaia Kanepi reach the quarter-finals of Roland Garros, to ensuring that Shahar Peer spent most of 2010 ranked as one of the top 10

best players in the world, which included winning two Women's Tennis Association (WTA) events and beating many other top 10 players along the way.

The world of sports offered Pablo the opportunity to gain invaluable knowledge and deep insight into the techniques and secrets that successful people in sports use and apply in their careers to reach their goals and remain at the top of their chosen discipline.

Multi-lingual, Pablo speaks four different languages. He has led many seminars around the world and has been a key speaker at several professional conferences over the years. He has cultivated a deep, personal understanding that enables him to relate well to people of different backgrounds, beliefs, and cultures.

Pablo has a proven history of successful involvement with athletes of both sexes. He is one of very few coaches who understands and knows how to empower both men and women working in high performance environments. He has also led professional teams of people, giving them the insight to empower those they manage to work in harmony and excel individually while moving toward a common goal.

Today, Pablo helps individuals from all walks of life overcome the performance barriers that have prevented them from maximizing their real potential and kept them settling for second best. His inspiring approach and "can do" attitude initiates immediate change, enabling people to increase the momentum in both their professional and personal lives.

Pablo is certified as a personal and professional performance coach by the Coach U Inc. Institution. He is also a qualified professional tennis coach, and has pursued training in sports psychology, physical training, and personal nutrition.

VISIT WEBSITE

"Pablo is a coach that cares for his clients. The quality of his work is very high and professional. His coaching methods are very effective which is what I believe helped me to improve so much whilst I worked with him. He is very dedicated and pays very close attention to the details that make the difference. If you want a coach that will be honest and bring you results then look no further."

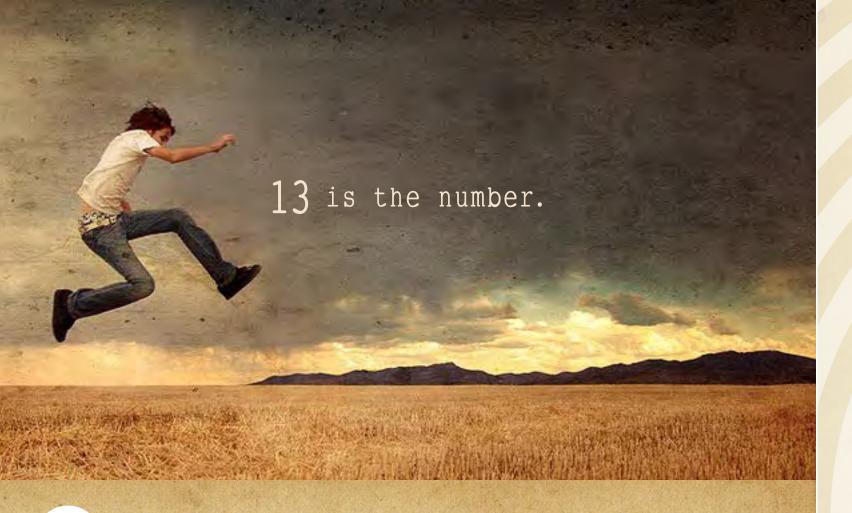
Kaia Kanepi

Number one tennis player in Estonia and one of the best tennis players in the world. Three-time Grand Slam quarter finalist.

"I worked with Pablo as my personal coach. Pablo has a unique style, which is demanding and personal. He seeds powerful pictures, which are so spot on that lasting change is inevitable. Pablo has a strong belief in individuals and this attitude is present at all times. The sessions with him are intense and full of positive energy, humor, and enthusiasm. He keeps the overarching themes on track over the sessions, building on each other. Working with Pablo as a coach prompted me to shift and move forward. "

Carsten Kiess

CEO Amberwiz Consulting, Germany



13 THINGS JESUS GAVE US PERMISSION TO DO

- 1. PLAY like no one is judging.
- 2. DANCE like no one is watching.
- 3. SING like no one is listening.
- 4. RUN like no one is competing.
- 5. LOVE like no one is hurting us.
- 6. LIVE like no one is measuring.
- 7. BE like no one is comparing.
- 8. WORK like no one is looking.
- 9. LIVE the moment like there is no tomorrow.
- 10. BELIEVE like no one is accusing.
- 11. ENJOY the process like there is no result.
- 12. LIVE from the heart like there is no other way.
- 13. REST even if no one else does.

