

UNDERSTANDING KINGDOM ECONOMICS

Biblical Principles for Abundance & Provision



Bruce R. Edwards

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**Understand your finances through the laws of
seedtime and harvest!**

**Learn how wealth and a heart for Jesus go
hand-in-hand and are not mutually exclusive!**

INTRODUCTION

An Introduction to Kingdom Economics

*Unlocking Biblical Principles for True Success
in Business and Life*

The phone call came at 2:47 AM.

A successful entrepreneur—portfolio worth millions, influence spanning continents, respect commanding every boardroom he entered—sat on the edge of his bed in the darkness, phone trembling in his hand. He had just closed the biggest deal of his career. The culmination of three years of strategic maneuvering, relationship building, and calculated risk. By every worldly metric, he had arrived.

So why did he feel so empty?

Why, in his moment of greatest triumph, did a haunting question pierce through the champagne celebrations and congratulatory emails: *What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?*

Perhaps you've never received a 2:47 AM wake-up call quite like that. But if you're honest, you've felt the tremor. That unsettling recognition that something fundamental is misaligned. That the business principles you've mastered, the success formulas you've followed, the wealth strategies you've implemented—effective as they may be by Wall Street's standards—somehow ring hollow against the backdrop of eternity.

What if everything you thought you knew about success, wealth, and business needed to be recalibrated—not by the world's standards, but by Heaven's? What if your bottom line wasn't measured in profits alone, but in obedience, faith, and eternal impact?

What if the metrics that matter most can't be captured in a quarterly earnings report or calculated by your accountant?

Welcome to Kingdom Economics—a book written not just for Christian businessmen and women, but for Kingdom-minded entrepreneurs who desire to build something that outlasts the temporary, transcends the material, and echoes into eternity. This is more than a business manual or a spiritual self-help guide. This is a clarion call to alignment with Heaven's economy—a divine system that operates on principles so radically different from conventional business wisdom that they appear foolish to the natural mind, yet prove themselves infinitely powerful to those who dare embrace them.

In God's economy, trust replaces fear. Obedience outweighs ambition. Generosity generates increase. Servanthood leads to greatness. And God—not mammon, not market forces, not your own ingenuity—is the source, center, and ultimate objective of it all.

But here's what most business books written for Christians miss: you cannot simply overlay biblical principles onto a worldly foundation and expect Kingdom results. You cannot serve two masters. You cannot build with Heaven's blueprints while standing on earth's shifting sand. The transformation required goes deeper than adopting a few spiritual practices or donating a percentage of profits to charity.

Before you can operate successfully in the Kingdom of God, you must first enter it.

Jesus said it plainly: "Unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3). This isn't religious rhetoric or theological abstraction. It's the fundamental prerequisite to everything this book contains. Entry into God's Kingdom through spiritual rebirth is the essential first step—the doorway through which you must pass before

any of Heaven's economic principles can truly function in your life and business.

But here's the beautiful and challenging truth: entering the Kingdom is only the beginning. Living successfully within it—operating your business according to its principles, making decisions aligned with its values, experiencing the fullness of its provision and purpose—requires a complete transformation of how you think, how you work, and how you handle the resources entrusted to you.

This transformation is what the Apostle Paul called the renewing of your mind. It's what happens when the thinking patterns of this world's economic system—scarcity, competition, self-preservation, anxiety, manipulation, and the relentless pursuit of more—are progressively replaced by Kingdom thinking: abundance, collaboration, generosity, peace, integrity, and contentment combined with divine purpose.

This book will guide you through that transformation.

Over the coming chapters, you will discover the foundational truths of Kingdom Economics—truths rooted in Scripture that don't merely supplement conventional business wisdom but fundamentally challenge and often contradict it. These aren't theories I've developed from an ivory tower or principles I've borrowed from popular business gurus and baptized with Bible verses. These are eternal realities revealed in God's Word, tested in the crucible of real-world business, and proven in the lives of men and women throughout history who dared to take God at His word.

You'll learn what it truly means to put God first in all things—not as a nice spiritual sentiment you acknowledge on Sundays, but as a practical, daily, decision-by-decision commitment that reorients your entire business model around His priorities. You'll discover how to identify and dethrone the subtle idols that compete for the throne of

your heart: money, status, security, control, reputation, or self-reliance. These counterfeits promise what only God can deliver, and they demand a loyalty that only God deserves.

You'll be challenged to live by faith in a God who always provides—even when His provision doesn't look like what you expected, arrive when you demanded, or come through the channels you prescribed. Faith isn't merely believing God can provide; it's trusting Him enough to obey His instructions even when they seem to contradict sound business sense, to follow His leading even when you can't see the outcome, and to rest in His sovereignty even when circumstances appear dire.

You'll also uncover one of the most powerful and misunderstood principles in Kingdom living: sowing and reaping.

This isn't the prosperity gospel's manipulative formula for getting God to give you what you want. It's not a divine vending machine where you insert your seed offering and extract your guaranteed blessing. Rather, it's a comprehensive way of life that reveals both God's incredible generosity and your sacred role as a steward of His resources. When properly understood and practiced, this principle unlocks divine opportunities, supernatural provision, abundant overflow, and Kingdom impact beyond anything you could orchestrate through your own strategies or achieve through your own strength.

The sowing and reaping principle touches everything: how you invest your time, how you deploy your talents, how you manage your finances, how you treat your employees, how you serve your customers, how you position yourself in the marketplace, and how you measure success. It's woven into the very fabric of how God designed the universe to function, and learning to operate in harmony with it rather than in ignorance of it can revolutionize both your business and your life.

But let me be clear about what you won't find in these pages.

You won't find get-rich-quick tactics promising overnight success if you just follow seven simple steps. You won't find prosperity clichés that reduce God to a cosmic slot machine dispensing blessings to those who know the right spiritual incantations. You won't find permission to pursue wealth without restriction or accumulate resources without responsibility. You won't find justification for greed dressed up in spiritual language or endorsement of materialism wearing a Christian label.

Instead, you'll find eternal truths—tested, biblical, and proven in the lives of those who have dared to live and do business God's way.

You'll find principles that have guided Joseph in managing Egypt's economy during famine, enabled Nehemiah to accomplish the impossible in rebuilding Jerusalem's walls, empowered the early church to meet every need among its members, and sustained countless faithful entrepreneurs who chose Heaven's economy over earth's expedience. These truths have withstood the test of time because they're rooted in the character of an unchanging God and the wisdom of His eternal Word.

The journey ahead isn't easy. Kingdom Economics requires you to swim against the current of conventional business thinking, to make decisions that may appear foolish to those operating by worldly wisdom, and to trust an invisible God more than visible circumstances. It demands death to self-sufficiency and surrender of control. It costs you the right to build your own kingdom while inviting you into the privilege of advancing His.

But the rewards transcend anything this world's economy can offer. Peace that surpasses understanding in the midst of market turbulence.

Purpose that infuses every business decision with eternal significance. Provision that meets needs you haven't even recognized yet. Impact that ripples into eternity long after your final quarterly report has been filed and forgotten.

If you're ready to stop chasing success the world's way and start building according to God's blueprint, then keep reading.

Kingdom Economics will give you the foundation you need to excel in both your faith and your enterprise—and to do it all for the glory of the King who created you, redeemed you, and called you to represent His Kingdom in the marketplace.

The 2:47 AM question doesn't have to haunt you. The nagging sense of misalignment doesn't have to persist. The choice between worldly success and Kingdom significance is a false dilemma created by an economy you were never meant to serve.

There's a better way. A Kingdom way.

Let the journey begin.

Kingdom of God First

THE STARTING POINT OF KINGDOM ECONOMICS

What if the very key to supernatural success in your business wasn't found in a new strategy, a fresh marketing plan, or even a powerful network—but in a Kingdom?

Imagine for a moment an economy where provision flows not from your productivity but from divine promise. Where promotion comes not through self-advancement but through humility. Where prosperity is tied not to ruthless competition but to righteousness and integrity. Where resources multiply not by hoarding but by generous sowing. This isn't wishful thinking or religious fantasy—this is Kingdom economics, God's divine system of resource management, wealth creation, and influence.

But here's the profound truth many overlook, the cornerstone principle that separates those who merely talk about biblical business principles from those who actually walk in Kingdom power: **you cannot access the authority of the Kingdom without first entering it.**

This chapter is not about tips and techniques. It's not a collection of spiritual life-hacks you can add to your existing business model. It's about foundation—the only foundation that can support the weight of true Kingdom enterprise. Just as no skyscraper can rise without being anchored to bedrock, no Kingdom business can thrive without a spiritual beginning that transforms everything.

Jesus made this abundantly clear when He delivered what might be the most important business principle ever spoken:

"Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." (Matthew 6:33)

Read those words carefully. "Seek first." Not second or third. Not alongside your other priorities. First. Before the business plan, before the financing, before the marketing strategy—seek the Kingdom. Because the uncomfortable reality is this: you cannot seek what you have not yet entered. You cannot operate by Kingdom laws if you're still living under worldly rule. You cannot access Heaven's economy while you remain a citizen of earth's system.

Before you can experience God's supernatural provision in your professional life, you must become a citizen of His Kingdom. And that citizenship doesn't come through church membership, religious activity, or good intentions. It requires a rebirth—a complete reorientation of your heart, your values, your identity, and your vision.

In this chapter, you'll discover that entering the Kingdom is not merely about getting your ticket to Heaven punched—it's about transformation that begins now and impacts everything. It's the turning point where your life, your business, and your legacy shift from earthly ambition to heavenly alignment. It's where integrity replaces compromise, where surrender precedes strategy, and where your identity in Christ becomes the license to operate with divine authority in the marketplace.

This is more than theology for Sunday morning. This is a practical blueprint for influence that works Monday through Saturday. Because once you truly enter the Kingdom, everything changes. You stop striving in your own strength and start stewarding what God provides. You stop chasing success the world's way and start walking in divine purpose. You stop building your own empire and start advancing His Kingdom in every transaction, every decision, every relationship.

So before we dive deep into Kingdom economics—the principles of sowing and reaping, the power of faith, the practice of stewardship—let's talk about entry. Because everything you're praying for, everything you're working toward—wisdom, provision, favor, breakthrough, impact—begins the moment you step through the door into the Kingdom of God.

And I have good news: the door is wide open. Jesus Himself declared, "I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved" (John 10:9).

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make straight your paths."

— Proverbs 3:5-6

"Kingdom economics is the financial system rooted in biblical principles that governs how Christians should manage, invest, and distribute their resources to advance God's purposes on earth."

Entering the Kingdom:

The Starting Point of Kingdom Economics

"But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." — Matthew 6:33

Every successful business has a starting point—a founding moment. A vision captured. A mission articulated. A launch executed. In the same way, every Kingdom enterprise, every endeavor that will carry eternal significance and supernatural provision, begins with one critical, non-negotiable step: **entering the Kingdom of God.**

Before we can understand Kingdom economics—how God's economy functions, how divine principles operate in the marketplace—we must first become citizens of that Kingdom. This isn't optional. You cannot apply Kingdom principles if you have not yet aligned with the King. The laws of the Kingdom are only activated for those who live under its rule and recognize its authority.

For Christian businessmen and women who desire to operate with divine wisdom and supernatural favor, this chapter serves as a foundational blueprint. Your access to divine provision, supernatural insight, breakthrough strategies, and eternal success begins by stepping through the gate into God's Kingdom. And that gate, as Jesus clearly stated, is Himself: "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6).

