

From the Handbook for Business, the Bible

11: We are awesomely & wonderfully made

We've been sharing about the marketplace, that den of thieves we operate in! Now let's talk about YOU, as a business owner, negotiating your way through this system.

We should start at the beginning, WHO we are...as declared in Psalm 139:14...

"I will give thanks to You [God] because I am awesomely and wonderfully made..." NASB

Surely, this principle applies to everyone?

Indeed, from Adam onwards, we were ALL created by God, originally in His image! So, it follows, that in making us, He has a mission for each individual to pursue for His glory!

Clearly, our kingdom mission is to share the gospel & win souls; but we have an earthly one too, especially business owners - the Master requires us to *"Do business, until I come back"* Luke 19:13

Job confirms that providing we work with God, *"He performs what is appointed for me"* Job 23:14

The truth is, few seem to achieve their designated earthly mission, spending their 80+ years on the treadmill of life, eventually ending up as dust from whence they came...then judgement!

Why don't people pursue their God-ordained mission?

Of course, only Christians can know & apply the will of God. Even so, too many don't live their God-ordained mission for a host of reasons including these three...

First: Too many worldly distractions, leading us away from seeking His will & plan...

...The Bible affirms we should *"...meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways"* Ps 119:15

Second: People try & fail, believing, if at first you don't succeed, give up...

...So, they do; but failing does not make you a failure, it's just another part of your training

...Bible declares, *"A righteous person may fall seven times, but he gets up again..."* Prov 24:7 NOG

Third: People feel unworthy of success, so they operate in survival mode...

...They may see themselves as, just a (e.g., tradie); remember, Jesus & Paul were both tradies

...Or, default to the world's mission, that is, to *"love self and love money"* 2 Tim 3:2

...Or live out a negative life shaped in childhood, e.g., *'you'll never amount to anything'*

Fourth: People believe they are too old to start, to change or to learn something new ...

...Don't believe it; Job lost everything at 70 then got it back double

...Moses began a 40-year trek at age 80; Colonel Sanders was on welfare at age 65, then KFC

It seems like the saying, 'The enemy within' could apply here!

Exactly! The truth is, we are not failures; we are worthy of a measure of success; and we are never too old! Even secular commentators recognised some life truths we need to grasp:

"The mass of men lead lives of quiet desperation" Henry David Thoreau

"The average person goes to his grave with his music still in him" Oliver Wendell Holmes

"Two most important days in life, the day you were born & the day you find out why" Mark Twain

My counsel: We don't need to be quietly desperate or live with our music trapped within! We are awesomely & wonderfully made, in His image, guided by His Spirit & Handbook. So, find out what His plan is and align with yours; then pursue it...aggressively!