"GOD IS IN CONTROL" BECOMES AN ILLUSION

Many of us see God as someone who loves to control everything including our lives. This kind of thinking encourages a fatalistic mindset to grow within us.

When this happens we find ourselves often stuck in one place and our lives lose all their momentum. I don't know about you, but

for many years I lived this way—waiting for God to bring the next thing—yet it never arrived.

Lately, I have been learning that this first approach is flawed. Okay, there is a time to wait for God to do his part. However, this usually comes when we have done ours.

It is important to understand that though he has control of everything, he doesn't wish to control everything. The Bible is full of evidence about this. We see in Proverbs that we are to make plans and he will then direct our steps. We are told by Jesus to follow him, not to wait for him. When we walk and move the Bible tells us that the spirit will say "to the left" or "to the right," or even stay quiet when is correct to go straight.

What is important to note here is that none of these passages are valid until there is momentum in our lives. We need to make plans so God has steps to direct. We need to get up and go if we are going to be able to follow, and we are going to need to be walking if we have any chance of making a left or right turn. We are responsible for creating momentum in our lives. We need to understand that we have been invited to co-author our path and way. Daddi is a willing

and mentor us when we finally decide to take the first step.

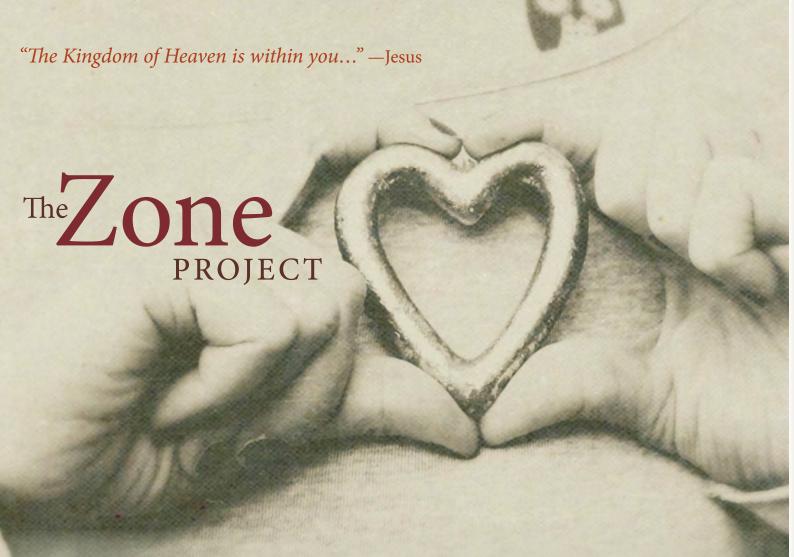
partner who is waiting to advise, coach,

He has done his part first by giving us desires, gifts, abilities, geographical positioning, and resources to work with. Now it is our turn to walk and work with him, to plan and start moving in a direction that is related to the calling we have

been given. Yes, we will make mistakes. Yes, we will get it wrong along the way. But this is how we learn if we remain present and not obsessed with getting the right results—which are his responsibility anyway. The important thing to remember is that while we are doing all of this, we will be creating momentum in our lives and co-creating a magical adventure with the one who always moves with elegance and grace.

So, get out your pen and start planning and drawing. The best architect in the universe is within you, waiting and willing to get the journey on the road.

- Pablo



The Zone Project is the expression of a journey that is made up of many years and many discoveries about myself and the God I owe my life to.

As someone who has been involved in high performance sports most of his life, it is natural that I would be attracted to this term and the place it represents, as this is where the unprecedented in sports takes place and flows without effort.

Many try, yet few ever reach this place—for only some are able to let go and trust without needing to control everything around them. The reality is that there is much effort and hard work behind this experience, however, it only comes together when we are able stop focusing on the result we believe we need and we become fully present to whatever is before us without any thought of the past or the future. We learn

to enjoy the process and start enjoying who and where we are without constantly thinking of where and who we should be.