Here are 10 keys to entering the Kingdom of God.

1. You Can't Operate in the Kingdom Without Entering It

Many professionals attempt to apply biblical principles—integrity, generosity, excellence, servant leadership—without truly surrendering to the King Himself. They want Kingdom benefits without Kingdom

commitment. They desire God's blessing on their plans without submitting their plans to God's purposes.

But Kingdom economics isn't merely a strategy for success that you overlay on a secular foundation. It's a comprehensive lifestyle rooted in an authentic relationship with God. It's about who you serve, not just how you serve.

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of My Father." (Matthew 7:21)

Notice Jesus didn't say, "everyone who acknowledges Me" or "everyone who admires My teachings." He said those who **do the will** of the Father. Your leadership, your wealth, your influence, your business decisions—all of it must be submitted to His will. Entry into the Kingdom means obedience, not just admiration. Agreement, not just acknowledgment.

As Bishop T.D. Jakes powerfully states: **"God is a businessman. He is not going to do business with someone who shows no sign of potential return. He invests in people who demonstrate an ability to handle what He has given them."**

In God's economy, the first and most important investment isn't your money or your time—it's your life. The question isn't what you're willing to give God, but what you're willing to become for Him.

2. Kingdom Economics Starts with a Kingdom Heart

Jesus told His followers something that seemed counterintuitive to adults pursuing success: you must become like children to enter the Kingdom. Why would He say this?

"Unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 18:3)

Children possess something adults often lose in the pursuit of business success: complete, unguarded trust. They don't have backup plans. They don't hedge their bets. When a child's father says, "Jump, I'll catch you," the child jumps without negotiating terms or demanding guarantees.

In the business world, we're trained to be self-reliant, independent, strategic, and calculating. We're taught to trust data more than intuition, contracts more than character, systems more than sovereignty. But Kingdom economics begins with a radically different posture: humility and surrender.

God entrusts greater resources to those who depend on Him, not those who depend on themselves. The Kingdom entrepreneur must first become a Kingdom child—teachable, trusting, obedient, willing to take risks that make sense to Heaven even when they seem foolish to earth.

Kingdom Principle: God doesn't promote pride or reward self-sufficiency. He prospers humility and honors dependence on Him.

Dr. Myles Munroe taught: **"The greatest tragedy in life is not death but life without a purpose—life with the wrong priorities. Life's greatest challenge is in knowing what to do. The greatest mistake in life is to be busy but not effective. Life's greatest failure is to be successful in the wrong assignment."**

Many business owners are incredibly busy but not effective in God's Kingdom. They're successful in the wrong assignment because they never stopped to ask, "God, what do You want me to build?" Instead, they built what made sense to them and then asked God to bless it.

Kingdom entry means surrendering your plans to discover His purpose.

3. Entry Is Spiritual—You Must Be Born Again

To enter a nation, you need the right documentation—a passport, a visa, proof of citizenship. To enter the Kingdom of God, you must be born into it. Not physically, but spiritually.

"No one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit." (John 3:5)

Being born again isn't optional for Kingdom citizenship. It's not one path among many. It's not about being religious or moral or charitable. It's about experiencing a spiritual rebirth that fundamentally changes your nature, your identity, and your allegiance.

When you're born again, you receive a new spiritual DNA. You become a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17). Your citizenship transfers from the kingdom of darkness into the Kingdom of God's beloved Son (Colossians 1:13). Your spiritual identity becomes your Kingdom license—your authorization to operate under Heaven's government and access Heaven's resources.

Business Insight: You cannot expect Kingdom returns using worldly principles. Salvation through faith in Jesus Christ is your entry point to supernatural economics. Without it, you're trying to operate a Kingdom business with a worldly operating system—and the two are fundamentally incompatible.

This isn't about adding Jesus to your business. It's about surrendering your business—and your life—to Jesus.

4. Righteousness, Not Just Revenue

The Pharisees in Jesus' day were masters of religious appearance. They knew the Scriptures, maintained strict religious observances, and held

positions of spiritual authority. Yet Jesus delivered a shocking assessment of their spiritual state:

"Unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees... you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 5:20)

What was Jesus saying? That external religious performance isn't enough. That knowing Scripture without living it is worthless. That appearing righteous without being transformed is hypocrisy.

God isn't impressed by titles, platforms, speaking engagements, social media followers, or impressive profit margins. He looks for righteousness—character that is genuinely aligned with Christ's character. Integrity that holds even when no one is watching. Ethics that are non-negotiable even when compromise would be profitable.

In Kingdom economics, character determines capacity. Your ethics are not an optional add-on; they're the foundation. God's favor flows through clean hands and pure hearts.

As business leader Peter Daniels famously said: **"God will only trust His wealth with those who have His character."**

Rick Warren adds: **"The measure of a leader is not how many serve them, but how many they serve."**

Your business practices reveal your true values. How you treat employees, vendors, competitors, and customers exposes whether you're operating from Kingdom principles or worldly pragmatism. Are you building wealth at the expense of others, or creating value that serves them? Are you pursuing profit through manipulation, or through excellence and integrity?

Kingdom righteousness means doing business God's way even when it costs you in the short term, trusting that God honors those who honor Him.

5. You Must Let Go to Receive More

One of the most challenging truths Jesus ever spoke concerned the relationship between wealth and Kingdom entry:

"It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." (Matthew 19:24)

This statement shocked His disciples. They, like many people today, assumed that wealth was a sign of God's blessing and approval. But Jesus was addressing something deeper: the human tendency to make wealth our security, our identity, our master.

God is not against wealth—Scripture is filled with examples of wealthy people who served God faithfully: Abraham, Job, Joseph of Arimathea, Lydia. But God is absolutely opposed to idolatry. When money becomes your master, you cannot simultaneously serve the King. When security comes from your bank account rather than your relationship with God, you've switched kingdoms.

The Kingdom entrepreneur holds wealth loosely and stewards it faithfully. Money is a tool, not a treasure. Resources are entrusted, not owned. Everything belongs to God; we're simply managers of what He places in our hands.

Key Insight: In God's economy, you must release to increase. You sow to reap. You give to grow. Kingdom wealth flows through open hands, not clenched fists.

Dr. Myles Munroe explained it this way: **"God does not give wealth. He gives ideas, schemes, concepts, and projects. God will not**

give you what you pray for. He will only give you what you can manage."

God doesn't entrust resources to those who hoard them. He entrusts resources to those who steward them for Kingdom purposes. Your capacity to manage what you have determines your capacity to receive what's next.

6. Hardship Is Part of the Journey

Here's a truth that won't make it onto most motivational posters: **"We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God."** (Acts 14:22)

Success in the Kingdom doesn't mean ease, comfort, or the absence of challenge. It means endurance, perseverance, and faithfulness through difficulty. The path to Kingdom authority often runs through the valley of testing.

Faith-filled business leaders must develop resilience. Adversity isn't a sign that God has abandoned you—it's often evidence that He's preparing you for greater responsibility. Pressure purifies motives. Trials prove the authenticity of faith. Challenges reveal whether you're truly trusting God or just using spiritual language while trusting yourself.

Throughout Scripture, many of God's greatest stewards went through intense seasons of testing before they stepped into positions of significant influence:

- **Joseph** was betrayed, falsely accused, and imprisoned before he became Prime Minister of Egypt
- **Daniel** faced the threat of death in a lion's den before influencing multiple kingdoms

- **Esther** risked her life before God used her to save her people
- **David** spent years running from Saul before he became king

Bishop T.D. Jakes reminds us: **"Face the giants in your life, slay them, and move on. Do not be daunted by the mistakes and failures in your life."**

Kingdom Economics Principle: God tests you with trials before He trusts you with treasure. He develops your character in the wilderness before He gives you influence in the palace.

The question isn't whether you'll face difficulties in business—you will. The question is whether those difficulties will refine you or define you, strengthen you or stop you, deepen your dependence on God or drive you away from Him.

7. Holiness Unlocks Heaven's Resources

"The unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God." (1 Corinthians 6:9)

Kingdom economics requires holy living. This isn't about perfectionism or legalism—it's about integrity and alignment. Sin blocks blessing. Compromise creates ceiling. Unconfessed disobedience disrupts the flow of divine favor.

Conversely, purity paves the way for promotion. The businessman or woman who walks in integrity, who refuses to compromise even when it's costly, who maintains moral excellence in private as well as public—this person positions themselves to receive divine strategies, supernatural partnerships, and breakthrough opportunities that others never access.

As Bill Johnson powerfully states: **"What you tolerate in private will determine your authority in public."**

Your secret life determines your public impact. The areas where you've made peace with compromise are the areas where God cannot fully trust you with influence. Character inconsistencies create credibility gaps. What you do when no one is watching establishes the boundaries of what God will do when everyone is watching.

God entrusts Kingdom wealth to Kingdom-minded people—those who live by Kingdom values even when it's inconvenient, even when it costs them, even when it seems no one will ever know the difference. God knows. And that's what matters.

8. The Kingdom Is a Gift—But It Comes with Responsibility

Here's the beautiful side of this message, the gospel (good news) that balances all the sobering truths we've discussed:

"Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom." (Luke 12:32)

God **wants** you in the Kingdom. He **delights** in giving you access to His resources, His wisdom, His favor, His supernatural provision. This isn't something you earn through perfect performance—it's a gift He offers because of His love and grace.

But with this extraordinary gift comes a sobering responsibility: steward it well. Use it wisely. Deploy it for Kingdom purposes, not selfish ambition.

God's economy isn't about self-enrichment—it's about Kingdom impact. Your business is meant to be more than a means of personal prosperity. It becomes a tool for eternal transformation. Every deal can be an act of worship. Every product can serve people. Every hire can be an investment in someone's future. Every client interaction can be a witness to Kingdom values.

Terri Savelle Foy captures this beautifully: **"When you engage in business with a kingdom mindset, every sale becomes a seed of purpose."**

Your business isn't just about making money—it's about making a difference. God gives you resources not so you can accumulate more, but so you can advance His agenda on earth. You're blessed to be a blessing. You prosper to be positioned for greater purpose.

9. The Pure in Heart Are the Real Heirs

"Nothing impure will ever enter it... only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life." (Revelation 21:27)

Ultimate Kingdom entry—the eternal aspect—is reserved for those whose lives have been cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ. Business success is temporary. Market dominance is fleeting. Economic systems rise and fall. But the Kingdom of God is eternal.

Only those who know the King and walk in His ways will reign with Him forever. Your business accomplishments, no matter how impressive, will not gain you entrance into eternity. Your net worth will be irrelevant. Your reputation will mean nothing. The only thing that will matter is this: Did you know Jesus? Did you surrender your life to Him? Are you His?

This puts everything in perspective. You can gain the whole world—every market, every deal, every measure of earthly success—and lose your soul. Or you can build your life and business on the foundation of Christ and create something that echoes into eternity.

Which legacy are you building?

10. From Entry to Authority

"If we endure, we will also reign with Him." (2 Timothy 2:12)

"Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father." (Matthew 13:43)

Here's the culminating vision: The goal is not just entry into the Kingdom—it's elevation and authority within the Kingdom. God doesn't just want to save you; He wants to use you. He doesn't just want you to enter His Kingdom; He wants you to rule and reign with Him, advancing His purposes in the marketplace, in your community, in every sphere of influence He gives you.

Business leaders who align with Kingdom values don't just succeed personally—they influence cities, impact nations, and shape generations. Their legacy extends far beyond their balance sheets. They build businesses that create jobs, serve communities, solve problems, and demonstrate what it looks like when Heaven's principles govern earthly enterprise.

