

Chapter 3: What You Can Do to Succeed in Your Business Operations

1) **Build your business on the principle of loving your neighbor as yourself.**

1. What is the underlying principle upon which I operate my business? What is the underlying principle upon which I strive to operate my business? Are these different?
2. In what ways am I currently failing to obey Christ's Great Commandment?

2) **Focus on developing a spirit of service in all things.**

1. Is it hard to see myself as a servant to my employees or customers?
2. Is there a spirit of service at every level within my business?
3. What is a specific way I can show servanthood on a daily basis?

3) **Reject unethical advice and follow the counsel of God's Word.**

1. Do I find myself influenced more by people's opinions or by God's Word?
2. Who is a person that provides Godly advice for me personally?

Do I counsel others in the way of God's Word?

3. What do I need to do to prioritize God's Word in my life? To take great delight in it and let it transform how I do business?

4) Manage your time wisely, making the most of every minute.

1. What role do I find most significant in my life? A business owner? Parent? Friend? Do I focus my time and attention on that role more so than the others?

2. Am I intentional with my time in my day to day routine?

5) Make wise, informed decisions.

1. What are my methods for wise decision-making?

2. Do I find myself relying on God's Spirit, His Word, and fervent prayer when it comes to making decisions?

6) Learn all you can about your business or position.

1. Do I view myself as a lifelong learner?

2. What can I do to be learning and improving myself continually?

3. How do I learn most effectively?

7) Organize your business or management area efficiently.

1. Is orderliness in my work a reflection of Christ's character?
2. How can I best steward the organization of my business?

8) Seek God's leadership for new and revolutionary ideas.

1. How has God used me in advancing my business and in turn having an impact for His Kingdom?
2. Are my motives honoring to Him?

9) Hire executives and managers with excellent character and values.

1. Do I have faithful "companions" around me in my line of work?
2. What character qualities do I look for when hiring men and women?

10) Keep accurate records and track all results.

1. What condition is my business in right now?
2. Do I tend to neglect keeping accurate records and tracking results? If so, how can I improve?

11) Secure legal advice whenever needed, but especially in all contracts.

1. Do I seek counsel in legal matters? Do I think this is important?
2. How do I/would I discern what attorney I would like to work with?

12) Establish an environment of wise and righteous behavior within your company.

1. What aspect of true wisdom is most difficult for me personally?
2. How can a culture of God's wisdom change the culture of my business? How can I specifically be a catalyst for this to happen?

13) Set the example for a calm and quiet spirit in the workplace.

1. How can I maintain a calm and controlled spirit in the workplace? Is this hard for me?
2. What are the specific circumstances that tend to cause me to lose control of my emotions?

14) Do not interfere in other people's affairs.

1. Was I surprised by the bluntness of God's Word when it says to essentially, "mind your own business?" Why or why not?
2. Can I relate to any of the reasons for meddling in other people's business?

15) Accept the authority of those over you, even if they are unreasonable or overbearing.

1. Is it difficult for me to accept the authority of an unreasonable, overbearing, or harsh employer or superior? Remember that you are to honor Christ in how you react and respond to all people.

2. Am I an unreasonable, overbearing or harsh employer at times? If yes, what causes me to be this way? How can I maintain perspective and treat my employees with consistent kindness?