

The Handbook for Business, the Bible

Being content in an age of discontent

Many business owners find their profitability is below where they want it to be! If you feel the same, to be brutally honest, it's probably not the business at fault, it's you.

I see owners struggling to turn things around not realizing that a major cause of poor performance is personal discontentment that impacts decision-making, staff and profits.

Discontentment comes from a root of fear; and selfish love rather than selfless love!

Further, discontent is linked to covetousness; even wealthy King Solomon warned, in our pursuit of worldly riches, *"your eyes will never be satisfied."*

...Here's the formula: as one's portfolio increases, discontent increases...and Jesus decreases
...At the end of the day this is a flesh versus spirit issue, with the business caught in the middle!

To get your business back on track, here are 3 actions to address the discontent...

1. Meditate in the Word of God and pray daily
2. Give more of your time, expertise and \$ to help others
3. Understand all you have & all you gain belongs to Jesus the Master not you the servant.

More actions to consider on your journey from discontent to contentment:

4. Never forget who you are in Christ (Eph. 2:6; Phil. 4:6-7, 13)
5. Use your spiritual gift to serve others, in love (Matt. 20:27; 1 Corin. 13:2-3, 13)
6. Repent for taking the Master's assets on own account (Matt. 25:20-21; Luke 12:15)
7. Don't compare self with others; you are unique in the kingdom (Rom. 12:2; Col. 2:6)
8. Consider the early church, selling assets to invest in the God's kingdom (Acts 2:45; 4:34)
9. Seek strength and you will find peace (Psalm 29:11; Galatians 5:22; Philippians 4:13)

My counsel for business owners:

Learn & understand the link between covetousness & discontent, then how these negative traits impact your life and business. The bottom line, fix your discontent & the business will respond.

HANDBOOK COUNSEL for today: Hebrews 13:5...

"Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you" NKJV

...This promise alludes to greed as the problem that leads to discontentment; and the solution to both, Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

Other Bible verses - NKJV:

Ecclesiastes 5:10, *"He who loves silver will not be satisfied with silver; nor...with increase..."*

2 Timothy 1:7, *"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power...love and of a sound mind"*

1 Timothy 6:6, *"Now godliness with contentment is great gain"*

Philippians 4:11, *"...for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content"*

Matthew 22:39, *"...You shall love your neighbour as yourself"*