As Christine Caine reminds us: **"God is more interested in who you're becoming than what you're producing."**

The question isn't just "How successful can I be?" but "How surrendered am I? How much authority is God willing to entrust to me based on my character, my obedience, my faithfulness?"

Final Thought: The moment you enter the Kingdom, you become an agent of change. Your business is no longer just a platform for profit—it's a pulpit for purpose. It's a demonstration of Kingdom principles in action. It's a testimony that God's way works, that His economy is superior, that righteousness and success can coexist.

Your First Investment

Before you build wealth, build the foundation.

Before you develop your business plan, develop your relationship with the King.

Before you study Kingdom economics, make absolutely sure you've entered the Kingdom.

Salvation through Jesus Christ is your entry point. Confessing Him as Lord and believing in your heart that God raised Him from the dead (Romans 10:9) is how you pass through the door.

Surrender is your buy-in. Giving God complete access to your life, your plans, your resources, your future—holding nothing back—is the cost of true discipleship.

Righteousness is your credential. Not self-righteousness earned through good works, but the righteousness of Christ that's given to you by grace through faith. This righteousness then manifests in how you live, how you conduct business, how you treat others.

Obedience is your strategy. Following God's Word even when it contradicts conventional business wisdom. Trusting His promises even when circumstances scream otherwise. Doing what He says simply because He said it.

"He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves." (Colossians 1:13)

Dr. Myles Munroe concluded: **"Every resource and money in the kingdom is personal property of God the King. In the Kingdom of God management is the highest work. God does not give money to worshippers; He gives it to managers."**

When you enter the Kingdom, you're not just changing your eternal destination—you're changing your present identity. You move from being an owner to being a steward. From being self-employed to being Kingdom-employed. From working for yourself to working for the King who owns everything.

This shift in perspective changes everything about how you do business.

Your greatest investment is giving your life to the King.

Everything else—wisdom, provision, influence, impact, legacy—flows from that single decision.

Are you in the Kingdom? Have you truly entered through the door?

If you have, then you're ready for the journey ahead—learning how to operate successfully in this new economy, understanding the principles that govern Kingdom wealth, and discovering your assignment in advancing God's agenda through your business.

If you haven't, there's no better time than right now. Jesus is standing at the door, inviting you in. Your business success, your financial future, and your eternal destiny all begin with this one decision:

Will you enter the Kingdom?

The door is open. Step through. Everything you've been searching for is on the other side.

Living in the Kingdom of God – *Unlocking Heaven's Influence in Everyday Life*

Introduction

What if the very system you've been searching for—the one that could bring clarity to your decisions, stability to your business, peace to your soul, and power to your purpose—was already in your possession?

Think about that for a moment. What if everything you've been striving to attain, every solution you've been seeking, every breakthrough you've been pursuing was already accessible to you right now? Not someday. Not when circumstances change. Not when you achieve the next goal or reach the next level. Now.

You're not just a Christian business leader trying to survive in a chaotic world. You're not simply trying to maintain your faith while navigating the complexities of commerce. You are a Kingdom citizen, called to thrive under a different government—a divine one. Yet for many believers, the Kingdom of God is like a powerful key left unused on a crowded keyring: present but forgotten, available but dormant, powerful but passive. It's there, full of transformative potential, but rarely activated.

This isn't a minor oversight. It's a tragedy of epic proportions. Here's the profound truth that will reframe everything: **The Kingdom of God isn't just a spiritual destination for the future. It's a present reality we're meant to live in now.**

Jesus didn't say, "Study the Kingdom as an intellectual concept." He didn't say, "Admire the Kingdom from a distance." He said, "**Seek it first**" (Matthew 6:33). Why? Because everything else in your life—your provision, your success, your influence, your impact, your peace, your purpose—flows from your alignment with the Kingdom. When you get this right, everything else falls into place. When you miss this, you spend your life rearranging deck chairs while the ship of your calling drifts off course.

As Tony Evans reminds us, "Success is not what you have done compared to what others have done. Success is what you have done compared to what you were supposed to do." How many Christian

businesspeople are achieving success by the world's metrics but missing their Kingdom assignment entirely?

This chapter will challenge you to stop treating the Kingdom like a religious concept relegated to Sunday sermons and start living it as a daily culture that permeates every decision, every transaction, every relationship. You'll discover how to:

- Step into your full identity as a citizen of heaven, operating with Kingdom authority in earthly systems
- Build a culture in your home and business where God's presence dwells and His power flows
- Lead with the mindset, methods, and values of the King, not the marketplace

Kingdom living isn't passive—it's powerful. It's not theoretical—it's transformational. It reorders your priorities, rewires your leadership, renews your mind, and releases God's influence in every sphere you touch. And when you live by its principles, you don't just build a business—you advance a Kingdom that will never end.

So don't skim this chapter. Don't treat it as optional reading. Lean in. The key to everything you've been seeking is already in your hand. Now it's time to use it. Now it's time to unlock the power, provision, and purpose that comes from living as a Kingdom citizen in the marketplace.

Are you ready to live, lead, and thrive in the Kingdom of God?

Let's unlock it—together.

"The Kingdom of God is not simply something we look forward to in the future. It is something we live in now. The church must stop treating the Kingdom like a concept and start living it as a culture."

— Dr. Tony Evans

A Forgotten Key or a Master Key?

Imagine for a moment that you find an old key on your key ring. You know it's important—you kept it for a reason. The metal feels weighty,

significant. But time has passed, and you can't remember what it unlocks. So it stays there, dangling with untapped potential, occupying space but serving no function.

That's exactly how many believers treat the Kingdom of God.

It's in their possession, acknowledged in their theology, mentioned in their prayers—yet not in operation. Not functioning. Not transforming their daily reality. It holds the power to unlock divine influence, supernatural wisdom, abundant provision, and unshakeable peace. But because they haven't sought its application, explored its relevance, or pursued its impact, it remains dormant. A theological truth that never becomes a practical reality.

As Christian businessmen and women navigating the complexities of a competitive, often hostile marketplace, we can't afford to neglect the Kingdom. It is not a religious afterthought you add to your business strategy. It is not an inspirational idea you reference when you need motivation. **It is the operating system you are meant to live by.**

The Kingdom is your access code to Heaven's resources. It's your blueprint for decision-making. It's your source of competitive advantage that the world cannot understand or replicate. It's the government under which you operate that transcends every earthly system.

"Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." (Matthew 6:33)

This isn't just a beautiful Scripture to embroider on a pillow or post on social media—it's a business strategy, a family framework, a leadership principle, and a life philosophy. The Kingdom is the master key to unlocking God's influence, provision, and power in your day-to-day life. Everything you're striving for—breakthrough, promotion, provision, protection, purpose—is accessed through this key.

Dr. Tony Evans explains: "The kingdom of God is the alternative to the kingdom of this world." You're not limited by the choices, systems, or limitations this world offers. God has an alternative plan—His Kingdom agenda.

The question is: Are you using the key?

Heaven Isn't Just a Destination—It's a Culture

Before we go further, it's critical to distinguish between two related but different concepts that Scripture presents: the Kingdom of Heaven and the Kingdom of God.

The Kingdom of Heaven refers to the eternal realm where God rules in glory, majesty, and splendor. Paul referred to the "third heaven" in 2 Corinthians 12:2—a realm of magnificence where angelic beings worship and where saints will dwell for eternity. This is the destination we anticipate, the home we're promised, the eternal city whose architect and builder is God (Hebrews 11:10).

The Kingdom of God, however, is something different—and it's what we're focusing on in this chapter. It's not merely a place—it's a governing operation. It's not just a future destination—it's a present reality. It is God's comprehensive rule and authority manifested in every area of life. It's a government with laws, principles, values, and a divine culture that shapes how we think, live, lead, and influence.

As Tony Evans teaches, "The unifying central theme throughout the Bible is the glory of God and the advancement of His Kingdom." From Genesis to Revelation, Scripture is telling one cohesive story: God establishing His Kingdom rule on earth through His people.

This is profoundly important for your business, your leadership, and your life. From the very beginning, God intended earth to reflect the culture and government of heaven. This is why Jesus taught us to pray:

"Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." (Matthew 6:10)

Think about what you're actually praying when you speak those words. You're asking for Heaven's culture—its values, its priorities, its methods, its power—to invade earth. You're requesting that God's governmental rule be established in your sphere of influence. You're declaring that you want to operate by Heaven's economy, not earth's broken systems.

As Kingdom citizens operating in the marketplace, we are called to bring heaven's culture into our earthly responsibilities. This means:

- In our families: reflecting Heaven's love, grace, and order

- In our businesses: operating by Heaven's ethics, integrity, and excellence
- In our finances: managing resources according to Heaven's principles of stewardship and generosity
- In our communities: releasing Heaven's compassion, justice, and transformation

Romans 14:17 gives us a powerful description of what Kingdom culture looks like: **"For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."**

This isn't about religious ritual or external performance. It's about righteousness (right relationship with God and right living), peace (stability and wholeness that transcends circumstances), and joy (deep gladness rooted in God's presence)—all empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Dr. Myles Munroe taught: "The Kingdom of God is God's comprehensive rule over all creation." It's not a compartmentalized aspect of your life—it's meant to govern everything. Your business decisions. Your hiring practices. Your pricing strategies. Your marketing ethics. Your treatment of competitors. Your response to setbacks. Everything.

Kingdom Citizenship Comes with Influence

Ephesians 2:19 delivers a powerful declaration about your identity: **"So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God."**

Read that again. You are no longer a foreigner trying to navigate a system you don't understand. You're not an outsider hoping to gain access. **You are a citizen.** Citizenship in God's Kingdom isn't just a title you carry—it's an assignment you fulfill. It's not merely a position—it's a responsibility.

Think about dual citizenship. Many people hold citizenship in two countries, with all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities that come with both. As believers, we hold two citizenships:

1. **Earthly citizenship** – by natural birth, with its temporary rights and limited authority
2. **Heavenly citizenship** – by spiritual rebirth, with eternal rights and Kingdom authority

Philippians 3:20 reminds us: **"But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ."**

When we are born again through faith in Christ, we are no longer just creations of God—we become **children of God**. Romans 8:15 says we can now cry out, **"Abba, Father!"** That's not formal religious language. That's intimate family language. That's a child running into their father's arms with complete confidence and trust.

And as children and citizens of His Kingdom, we are granted extraordinary benefits:

- **Authority** – to represent the King and operate in His name
- **Access** – to approach the throne of grace with confidence (Hebrews 4:16)
- **Provision** – God's commitment to supply all our needs according to His riches (Philippians 4:19)
- **Protection** – divine covering over our lives, families, and enterprises
- **Purpose** – a specific assignment and calling in advancing the Kingdom

These aren't just theological concepts—they're transformational realities. Psalm 103:1–5 lists some of the specific benefits of Kingdom citizenship:

- Forgiveness of all your iniquities
- Healing of all your diseases
- Redemption of your life from the pit
- Crowning you with steadfast love and mercy
- Satisfying you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's

Action Point: Read Psalm 103:1–5 and write out each benefit. Then reflect: How are these benefits impacting your personal and professional life right now? How are you stewarding these gifts? What

would change if you truly believed and operated in these Kingdom promises?

The enemy wants you to forget who you are. He wants you to see yourself as a struggling business owner barely surviving, rather than a Kingdom ambassador strategically positioned to advance God's agenda. Tony Evans captures this powerfully: "A kingdom man is the kind of man that when his feet hit the floor each morning, the devil says, 'Oh crap, he's up!'"