As I have taken this spiritual walk, I have found that the majority of people never experience this presence in terms of their relationships with the God they follow. Although they are very well acquainted with the hard work and the effort, they seldom experience the grace and flow of the life that all this effort seems to promise, yet seldom delivers.

For years, I subscribed to the "no pain, no gain" mentality. I also believed that if you wanted something, you had to make it happen. Though there is some truth to these principles, this thinking leads us to believe that if we do these things alone, then we will experience the peace and well-being we seek.

The reality is that The Zone is not an external place we reach by way of a compass or a well-planned map. The Zone is a place within each and everyone of us. It is a place that cannot be accessed through good ideas, clever formulas, or even our accomplishments. These things were never designed, nor do they have the ability, to usher us into this place. We can pray, fast, and even read four chapters of the bible each day, yet never reach this place within us. Like in sports, this is because we cannot approach this place with our minds or our outward man.

The Zone is only accessed by entering our hearts and remaining there.

Unfortunately, although most of us have spoken about the heart and heard others speak about it too, there are very few of us who

truly understand what it means to live from this place of the heart, and even fewer of us who actually do.

Much that is said about the heart is not true, and most of what has been said has caused the heart to be viewed as an unauthorized point of entry. This is largely because the heart is a place where control and manipulation don't work. It is a place where we are encouraged to live free, take risks, and trust 100%. Yes, we all say we subscribe to these principles, but sadly most of our approaches to the way we live tell a different experience and story.

My journey has been all about living from this place. I have gone through most—if not all—of these flawed belief systems that promise so much, but deliver very little in the end, if anything at all. Through my questioning and searching, I discovered this place within myself where life takes on a full new meaning, and where each and every day I wake up

to the understanding that we are all unconditionally loved and accepted no matter what.

These discoveries have revolutionized my life and my walk with God, but most importantly, they have opened my eyes to the truth that Jesus said would set me free. I finally reached this place the day I was ready to let go of everything I had relied on to make it through life and into heaven, and entered into a place where I was invited to consider that there could be another way.

I believe that every one of us is invited into this

neutral place daily, this place we can enter without any expectations or required results being placed upon us. However, most of us do not hear the call

from within as we are too busy trying to make things work outside ourselves.

I have created The Zone Project out of my desire to help others hear this call and understand that all their efforts and good intentions are the very things responsible for drowning the small, still voice that calls to them from within.

My role through The Zone Project is not one of a captain or commander calling the soldiers of the army of God into order, but instead one of an ambassador called to invite and usher the lovers of God into The Zone of their hearts where they have a chance to finally see and experience a life filled with the unconditional love, freedom, and acceptance we all long and look so hard for.

VISIT WEBSITE

14 • PABLO GIACOPELLI MEDIA KIT • 15









WATCH NOW



MEDIA COVERAGE

A 2000 YEAR OLD MESSAGE MADE NEW

Though the message Pablo shares has been around for over 2000 years, the way in which he presents it is quite new.

Many who have heard what he has to say have been so captured by the depth of its truth, they've asked that he bring his message to a larger audience. Pablo has been interviewed on network television, via Skype, and for articles posted throughout the web. His highly acclaimed book, *Holding On Loosely*, has enjoyed glowing reviews by readers and peers alike. His work as an international tennis coach on the women's professional circuit has been well-documented on TV, newspapers, blogs, magazine articles, and a variety of websites.





Grace is the only lover you will come across in this life that is attracted to all of your short comings. Where you are at your worst, she is at her best. Where you believe you have made the biggest mistakes and made a mess of it, she truly comes alive if you let her.

Grace is shy. She is only at home when we loose that self-reliant illusion from our lives that tells us we can make it on our own if we just manage to get it right. While we try hard and live out of our ego she is present too, however, we fail to notice her as she is not one to force herself as we do through our attempts to make life work in our own terms.

