

Our Handbook for Business, the Bible

Listening to advice

In all my years as a follower of Christ I've learned a few things about life and business. My goal today is to share some of this as advice, to help you grow and prosper.

Our starting point in everything must be, *what does the Word of God say?*

This especially applies to business because the Handbook is the ultimate coaching manual.

I believe it's a privilege to be called into the marketplace as steward/managers of His business. The disciples and greats of the Old Testament were all business owners.

Indeed, Jesus encourages us to, *'do business till I come'* because He appreciated commerce is a vital cog in advancing the kingdom - it involves serving others; solving problems; employing people; sharing profits, paying tax; and the multiplication principle.

My counsel for business owners:

Listen to this business advice...

- ...The greatest cause of failure is unbelief; closely followed by a lack of vision
- ...We buy from Jesus and sell to Jesus
- ...The marketplace is largely devoid of God's unconditional love but we can share it
- ...Owners who don't understand why their business is under-performing should seek help
- ...You can't lose anything you never owned in the first place
- ...Through His Word, Jesus can solve any business problem you face.

And listen to this personal advice...

- ...God is great, we are nothing; Jesus is the bridge
- ...Our life purpose is to become eternal companions of Jesus Christ
- ...This world is not our home, it's our assignment
- ...Our success in life is directly proportional to the time we invest in the Word of God
- ...Whatever we do must be for the glory of God
- ...Don't usurp what the Master owns for your private account
- ...Our lives are a vapour, here for a moment, then gone
- ...Jesus promises *'ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find'* (Matthew 7:7)

The Bible, our Handbook counsel for today, Proverbs 12:15, ICB...

"A foolish person thinks he is doing right. But a wise person listens to advice"

Other Scriptures (NKJV):

Luke 19:13, "...he called ten of his servants...and said to them, 'Do business till I come'"

Proverbs 11:14, "Where there is no counsel, people fall...in the multitude of counselors...is safety"

Psalms 24:1, "The earth is the LORD's and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein"

1 Corin 10:31, "...whatever you do, do all to the glory of God"

James 4:14, "For what is your life? It is...a vapor that appears for a little time, then vanishes away"

Galatians 6:3, "...if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself"

Daniel 4:35, "All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing..."

Matthew 7:7, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek and you will find..."

James 4:3, "You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss..."