Are you walking in that level of Kingdom authority? When you show up to work, does darkness tremble? When you enter a negotiation, is Heaven's wisdom flowing through you? When you face a crisis, is your first thought to access your Kingdom resources?

Living a Kingdom Lifestyle on Earth

Let's be brutally honest—the world is noisy, deceptive, and full of spiritual distractions designed to pull you away from Kingdom living. Satan, whom Jesus called "the father of lies" (John 8:44), constantly sows cultural philosophies and false narratives that dilute truth, distort reality, and derail destiny.

You're bombarded daily with messages that contradict Kingdom values:

- "Success is measured by wealth accumulation"
- "Do whatever it takes to win"
- "Look out for number one"
- "The one with the most toys wins"
- "Fake it till you make it"
- "It's just business, nothing personal"

But Kingdom-minded people are called to live **above the noise**. Not isolated from the world, but not conformed to it either. Romans 12:2 commands: **"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."**

Living a Kingdom lifestyle means operating by a completely different set of principles:

- **By the Word of God** – Scripture as your ultimate authority, not cultural trends or business gurus
- **In the character of Christ** – reflecting His nature in every transaction and relationship
- **With the power of the Holy Spirit** – accessing supernatural wisdom, strength, and insight

Galatians 5:22–23 defines the fruit of the Spirit—the character traits and cultural markers of Kingdom citizens: **"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law."**

These aren't optional add-ons for the spiritually mature. They are required equipment for every believer operating in the marketplace. These qualities aren't just personal virtues—they're professional assets. They're not weaknesses in a cutthroat business world—they're your competitive advantages.

Imagine a business culture where:

- **Love** governs how you treat employees, competitors, and customers
- **Joy** creates an atmosphere people want to be part of
- **Peace** enables clear thinking under pressure
- **Patience** prevents reactive decisions
- **Kindness** builds loyal relationships
- **Goodness** establishes your reputation
- **Faithfulness** makes you reliable and trustworthy
- **Gentleness** de-escalates conflict
- **Self-control** protects you from destructive impulses

This is Kingdom culture. This is what the marketplace desperately needs but rarely sees. This is your strategic positioning.

Charles Stanley wisely observes: "The more willing we are to confess our inadequacy, the easier it is for us to fully surrender to His will for our lives."

Kingdom living begins with surrender—acknowledging that your way doesn't work and that you need God's way in every area. The more you yield to the Holy Spirit, the more God's Kingdom manifests through

you. The more you submit to His governance, the more His power flows through your leadership.

Action Point: Study the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22–23. Ask yourself honestly: Which fruit is most evident in my life and leadership? Which fruit do I need to cultivate more intentionally? How would my business culture change if these qualities defined every interaction?

Creating a Kingdom-Cultured Environment

Here's a truth that will transform your home and your business:

Every environment carries a culture. The question is not whether you have a culture—you do. The question is: **Does your culture reflect the Kingdom of God or the kingdom of this world?**

A **Kingdom Culture** is an atmosphere characterized by:

- **God's Word honored** – Scripture has authority in decision-making
- **Prayer and worship practiced** – Not as rituals, but as lifestyle
- **Holiness pursued** – Integrity without compromise
- **Gratitude and truth celebrated** – Thankfulness in all circumstances
- **Relationships valued** – People matter more than profits
- **Excellence expected** – Quality reflects the Creator
- **Generosity flowing** – Resources stewarded and shared

You might attend church faithfully every Sunday. You might read your Bible daily and pray before meals. But if the culture in your office is toxic—marked by gossip, politics, fear, manipulation, or compromise—God's manifest presence will feel distant. The atmosphere you create matters.

Acts 13:1–3 describes an environment where leaders **"ministered to the Lord"** through worship, fasting, and prayer. In that atmosphere of surrender and seeking, **the Holy Spirit gave clear direction:** "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Kingdom culture creates clarity.

Charles Stanley teaches: "God is responsible for the consequences of our obedience, WE are responsible for the consequences of our disobedience." When you create a Kingdom-cultured environment, God takes responsibility for the outcomes. When you compromise and operate by worldly methods, you're on your own.

The truth is simple but profound: **God shows up in surrendered environments.** He manifests His presence where He's honored, welcomed, and prioritized. Build that kind of environment in your home and workplace, and watch what God does.

Practical Steps to Build Kingdom Culture:

1. **Start your workday with worship** – Even 10 minutes of worship music shifts the atmosphere and recalibrates your focus
2. **Pray over your business** – Walk through your office or workspace declaring God's presence and purposes
3. **Post Scripture strategically** – Let God's Word speak into your environment visually
4. **Create rhythms of gratitude** – Begin meetings with thanksgiving, not just agendas
5. **Address compromise quickly** – Don't tolerate what contradicts Kingdom values
6. **Celebrate integrity** – Publicly honor those who model Kingdom character
7. **Serve one another** – Let your culture be marked by mutual support, not cutthroat competition

Action Point: Create a praise and worship playlist that sets a spiritual tone in your space. Make it a habit to begin your day with God's Word and worship. Intentionally transform your home or office into a sanctuary of His presence. Don't just work in a space—consecrate it.

Think Kingdom First – Be Kingdom Minded

Romans 12:2 calls us to renew our minds because **your mindset sets your methods**. If you think like the world, you'll operate like the world. If you think like the world, you'll get the world's results—and face the world's limitations. But if you renew your mind in God's Word, you'll think like heaven—and lead like heaven.

Charles Stanley reminds us: "We are the product of our thinking, so it is important that we choose carefully where to focus our mental energy." What you meditate on shapes what you manifest. What occupies your thoughts influences your actions.

Consider this powerful principle: **"Reading and application rewrites your map of reality. Obedience retrains your body."** The more you saturate your mind with God's Word, the more your internal operating system transforms. The more you act on what you read, the more your behaviors align with Kingdom principles.

To be **Kingdom-minded** means to see everything through the lens of God's Word and His purposes:

- **Decision-making:** "What would honor God most in this situation?"
- **Problem-solving:** "How does Heaven approach this challenge?"
- **Conflict resolution:** "What does the King's wisdom say about this?"
- **Wealth management:** "How does God want these resources deployed?"
- **People development:** "How can I steward the potential God has placed in this person?"

When we are Kingdom-minded, we stop asking, **"What do I want?"** and start asking, **"What does the King desire?"** We stop asking, **"What benefits me most?"** and start asking, **"What advances His Kingdom most?"**

Tony Evans teaches: "Men, God is not opposed to greatness. God is opposed to pride. Big difference." God wants you to succeed. He wants your business to prosper. He wants you to have influence. But

He wants it all to flow from surrender to His purposes, not selfish ambition.

The Kingdom-Minded Leader Asks:

- How does this decision align with Scripture?
- What would Jesus do in this situation?
- Am I operating in integrity or compromise?
- Does this glorify God or merely benefit me?
- What eternal impact will this choice create?
- Am I stewarding or hoarding?
- Am I serving or being served?

As Charles Stanley powerfully states: "Obey God and leave all the consequences to Him." Kingdom-minded people focus on obedience and trust God with outcomes. They don't manipulate circumstances—they submit to God's sovereignty.

Action Point: Establish a daily time in God's Word that's non-negotiable. Not just reading for information, but meditating for transformation. Journal how God's Word is reshaping your thinking. Evaluate your current worldview—what perspectives need to be renewed? What thought patterns contradict Kingdom truth?

Conclusion: Unlocking the Kingdom Life

The Kingdom of God isn't just a theological concept to study. It's not an interesting subject for Bible studies. It's a living, breathing reality meant to shape how you lead, serve, give, relate, work, and live every single day.

God is actively looking for **Kingdom ambassadors**—business leaders who carry His heart, represent His character, and demonstrate His Kingdom with integrity and excellence. Leaders who operate by Heaven's economy, not earth's broken systems. Leaders who value eternal impact more than temporary success. Leaders who understand that true significance isn't measured by market share or net worth, but by faithfulness to Kingdom assignments.

This is the lifestyle we're called to. This is the power available to us. This is the assignment entrusted to us.

So don't leave the Kingdom as a forgotten key on your keyring. Don't let it remain a dormant concept while you struggle in your own strength. **Use it.** Activate it. Let it unlock everything God has for you. Unlock your calling. Unlock your provision. Unlock your authority. Unlock your purpose. Influence your sphere. Transform your marketplace. And let the culture of heaven flow through your life, your business, and your leadership.

Tony Evans declares: "The Kingdom is the only system with answers for all the chaos of our world today." In a world characterized by instability, confusion, and crisis, the Kingdom offers clarity, peace, stability, and power. It's not just a theology—it's a transformational lifestyle.

Dr. Tony Evans defines Kingdom impact this way: "A kingdom man is a man who visibly demonstrates the comprehensive rule of God underneath the Lordship of Jesus Christ in every area of his life." This applies equally to Kingdom women in business. You are called to visibly demonstrate God's rule in the marketplace—not through religious platitudes, but through tangible excellence, integrity, wisdom, and power.

When you live this way, you become more than a business owner. You become a Kingdom representative. When you lead this way, you create more than a company. You establish an outpost of Heaven on earth. When you operate this way, you build more than wealth. You advance an eternal Kingdom that will never end.

You are a Kingdom citizen. You carry Kingdom authority. You have access to Kingdom resources. You're called to Kingdom assignments.

Now it's time to live like it.

Now it's time to unlock the Kingdom life.

Kingdom Living – Key Takeaways

1. The Kingdom is Now.

The Kingdom of God is not just a future hope—it's a present reality. It's the divine system we are called to live by every day.

2. Don't Carry the Key—Use It.

Like a forgotten key on your ring, the Kingdom holds power, access, and influence. But it only works when applied with intention.

3. Heaven is a Culture, Not Just a Destination.

God's Kingdom is a way of life—a divine culture marked by righteousness, peace, joy, and Spirit-led leadership.

4. You Have Dual Citizenship.

As Kingdom citizens, you carry authority, access, provision, and protection. You're not just a believer—you're a representative.

5. Kingdom Culture Starts with You.

Create an atmosphere—at home and in business—where God's Word is honored, worship is practiced, and surrender is daily.

6. Think Kingdom First.

Kingdom-minded people ask, "*What does the King desire?*" They lead with wisdom from above, not the noise of culture below.

7. Surrender Unlocks Power.

God moves in environments of surrender. The less you cling to your way, the more He reveals His.

8. The Kingdom is the Answer.

In a chaotic world, the Kingdom offers clarity, peace, and purpose. It's not just a theology—it's a transformational lifestyle.

Who Is Your God?

Introduction

Success. Achievement. Growth. These are the badges of honor in today's business world—the very things Christian entrepreneurs are often celebrated for. But hidden behind the applause and the profit margins lies a far more dangerous question—one that's easy to ignore, yet impossible to escape:

Who is truly your God?

That's not a question reserved for theologians or churchgoers. It's a question aimed straight at the heart of every believer in the marketplace. Because if we're honest, it's not just atheists who struggle with idolatry—it's Christians in business suits. It's leaders who quote Scripture on Sundays and chase metrics on Mondays. It's those of us who pray over meetings yet silently serve success.

We say we believe in Jesus. We call Him Savior. But is He Lord over *everything*—our profits, our priorities, our partnerships, and our plans?