Her rhythm is unforced and her pace is easy. She brings rest with her and shows up when we least expect her to. She adds color to our lives and a true heartbeat to our hearts. We owe her every breath we have ever taken and will ever take. She has the power to bring life where all others have pronounced death, and that is because she is connected to the very heart of the one who gave her freely to us.

Only our daddy could have come up with something so beautiful and true as she is. There is no precious metal or currency that could pay for her or keep her. She sets us free because she has been delivered to us for free. There is no beginning to her nor an end. She will always go further, higher, and deeper than anything you or I can do.

In case you are wondering what the requirements are today to discover her and understand her...

That you stop trying so hard.

biography

PABLO GIACOPELLI

I have always been known as a man who goes against the flow of what others consider normal. This approach to work and life explains why I have seen breakthroughs where others haven't.

Born to Argentinean parents working in Lima, Peru, I was the only child until my sister showed up. She ruined a pretty good gig for a kid who had all of his parents' attention all of the time!

During my boyhood years in Peru, I began to play tennis through the encouragement of my parents. I didn't like tennis. I loved soccer and motocrossing on the small bike my grandfather purchased for me for my tenth Christmas. Still, I had to do what my parents said, and everyone assumed that I loved tennis because I became good at it very quickly. Soon I was the best player of my age in my country, and at 11 years old I began to travel to international tournaments, where I also excelled.

My father, wishing to cultivate my athletic potential, began to plan my life according to his vision for my success. When I was 13, my parents sent me to attend a tennis academy in America. From there, I began to travel the world playing junior events. My life focused on making it as a professional tennis player. It became one big show, and I felt that I had to excel at everything I did.

As often happens when a person is forced to do something he doesn't enjoy, I rebelled when I got to college. There, I got involved with the wrong crowds—or maybe the normal ones—and began to party as hard as I possibly could. I experienced much of life, not all of it pleasant. I found myself stranded in a foreign airport. I slept for several days in the back seat of a car, too broke to buy food. So it went. All the while, my overactive instinct for survival kept me pushing myself to the limit.

Not surprisingly, I eventually burned myself out.

My life was at a crisis point when I finally stepped into
a church and for the first time approached

God. But, it still took two more weeks

before I made the decision to become
a Christian. It would take many
more years before I understood—
and began to truly experience—
the transformation that
occurred in my heart that
sunny, warm morning
in church.

After that first defining point in my faith, my life took all kinds of twists and turns: marriage, the births of three precious children, a string of jobs and business ventures, a go at driving race cars, a divorce, and a growing religiosity that, far from freeing me, led me into bondage. Focused on keeping the rules rather than understanding God's heart, I became the prime example of a modern Pharisee.

My career as a professional world tour tennis coach started at a conference at the 2004 Wimbledon

Championships. My job took me all over the world. I became familiar with a multitude of cultures. I experienced some amazing highs, but also some painful lows. There is no describing the thrill of marching into the inaugural ceremony at the 2008 Beijing Olympics and watching my players perform at the very pinnacle of their sport. Yet, I longed to wake up next to my kids each day. I missed watching them grow up into the wonderful people they are today. After too many lonely nights in hotel rooms, I began asking some deep, long overdue questions. What was life really about? Was this as good as it got?

Finally, while in a jet flying 35,000 feet above the Earth, I began to break down. That is when God opened the curtains on a new, far more wonderful way of living—one in which I have come to know firsthand the depths of His love and the life-changing power of His grace.

Since this new, second phase of my life began, I have remarried a wonderful Jewish girl who loves Jesus. We have two cute little girls, and we are based today in Tel Aviv. I have been working under the banner of my business UXL the last few years coaching and helping people all over the world to develop their personal and professional experiences. Recently after two very successful speaking tours around the USA, I have been led to set up The Zone Project as a vehicle through which I am intending to expand my speaking, writing, and coaching work into the USA as my family and I relocate there during the course of 2014.

Today, my life is still not perfect. However, every day I discover more and more the wonderful reality of how much God loves me and how He really sees me. My relationship with Him is no longer based on my performance, but on His love and grace for me. I am well on my way to recovering from Pharisaism as I learn how to live from the new heart Jesus gave me long ago, the day I first asked Him to come into my life.

-Pablo Giacopelli