This chapter isn't here to guilt you—it's here to wake you up. Because the greatest threat to your walk with God might not be failure...it might be success without surrender. The subtle seduction of mammon, the idol of self-made success, and the daily battle for the throne of your heart are real—and they demand your attention.

If your business, your drive, or your desire has quietly taken the seat reserved for God, this chapter will help you recognize it—and take it back.

Get ready to confront the gods of this age, not with condemnation, but with clarity and conviction. Because the only way to live a life—and run a business—that truly prospers is to settle this question once and for all:

Who is **your** God?

The Foundation: Belief vs. Surrender

"Idolatry is not just bowing down to a statue. It's giving your heart to something that is not God." — **Tim Keller**

As Christian businessmen and women, the most important question we must ask ourselves isn't just "Do I believe in God?"—but rather, **"Who is truly my God?"**

We already affirm our belief in Jesus Christ. We pray. We attend church. We tithe. We serve. And if someone were to ask us, we would boldly say, "I love Jesus. He is my Savior." But let's go deeper: **Is He your God?**

Because there's a profound difference between believing in God and allowing Him to reign over every part of your life—including your business, your money, your decisions, your time, and your ambitions.

Francis Chan challenges us with this penetrating truth: our greatest fear should not be of failure but of succeeding at things in life that don't really matter. Think about that for a moment. What if you climbed the ladder of success only to discover it was leaning against the wrong wall? What if you built an empire but lost your soul in the process?

The uncomfortable reality is this: **many Christians have made success their functional god while keeping Jesus as their theological God.** They worship Christ on Sunday but serve success Monday through Saturday. Their theology is sound, but their economy is secular.

"He who offers God a second place offers Him no place."
— **John Ruskin**

This isn't about adding God to your business. This is about surrendering your business to God. There's a massive difference.

The God of Business or the Business of God?

Let's be honest: in the fast-paced world of business, it's easy to blur the lines between commitment to Christ and commitment to success. We work hard. We push for progress. We hustle for growth. And somewhere along the way, the business can become the god—the object of our trust, time, energy, and affection.

"You shall have no other gods before Me."

— **Exodus 20:3 (NKJV)**

That's not just a Sunday school memory verse. That's the foundational commandment from the Creator of heaven and earth. When God gave the Ten Commandments, He didn't start with rules about lying or stealing. He started with this: **"Know who your God is—and make sure it's Me."**

Why? Because God understands something fundamental about human nature: we are all worshipers by design. The question is never whether you will worship, but what you will worship. John Calvin observed that the evil in our desire typically does not lie in what we want but that we want it too much.

Jesus reemphasized this priority in Mark 12:30 when He answered the question, "What is the greatest commandment?"

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength."

That's not partial loyalty. That's total surrender. Not 70% commitment. Not "God plus my business." Not "faith and finance." It's **all**—every fiber of your being, every decision of your day, every dollar in your account.

Francis Chan puts it bluntly: the thought of a person calling himself a 'Christian' without being a devoted follower of Christ is absurd. Half-hearted allegiance isn't allegiance at all—it's betrayal dressed in religious language.

Modern Idols in a Marketplace World

We may not worship golden calves anymore, but idolatry is alive and thriving. In fact, it's more sophisticated than ever. In today's boardrooms, showrooms, and corner offices, idols often look like:

- **The relentless chase for success** – Where achievement becomes your identity
- **The addiction to approval and recognition** – Where validation from others determines your value
- **The obsession with profit margins** – Where revenue reports replace prayer reports
- **The dependence on technology** – Where screens mediate more of your life than Scripture
- **The comfort of security and control** – Where predictability becomes more precious than providence
- **The lure of influence and power** – Where platform matters more than purpose

"An idol is anything you look to for what only God can give."

— John Piper

Timothy Keller provides profound insight when he explains that the main sign we are into success idolatry is that we find we cannot maintain our self confidence in life unless we remain at the top of our chosen field. Does that describe you? Do you need to win to feel worthy? Do you need to grow to feel significant?

Here's a hard truth: many Christian businesspeople unknowingly serve these modern idols while still claiming allegiance to Christ. They've created a functional theology that looks like this: "Jesus is my Savior (gets me to heaven), but success is my lord (gets me through this week)."

But Jesus made it clear there's no room for dual citizenship:

"No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money." — **Matthew 6:24 (NIV)**

Notice Jesus didn't say you *shouldn't* serve both. He said you **can't**. It's a categorical impossibility. Your heart doesn't have the capacity for divided loyalty at the ultimate level.

The Battle of the Masters: God vs. Mammon

The word "mammon" is often misunderstood. It comes from the Greek word *mamōnas*, which doesn't just mean money—it means **confidence in wealth**. It's not about having money; it's about trusting in money. It's not about earning income; it's about where you place your security, significance, and satisfaction.

Mammon is not currency. It's a spirit. A mentality. A false god that seduces even the faithful with the promise of security, success, and self-sufficiency.

"The chief competitor for the human heart is not Satan. It's stuff."
— **Andy Stanley**

Richard and Sharon Phillips explain it powerfully: we are all worshipers, and whatever we worship we rely upon and serve. For many men, success is the god they worship and serve. When an idolater says "I love you," what they really mean is "You are a means for getting what I want."

Could it be that we've treated God the same way? That we love Him not for who He is, but for what He provides? That our devotion is conditional upon His delivery of our desired outcomes?

When you prioritize profit over purpose, when money dictates your decisions more than the Holy Spirit does, when financial fears or goals dominate your thoughts more than your faith—you're **no longer in service to God. You're a slave to mammon.**

A Diagnostic Test

Let's get uncomfortably specific. Here's how to know if mammon has infiltrated your heart:

Financial Indicators:

- Do you check the market more than you check in with God?
- Does a drop in revenue disturb your peace more than unconfessed sin?
- When you pray, is your greatest concern your business problems or God's glory?
- Can you give generously without calculating what you're losing?

Schedule Indicators:

- Does your business schedule leave no room for rest or worship?
- When was the last time you said no to a profitable opportunity because of a spiritual conviction?
- If God asked you to close your business today, would you do it—or would you negotiate?

Emotional Indicators:

- Are you more moved by profit reports than by people's needs?
- Do financial fears keep you awake more than spiritual concerns?
- Does your sense of worth rise and fall with your bank account balance?

John Piper asks the crucial diagnostic question: is what I am desiring starting to feel more precious to me and more satisfying than God? When we have that measuring rod, idolatry becomes much easier to identify.

Grade yourself. ☐ I'm good ☐ I'm in trouble

Areas you need to improve on and or change:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

If you answered yes to several of these, mammon may have more influence in your life than you realize. But conviction isn't condemnation—it's an invitation to repentance and realignment.

Purpose-Driven vs. Profit-Driven

Let's be abundantly clear: **Money is not evil.** It's a tool. It's a resource. It's often a reward for providing genuine value. The Bible never condemns wealth itself—it condemns the love of money (1 Timothy 6:10) and the trust in riches (Proverbs 11:28).

"Money is a terrible master but an excellent servant."— **P.T. Barnum**

The distinction is critical: **When you pursue purpose, money follows you. But when you pursue money without purpose, you step into slavery.**

God is the one who gives you power to create wealth (Deuteronomy 8:18). He doesn't want you broke—He wants you blessed, but **for a reason**: to establish His covenant and advance His Kingdom. Your prosperity is meant to be a tool for redemption, not a trophy for recognition.

Your business is not just a profit center—it's a **purpose center**. It's a platform for influence. A pulpit in the marketplace. A place where heaven invades earth through your work, your witness, and your wisdom.

Mary Bell, a counselor of high performing executives, observes that achievement is the alcohol of our time. These days, the best people

don't abuse alcohol—they abuse their lives. They're drunk on success. Intoxicated by influence. Addicted to advancement.

But here's the beautiful paradox of Kingdom economics: **when you surrender your goals to God's mission, He takes care of your provision.** Not always in the way you expect. Not always on your timeline. But always according to His faithfulness.

"If God is your partner, make your plans big."— **D.L. Moody**

The question isn't whether you should have goals and pursue excellence—it's **whose goals** you're pursuing and **for whose glory** you're working.

The Throne Room of Your Heart

Imagine your life as a throne room. Majestic. Sovereign. But there's only one throne in the room—and only one person can sit on it.

Every single day, you choose who occupies that seat: God, money, ego, ambition, fear, comfort, or success. You can claim God is on the throne, but your calendar, your checkbook, and your conversations reveal the truth.

God doesn't want to share that throne. He's not interested in being your co-pilot, your consultant, or your advisor. He is King, or He is nothing at all.

A.W. Pink explains it simply: an 'idol' is anything which displaces God in my heart. It may be something quite harmless in itself, yet if it absorbs me, if it's given the first place in my affections and thoughts, it becomes an idol. It may be my business, a loved one, or even my service for Christ.

When Jesus is on the throne:

- Your business becomes a mission, not just a means
- Your work becomes worship, not just a way to make money

- Your wealth becomes a weapon for good, not a wall around your heart
- Your success serves others, not just your ego
- Your influence points to Him, not to you
- Your legacy outlives you because it's built on eternal foundations

But when mammon takes the throne:

- Purpose gets replaced with pressure
- Generosity dries up into mere calculation
- Peace disappears, replaced by perpetual anxiety
- Relationships become transactional
- Rest feels like wasted time
- Joy is conditional upon circumstances

D.A. Carson warns us that the heart of all idolatry in the Bible is the de-godding of God—removing God from His rightful place of supreme authority and affection in our lives.

You must ask yourself every single day: Who is on the throne of my life and business?

And if the answer isn't immediately and enthusiastically "Jesus," then you have some dethroning to do.

The Subtle Seduction of Success

Here's what makes idolatry in business so dangerous: **it's often wrapped in blessing.**

Unlike obvious sins that repel us, success idolatry attracts us. It looks good. It feels good. It's celebrated by culture and often applauded by the church. You're not breaking into houses—you're building businesses. You're not stealing—you're succeeding. You're not lazy—you're ambitious.

Moses warned Israel about this exact danger when he pointed out that success is likely to breed a spiritual complacency far more dangerous than failure. In the wake of success, people cease fearing God and begin to believe success is a birthright. Instead of gratitude, we forge a sense of entitlement.

The success for which we strive is not wrong, but it is a moral danger.

Timothy Keller notes that if your success is more than just success to you, if it's the measure of your value and worth, then accomplishment in one limited area of your life will make you believe that you have expertise in all others. This leads to all kinds of bad choices and decisions.

Think about how many successful Christian businesspeople have experienced moral failure, not in their poverty, but in their prosperity. Not when they were struggling, but when they were soaring. The very success they prayed for became the seduction they weren't prepared for.

"When success leads to complacency, complacency leads to compromise, and compromise leads to catastrophe."

The Four Responses to Disappointment

Even in success, disappointment is inevitable. Keller explains that when you finally realize no person, not even the best one, can give your soul all it needs, there are four things you can do:

1. **Blame the things that are disappointing you** and try to move on to better ones (that's the way of continued idolatry and spiritual addiction)
2. **Blame yourself** and beat yourself down (that's the way of self-loathing and shame)
3. **Blame the world** (that's how you get hard, cynical, and empty)

4. **Reorient the entire focus of your life on God** (that's the only path to lasting peace)

Which path are you on?

Living with a God-First Consciousness

Living with a God-first mindset doesn't mean you pray all day and neglect your business. It means **everything you do is filtered through faith, integrity, and Kingdom purpose.**

It means:

In Your Morning Routine:

- You start your day with prayer **before** plans
- You seek His face **before** you check your phone
- You worship **before** you work
- You align your heart with heaven **before** you engage with earth

In Your Boardroom:

- You invite God into decisions, not just dedications
- You seek wisdom from Scripture, not just strategy from consultants
- You consider Kingdom impact, not just financial implications
- You value character over credentials, integrity over innovation

In Your Finances:

- You tithe with joy, knowing it honors your Source
- You give generously, not reluctantly or under compulsion
- You steward resources as temporary manager, not ultimate owner
- You use profit to serve people, not replace God as provider

In Your Relationships:

- You treat employees, clients, and even competitors with Kingdom values

- You speak truth in love, not manipulation in marketing
- You serve rather than dominate, empower rather than exploit
- You build bridges, not just brands

Francis Chan challenges us directly: has your relationship with God changed the way you live your life? Not just your theology. Not just your church attendance. Your actual, daily life.

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters." — **Colossians 3:23**

This verse doesn't say work *moderately* or work *partially*. It says work with **all your heart**—but for the Lord, not for earthly approval or advancement.

Chan also reminds us that we never grow closer to God when we just live life—it takes deliberate pursuit and attentiveness. Spiritual intimacy doesn't happen by accident. It requires intentionality, discipline, and desire.

The Warning Against Lukewarm Leadership

One of the most sobering rebukes in Scripture comes from Revelation 3:15-16:

"I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth."

Francis Chan states it plainly: lukewarm living and claiming Christ's name simultaneously is utterly disgusting to God.

What does lukewarm look like in business?

- Praying for success but not pursuing holiness
- Quoting Scripture in marketing but ignoring it in management
- Tithing to look generous but hoarding to feel secure
- Attending church to network but avoiding accountability
- Claiming Christian values but practicing secular ethics

- Wanting God's blessing but not His lordship

Chan goes further: as he sees it, a lukewarm Christian is an oxymoron; there is no such thing. To put it plainly, churchgoers who are 'lukewarm' are not Christians. We will not see them in heaven.

That's not judgment—that's Jesus' own words in Matthew 7:21-23:

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'"

Notice—these people did impressive things. Religious things. Public things. But Jesus never knew them because they never truly surrendered to Him.

Closing Challenge: Choose Your God

Every day in the marketplace is a test of allegiance. God doesn't mind you being successful—**He designed you for it.** But He will not compete for your heart. He will not share the throne. He will not settle for second place in your priorities.

The question is not whether you believe in God. The question is:

"Is God truly your God?"

If He is, then let it show:

In How You Spend Your Time

Does your calendar reflect Kingdom priorities or cultural pressures? Do you make time for what matters to God or only what matters to your bottom line?

In How You Steward Your Resources

Do you give sacrificially or merely conveniently? Do you see yourself as owner or steward? Do your finances fund eternal purposes or just earthly pleasures?

In How You Lead Others

Do you empower people or exploit them? Do you serve their development or just their productivity? Do you care about their souls or just their skills?

In How You Make Decisions

Do you seek God's wisdom or just expert opinions? Do you move forward in faith or only when you have guarantees? Do you trust God's timing or force your own?

Francis Chan cuts to the heart: the point of your life is to point to Him. Whatever you are doing, God wants to be glorified, because this whole thing is His.

Don't exchange the glory of God for the temporary glitter of mammon.

God alone is worthy of your ultimate devotion. Not because He needs it, but because you need to give it. Your soul was designed for God-worship, and anything less will leave you empty, anxious, and ultimately unsatisfied.

"Put God first in everything you do, and watch Him bless everything you touch."

— **Bishop T.D. Jakes**

Who Is Your God? – Key Takeaways

1. Belief in God isn't the same as surrender to God.

Many believe in Jesus, but few allow Him to truly reign over their business, money, and decisions. Intellectual agreement is not the same as total allegiance.

2. Idolatry isn't ancient—it's modern and sophisticated.

Today's idols wear suits and carry briefcases. Success, status, money, control—anything you trust more than God is a false god, no matter how respectable it looks.

3. Mammon is not money—it's misplaced trust.

Jesus warned you can't serve both God and mammon. When wealth controls your choices more than wisdom from God, you've already chosen your master.

4. Your business is a platform, not your purpose.

God didn't bless you with influence to serve self. He called you to advance His Kingdom in the marketplace. Your business is meant to be a mission field, not just a money machine.

5. The throne of your life only has room for one.

Every day, someone or something sits there. If it's not God, it's an idol—and idols always disappoint, always demand more, and never deliver lasting satisfaction.

6. Living God-first means leading Kingdom-first.

Put God before profit. Pray before planning. Seek wisdom before strategy. Use business to serve people, not just margins. Make decisions for eternity, not just efficiency.

7. Success without surrender is spiritual danger.

The very blessings you pray for can become the idols that destroy you if they're not surrendered to God's lordship.

8. Lukewarm commitment isn't commitment at all.

You cannot serve God halfheartedly and expect full blessing. He demands all of you because He gave all of Himself.

Daily Reminder

"Is God truly my God—or have I given that place to something else?"

Ask yourself this question every morning. Answer it honestly. And then live accordingly.

Because at the end of your life, you won't be evaluated by your profit margin, your market share, or your company's growth trajectory.

You'll be evaluated by one simple question:

"What did you do with what I gave you?"

And when you stand before the King of Kings, will you have built a kingdom for yourself, or advanced the Kingdom of God?

The throne is waiting for its rightful King.

Who is sitting on it today?

Trusting God in Your Business

Don't Trust "Horses" or the System

"Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God."

— **Psalm 20:7 (NIV)**

Introduction: What Are You Trusting In?

As Christian business leaders, we don't ride into meetings on chariots or saddle up horses before a product launch—but make no mistake: we still face the same core temptation the psalmist warned against. We're often tempted to trust in the modern equivalents of horses and chariots: financial reserves, market trends, strategic partnerships, brand recognition, business acumen, our networks, our degrees, our experience, and our execution.

The message of Psalm 20:7 is timeless and cuts through every generation: **our true trust must be in the Lord—not in the tools of the world.**

In business, it's dangerously easy to confuse confidence in strategy with dependence on God. But they are not the same thing. As Pastor Tony Evans once said, "Faith is acting like God is telling the truth." In business, that means trusting God's principles even when the world tells you they don't make sense, even when the spreadsheet says otherwise, even when conventional wisdom screams that you're making a mistake.

The question isn't whether you believe God exists. The question is: **When the pressure is on, who are you really trusting?**

Let's explore what it looks like to fully trust God rather than worldly systems in your business life, and why this distinction could be the difference between building something temporary and building something eternal.

The Ancient Temptation in Modern Dress

In ancient times, the strength of an army was measured by its chariots and horses. These were the cutting-edge military technology of the day—expensive, powerful, intimidating. Nations rose and fell based on the size and sophistication of their cavalry. When Pharaoh pursued the Israelites to the Red Sea, he came with 600 of his best chariots (Exodus 14:7). That was overwhelming force. That was supposed to guarantee victory.

But God had other plans.

Today, our "chariots and horses" look different, but the temptation is identical:

- **Financial reserves** – "As long as I have six months of operating capital, I'm secure"
- **Strategic partnerships** – "This connection will open all the right doors"
- **Market research** – "The data shows this will work"
- **Business degrees and credentials** – "My MBA from [prestigious school] validates my decisions"
- **Technology and systems** – "Our CRM, our automation, our AI tools will solve everything"
- **Personal talent and work ethic** – "I'm smart enough and work hard enough to make this succeed"

None of these things are wrong in themselves. God gives us wisdom to use tools, build systems, and leverage resources. But when our **confidence** shifts from God to these tools, we've crossed a dangerous line.

"Basically, there are two paths you can walk: faith or fear. It's impossible to simultaneously trust God and not trust God."

— Charles Stanley

You're either trusting God, or you're trusting something else. There is no middle ground. You can't hedge your bets with heaven.

Gideon's Army: When Less Is More with God

One of the most powerful illustrations of this principle comes from Judges 7, where Gideon faced an impossible battle against the massive Midianite army. The Midianites and their allies were described as being "thick as locusts" with camels "as numerous as the sand on the seashore" (Judges 7:12). It was an overwhelming force.

Gideon began with 32,000 troops—already significantly outnumbered—but God told him that was too many.

"You have too many men for me to deliver Midian into their hands. In order that Israel may not boast against me that her own strength has saved her..."

—Judges 7:2 (NIV)

Think about that. God didn't say, "You don't have enough men." He said, "You have **too many**."

God then proceeded to trim Gideon's army down—first to 10,000, then ultimately to just **300 men**. Three hundred against tens of thousands. The math didn't make sense. The strategy seemed suicidal. By every military standard, Gideon should have retreated, negotiated, or surrendered.

But God had a purpose: **So that everyone would know the victory was from God—not from human strength, strategy, or numbers.**

When Gideon and his 300 men—equipped with nothing but trumpets, empty jars, and torches—surrounded the Midianite camp and created chaos, God caused the enemy to turn on each other in confusion. Israel won a stunning victory, and no one could claim it was because of military prowess or superior numbers.

The Business Application

As a Christian entrepreneur or leader, God may sometimes strip away your "troops":

- A key contract falls through at the last minute

- A loan doesn't get approved despite perfect qualifications
- A critical team member resigns unexpectedly
- A partnership you were counting on dissolves
- Economic conditions shift dramatically against you
- Resources you thought were guaranteed suddenly vanish

In those moments, you have a choice: panic because your "horses" have been removed, or recognize that **God is positioning you for a Gideon moment**—where He alone gets the glory.

"God will often allow you to be put in a position where you have nothing left but Him—so you'll know He is enough."

— **Craig Groeschel, Pastor & Leadership Author**

God isn't interested in you having a good story about how smart you were. He's interested in you having an *impossible* story about how faithful He is.

Trusting God vs. Trusting Business Systems

Many Christian businesspeople are tempted to place their ultimate trust in their systems: their spreadsheets, projections, marketing funnels, KPIs, sales pipelines, and business models. These things are not evil—**they're tools**—but they become dangerous when they become **idols**.

The Bible is crystal clear on this point:

"Those who trust in their riches will fall, but the righteous will thrive like a green leaf." — **Proverbs 11:28 (NIV)**

Notice the contrast: those who trust in riches will **fall**, but those who trust in God will **thrive**. Not just survive—thrive. Like a green leaf that draws its life from deep roots connected to living water.

The Rich Young Ruler: A Cautionary Tale

Jesus taught the same principle to the rich young ruler in Mark 10:17-22. This man had everything the world admires: wealth, influence,

moral uprightness, and obedience to the law. He came to Jesus asking what he must do to inherit eternal life.

Jesus looked at him with love and said, "You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me."

The text says the man went away sad, "for he had great possessions."

It wasn't that he had wealth—it was that wealth **had him**. His security, his identity, his confidence rested in his riches rather than in God. When forced to choose between his portfolio and his purpose, between his assets and his Savior, he chose the temporary over the eternal.

How many Christian business leaders today are making the same choice, just more slowly and subtly?

"Trusting God means looking beyond what we can see to what God sees."

— **Charles Stanley**

It's not wrong to have money. But it is wrong to trust in money instead of God.

When you find yourself more anxious about cash flow than about character, more concerned about profit margins than about people, more focused on revenue than on righteousness—you've replaced trust in God with trust in systems.

"I don't want to be rich—I want to be trustworthy. If God can trust me with it, He can give me as much as He wants."

— **David Green, Founder of Hobby Lobby**

That's the heart posture God is looking for: not people who reject prosperity, but people who hold it loosely and steward it faithfully.

The Illusion of Control

One of the most subtle forms of misplaced trust is the illusion that we are in control of outcomes. We make detailed plans, create sophisticated projections, and execute with precision—all while unconsciously believing that our skill and effort determine the results.

James addresses this directly in his epistle:

"Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a town and spend a year there, doing business and making money.' Yet you do not even know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes." — James 4:13-14 (NIV)

James isn't condemning planning—he's condemning the arrogance of planning **as if we control the outcomes**. The next verse makes this clear:

"Instead, you ought to say, 'If the Lord wishes, we will live and do this or that.'" — James 4:15 (NIV)

The problem isn't making plans. The problem is making plans as if the future lies entirely in our hands, as if God is merely a bystander to our brilliance.

The Entrepreneur's Trap

Entrepreneurs are particularly susceptible to this because success often requires a certain level of confidence and drive. You have to believe in your vision. You have to persist through obstacles. You have to make bold decisions with incomplete information.

But there's a crucial difference between **holy confidence** in God's calling and **arrogant presumption** about your abilities.

- **Holy confidence** says: "God has called me to this, so I will move forward boldly while remaining dependent on Him."
- **Arrogant presumption** says: "I've figured this out, so success is inevitable if I just execute well."

"God takes full responsibility for the life wholly devoted to Him."

— Charles Stanley

Read that again. God takes **full responsibility**. Not partial. Not conditional. Not "if you do everything perfectly." Full responsibility for the life **wholly devoted** to Him.

The question is: Are you wholly devoted, or are you hedging your bets?

Real Stories: Trust in Action

Let me share a personal story that illustrates this principle in a tangible way.

Early in our business journey, our finances were extremely tight. We had been faithful in our giving, honoring our commitments, and trusting God with our decisions—but the bank account didn't reflect prosperity. In fact, we were in a season where we had to make choices about what bills to pay when.

During this time, our dining room chairs—the ones we used not just for family meals but also for hosting guests and conducting business meetings in our home—were literally falling apart. Screws were loose, wood was cracking, and sitting in them was becoming precarious. We needed new chairs, but there was simply no money for furniture.

We didn't broadcast our need. We didn't hint to friends or post about it on social media. We simply prayed and continued to trust God with our circumstances.

Not long after, someone who didn't know our need—someone who had no way of knowing about our broken chairs—showed up at our door with a dozen beautiful wooden chairs. They explained that God had put it on their heart to give them to us, and they had to act on that prompting.

These chairs weren't just functional replacements. They were **better than anything we would have purchased ourselves** if we'd had the money. They were solid, beautifully crafted, and perfect for our needs.

We were stunned. And more importantly, we were reminded of a crucial truth:

Trusting God Doesn't Mean Sitting Idle

Trusting God doesn't mean sitting idle and doing nothing. It means obeying Him first, working diligently in the calling He's given you, and watching Him provide in ways you couldn't engineer.

We continued running our business, serving our clients, and honoring our commitments. We didn't stop working. We didn't stop planning. But our confidence wasn't in our work—it was in our God.

"God is not a resource. He is the source."

— **John Bevere, Author & Minister**

There's a profound difference between treating God as a resource to tap into when you need help versus recognizing Him as **the source** from which everything flows. When He is your source, you stop being anxious about resources.

The True Source of Provision

Jesus made this point abundantly clear in the Sermon on the Mount:

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." — **Matthew 6:33 (NKJV)**

Notice the order: **seek first the Kingdom**, and the provision follows. Not the other way around. Not "get your finances in order first, then you can afford to seek the Kingdom." Not "build your business first, then you'll have time for God's purposes."

First means first.

When we put God's purposes first in our business—honoring Him in our operations, tithing faithfully, treating employees with integrity and dignity, making ethical decisions even when they're costly, serving

customers with excellence, and conducting business according to Kingdom values—**God takes responsibility for our provision.**

This doesn't mean you'll never face financial challenges. It doesn't mean every month will show growth. It doesn't mean you won't have to make difficult decisions or work through lean seasons.

But it does mean you can have **peace in the process** because you know who ultimately controls the outcome.

"Our heavenly Father understands our disappointment, suffering, pain, fear, and doubt. He is always there to encourage our hearts and help us understand that He's sufficient for all our needs." — **Charles Stanley**

The Widow's Oil: Starting With What You Have

The story of the widow in 2 Kings 4:1-7 powerfully illustrates this principle. She came to Elisha in desperate circumstances—her husband had died, she was in debt, and creditors were coming to take her two sons as slaves.

Elisha asked her a simple question: "What do you have in your house?"

Her answer revealed her perceived poverty: "Your servant has nothing there at all, except a small jar of olive oil."

Nothing... except.

That "except" was everything. Because God doesn't need much to work with—He just needs **what you have** offered in **obedient faith**.

Elisha instructed her to go borrow empty jars from all her neighbors—and not just a few. Then she was to pour her small jar of oil into all the borrowed jars.

As she obeyed, the oil kept flowing. Jar after jar after jar was filled until there were no more empty containers. The oil stopped only when the vessels ran out.

She sold the oil, paid her debts, and had enough left to live on.

The miracle wasn't in what she had. The miracle was in what God did with what she gave Him.

As entrepreneurs, we often face our own kinds of scarcity:

- Not enough capital
- Not enough connections
- Not enough experience
- Not enough time
- Not enough resources

But the widow's story encourages us to **start with what we have**, however little it seems, and trust God to multiply our efforts as we obey His guidance.

"If God tells you to run your head through a brick wall, run to the brick wall and God will make a hole in it." — **Charles Stanley**

That's the kind of trust God is calling us to—not reckless presumption, but radical obedience that defies conventional wisdom because we know God's character.

Small Things Matter: Trust in the Details

Some people operate with a two-tier theology: "I trust God for the big stuff—the life-or-death decisions, the major financial crises, the critical turning points. But He's too busy for the small things. I can handle those on my own."

That's faulty theology, and it reveals a fundamental misunderstanding of who God is.

If Jesus, the Son of God, said:

"The Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing..." — **John 5:19 (NIV)**

Then **who are we** to think we can manage even small things without God?

If Jesus—who created the universe, who spoke galaxies into existence, who holds all things together by the power of His word—lived in complete dependence on the Father for every word and deed, how much more should we?

Every Detail Matters to God

Whether it's a decision about:

- Which candidate to hire
- How to handle a challenging client situation
- Which direction to take your product development
- What to say in a difficult conversation
- How to allocate limited resources
- When to expand or when to contract

Trust God in every detail.

"Talk to God. Trust Him. Wait for Him to work."

— **Charles Stanley**

That three-part formula is profound in its simplicity:

1. **Talk to God** – Bring every decision, every concern, every opportunity to Him in prayer
2. **Trust Him** – Believe that He hears, He cares, and He's working even when you can't see it
3. **Wait for Him to work** – Don't force outcomes; allow His timing and His methods to prevail

The anxiety in business often comes not from lack of options but from trying to manufacture outcomes in our timing rather than trusting God's timing and provision.

Obey God, Not the World

The early apostles modeled courage that should inspire every Christian in business. When ordered by religious authorities to stop preaching about Jesus—to essentially shut down their "business" of proclaiming the gospel—Peter and the apostles boldly replied:

"We must obey God rather than human beings!" — Acts 5:29 (NIV)

That wasn't a comfortable decision. It wasn't the path of least resistance. It certainly wasn't good for their "career prospects" from a worldly standpoint. But it was obedience—and obedience to God always trumps compliance with human systems.

In business, this kind of courage may mean:

- **Walking away from a lucrative partnership** that conflicts with your values
- **Refusing to compromise on ethics** when others are cutting corners
- **Being transparent** when deception would be easier and more profitable
- **Honoring commitments** even when it costs you financially
- **Treating people with dignity** when it would be cheaper to exploit them
- **Keeping your word** when breaking it would benefit you
- **Standing for truth** when lies are more convenient

"Obey God and leave all the consequences to Him." — Charles Stanley

That's perhaps one of the most liberating principles in Kingdom business: **You are responsible for obedience; God is responsible for outcomes.**

You don't have to figure out how obedience will work out financially. You don't have to see the path forward before you take the step of faith. You don't have to guarantee the results.

Your job is to obey. God's job is everything else.

The False Security of Compromise

The world offers a seductive bargain: "Just compromise a little on your convictions, and you'll have security, success, and stability."

But that security is an illusion. Proverbs 10:9 declares:

"Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but he who makes his ways crooked will be found out."

Integrity provides **true security** because it's grounded in unchanging truth and God's faithfulness. Compromise provides only **temporary advantage** that ultimately crumbles because it's built on shifting sand.

When you choose obedience to God over compliance with worldly wisdom, you may lose:

- Certain opportunities
- Some potential profits
- Favorable opinions from some people
- Short-term advantages

But you gain:

- God's favor and blessing
- A clear conscience
- Lasting relationships built on trust
- A legacy of faithfulness
- Peace that transcends circumstances
- The joy of partnership with God in His purposes

"Obedience to God will always be more rewarding than compliance with worldly systems."

When the Fire Comes: Standing Like Shadrach

One of the most dramatic examples of trusting God in the face of overwhelming pressure comes from Daniel 3, where Shadrach,

Meshach, and Abednego stood before King Nebuchadnezzar facing a literal furnace.

They had refused to bow down to the king's golden image—a clear act of civil disobedience based on their convictions. Now they faced the consequences: death by fire.

The king, in his fury, gave them one last chance. But their response still inspires courage thousands of years later:

*"O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king. **But even if he does not, we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.**"*
— **Daniel 3:16-18 (ESV, emphasis added)**

Read that highlighted phrase again: **"But even if he does not..."**

That's the ultimate expression of trust. It's not:

- "God will deliver us, so we're not really taking a risk"
- "We have insider information that we'll be fine"
- "We did the math and calculated we'll survive"

It's: **"God CAN deliver us, and we believe He WILL—but even if He doesn't deliver us the way we hope, we still won't compromise."**

The Business Parallel

As a Christian businessperson, you will face fires:

- **Market fires** – Economic downturns, industry disruptions, competitive threats
- **Financial fires** – Cash flow crises, unexpected expenses, deals falling through
- **Relationship fires** – Betrayals, conflicts, partnerships dissolving

- **Reputation fires** – False accusations, misunderstandings, attacks on your character
- **Legal fires** – Lawsuits, regulatory challenges, compliance issues

The question isn't whether you'll face fires. The question is: **Will you compromise when the heat gets turned up?**

Will you cut ethical corners to save the business?

Will you lie to protect your reputation?

Will you betray your values to secure the deal?

Will you compromise your faith to please people?

Or will you stand firm and say, "God can deliver me from this, and I believe He will—but even if He doesn't deliver me the way I expect, I will not bow to this pressure"?

Here's what happened to Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego: They were thrown into the furnace, heated seven times hotter than normal. And in that furnace—in the very place of their greatest trial—**they were not alone.**

The king looked into the fire and exclaimed, "I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods!" (Daniel 3:25)

God was with them in the fire.

When they came out, not a hair on their heads was singed. Their robes weren't scorched. They didn't even smell like smoke.

The fire destroyed only their bonds—the ropes that had bound them. Everything else remained intact.

"God is with you in the fire. And even if He doesn't deliver you how or when you expect, He's still worthy of your trust."

Sometimes God delivers you FROM the fire. Sometimes He delivers you THROUGH the fire. But He is always WITH you IN the fire.

Faith vs. Fear: The Daily Choice

"Basically, there are two paths you can walk: faith or fear. It's impossible to simultaneously trust God and not trust God." — **Charles Stanley**

Every single day in business, you face this choice: Will you walk the path of faith or the path of fear?

The Path of Fear Looks Like:

- Making decisions based primarily on worst-case scenarios
- Hoarding resources "just in case"
- Compromising values to secure outcomes
- Lying awake at night consumed by anxiety
- Trying to control every variable
- Being paralyzed by uncertainty
- Viewing every challenge as a threat
- Constantly second-guessing decisions

The Path of Faith Looks Like:

- Making decisions rooted in God's principles and promises
- Giving generously because you trust God's provision
- Standing on convictions even when it's costly
- Sleeping in peace despite uncertainties (Psalm 4:8)
- Surrendering control to God
- Moving forward despite incomplete information
- Viewing challenges as opportunities for God to work
- Having confidence in God's character and faithfulness

Notice the stark difference: fear leads to contraction, anxiety, and misery. Faith leads to expansion, peace, and joy—even in difficulty.

"Fear stifles our thinking and actions. It creates indecisiveness that results in stagnation." — **Charles Stanley**

Fear says, "I must control this or it will fall apart."

Faith says, "God is in control, so I can rest in His faithfulness."

Fear says, "I can't afford to give, to forgive, to trust."

Faith says, "I can't afford NOT to, because God's ways always prove faithful."

Practical Signs You're Trusting the Wrong Thing

How do you know if you've shifted your trust from God to your business systems, your strategies, or your own abilities? Here are some diagnostic questions:

Financial Indicators:

- Does a fluctuation in your bank balance affect your peace more than your prayer life does?
- Do you check financial dashboards more frequently than you check in with God?
- Would a financial setback cause you to question God's faithfulness or your business model?

Emotional Indicators:

- When business is good, do you feel proud and self-sufficient?
- When business is struggling, do you feel anxious and abandoned?
- Does your sense of security rise and fall with your revenue?

Decision-Making Indicators:

- Do you make decisions primarily based on financial projections or on seeking God's wisdom?
- Have you ever avoided obeying God because it seemed financially unwise?
- Do you consult spreadsheets and advisors more than Scripture and prayer?

Relationship Indicators:

- Do you value people primarily for what they can do for your business?

- Are you willing to sacrifice relationships for profit?
- Do you have authentic accountability or only strategic networking?

If you answered yes to several of these, you may be trusting horses instead of God—and it's time for a realignment.

Waiting on God's Timing

One of the most challenging aspects of trusting God in business is waiting for His timing. We live in a culture of instant gratification, rapid pivots, and "move fast and break things." But God rarely operates on our timeline.

"Our willingness to wait reveals the value we place on the object we're waiting for." — **Charles Stanley**

If you're unwilling to wait for God's direction, it reveals that you value your timeline more than His wisdom. It shows that you trust your urgency more than His sovereignty.

Biblical Examples of Waiting:

- **Abraham** waited 25 years for the promised son
- **Joseph** waited 13 years from his dreams to their fulfillment
- **Moses** waited 40 years in the desert before leading the exodus
- **David** waited approximately 15 years from anointing to coronation
- **Jesus** waited 30 years before beginning His public ministry

If God made these giants of faith wait, why would we expect to be exempt from seasons of waiting?

"When we surrender to His timing, He does mighty things in and for us, according to His will and His timing. God acts on behalf of those who wait for Him." — **Charles Stanley**

The waiting isn't wasted time—it's preparation time. It's character-building time. It's trust-developing time.

Success Is Not the Goal—Faithfulness Is

"Success is not the goal. Faithfulness is. If you're faithful, God defines the success." — **Rick Warren, Author of The Purpose Driven Life**

The business world measures success by:

- Revenue and profit
- Market share and growth
- Brand recognition and influence
- Awards and accolades
- Exit multiples and valuations

God measures success by:

- **Obedience** to His calling and commands
- **Faithfulness** in stewardship
- **Character** demonstrated under pressure
- **Kingdom impact** through your platform
- **Eternal fruit** that outlasts your life

You can be wildly successful by the world's standards and be a complete failure in God's eyes. Or you can be seemingly unsuccessful by earthly metrics and be highly successful in the only economy that ultimately matters—the Kingdom economy.

"Will God ever ask you to do something you are not able to do? The answer is yes—all the time—because that is how you learn to rely on Him."

— **Henry Blackaby**

God intentionally positions you in situations beyond your ability so you'll learn to depend on His ability. He gives you assignments bigger than your talent so you'll rely on His power. He calls you to ventures that require His intervention so that when success comes, everyone knows it was Him.

Final Thoughts: Who Holds Your Future?

Jesus, in His final moments on the cross, gave us the ultimate picture of trust:

"Father, into Your hands I commit my spirit." — **Luke 23:46 (NIV)**

Even in death—perhaps especially in death—Jesus trusted His Father.

Can you trust God with your business? With your finances? With your team? With your future?

Not just intellectually—practically. Daily. In the decisions that matter. When the pressure is on. When the outcome is uncertain. When the path forward is unclear.

"If the Lord says to give more than you think you are able to give, know that He will provide for you. Whether things are sailing smoothly or the bottom has dropped out, He is always trustworthy." — **Charles Stanley**

God is not calling you to understand everything. He's calling you to trust Him in everything.

He's not asking you to figure out how it will all work out. He's asking you to take the next step of obedience and let Him work out the details.

He's not requiring you to have all the answers. He's requiring you to follow the One who does.

The Ultimate Question

So here's the question you must answer today, this week, this year:

When it really matters—when your business is on the line, when the decision could cost you, when the pressure is intense—who are you trusting?

- Are you trusting your education, experience, and expertise?
- Are you trusting your systems, strategies, and software?
- Are you trusting your team, your advisors, and your network?
- Are you trusting your capital, your credit, and your contingency plans?

Or are you trusting **God**?

Don't trust horses.

Don't trust chariots.

Don't trust systems.

Don't trust riches.

Don't trust yourself.

Trust in the name of the Lord your God.

Because at the end of the day, when all the strategies have been executed and all the resources have been deployed, the question that matters most is this:

Did you trust God with all your heart, or did you lean on your own understanding?

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." — Proverbs 3:5-6 (ESV)

That's not just a nice verse for your office wall. That's the operating system for Kingdom business. That's the foundation for lasting success. That's the secret to peace in the storm.

Trust God.

Obey Him.

Leave the consequences to Him.

And watch Him do what only He can do.

Key Takeaways

1. Modern "horses and chariots" look different but the temptation is the same

We trust in financial reserves, strategic partnerships, market research, credentials, technology, and talent instead of trusting in God.

2. God often reduces our resources so we'll recognize Him as our Source

Like Gideon's army reduced to 300, God strips away what we're tempted to trust so we'll depend entirely on Him.

3. Tools are not evil—trusting them more than God is

Business systems, strategies, and resources are useful tools, but when they become the object of our trust, they become idols.

4. You cannot simultaneously trust God and not trust God

There are only two paths: faith or fear. You're either trusting God's character and promises, or you're trusting something else.

5. True security comes from integrity, not compromise

The world promises security through compromise, but lasting peace comes only from walking in obedience to God.

6. God is with you IN the fire, even when He doesn't deliver you FROM it

Like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, you may not avoid the trial, but you'll never face it alone.



Key Takeaways - continued

7. Waiting on God's timing reveals what you truly value

Your willingness to wait for God's direction shows whether you trust His wisdom more than your urgency.

8. Success is not the goal—faithfulness is

God doesn't measure success by revenue and growth. He measures it by obedience, stewardship, and Kingdom impact.

9. You're responsible for obedience; God is responsible for outcomes

Your job is to follow God's leading. His job is to work out the results. Don't confuse the two.

10. The question isn't "Do you believe in God?" but "Are you trusting God?"

Belief is intellectual agreement. Trust is active dependence. Only trust transforms how you do business.



Daily Declaration

"Today, I choose to trust God more than my strategies, His character more than my circumstances, and His promises more than my plans. My confidence is not in what I can see or control, but in the faithfulness of the One who holds my future."

Make this declaration every morning before you check your email, review your financial

Sowing and Reaping for Business Owners

Understanding God's Economic System of Increase

Introduction: A Kingdom Principle with Earthly Impact

Ray Kroc mortgaged his house to invest in McDonald's. Howard Schultz sold his house to buy Starbucks. Sam Walton borrowed money to open his first Walmart store. Every business success story starts with someone who sacrificed their time, money, and energy to build something that people would value.

Those who managed to do so succeeded. Those who didn't are forgotten.

The world is a global value marketplace where people and companies constantly exchange values. And there's one fundamental truth that governs this marketplace—both in the natural realm and in the spiritual realm:

You need to sow if you want to reap.

You need to give, and only then will you get a chance to receive.

But here's what most business owners miss: **In the Kingdom of God, economic success is not primarily based on luck, hustle, or manipulation. It is based on principles—eternal laws set in motion by the Creator of all things.** One of the most foundational principles of Kingdom Economics is the law of sowing and reaping.

From Genesis to Revelation, the Bible is filled with agricultural metaphors that reveal spiritual truths. Why? Because sowing and reaping is universal—it transcends culture, time, and geography. Every farmer knows that if you want a harvest, you must plant seed. And not just any seed—you must plant **good seed in good soil**, and you must wait **patiently**. The same is true in business.

"You can't expect to reap where you haven't sown. Faith doesn't override seedtime and harvest—it activates it." — **Dr. Bill Winston, Pastor and Founder of the Joseph Business School**

This isn't prosperity gospel manipulation. This isn't a formula to get rich quick. This is the bedrock principle of how God designed His universe to function—and if you're a business owner who wants to align with Heaven's economy, you must understand and apply this law.

Let's dig deeper into how business owners can align their enterprises with this divine principle and experience supernatural increase.

1. The Biblical Foundation of Sowing and Reaping

The law of sowing and reaping is established early in Scripture, immediately after the flood that destroyed the ancient world:

"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease." — **Genesis 8:22 (NIV)**

This promise was made by God to Noah after the flood. Notice the **permanence** of this law—it is not seasonal or optional; it is **foundational**. Just as gravity holds true whether you believe in it or not, so does the principle of sowing and reaping. It applies in agriculture, in relationships, in giving, and yes, in business.

This isn't a New Testament innovation or a church fundraising gimmick—this is a creation ordinance as old as the earth itself.

Paul reiterates this principle in the New Testament with crystal clarity:

"Do not be deceived: God is not mocked. A man reaps what he sows." — **Galatians 6:7 (NIV)**

The Amplified Bible makes it even more explicit: "A man **only** reaps what he sows." You can't plant corn and harvest wheat. You can't sow dishonesty and reap trust. You can't plant greed and harvest generosity.

The Universal Nature of This Law

This principle includes:

- Your **attitude** in the workplace
- Your **effort** and diligence
- Your **investments** of time, money, and energy
- Your **words** spoken over your business and employees
- How you **treat** your employees, clients, vendors, and even competitors
- The **integrity** you demonstrate when no one is watching
- The **generosity** you show when resources are scarce

Joyce Meyer explains it powerfully: everything we do is a seed we sow. If you're friendly, you're more likely to have friends. If you sow seeds of mercy to others, then when you need mercy, you can expect a harvest of mercy in your life.

"Everything that we do really is a seed that we sow. The thing that I really like about seed, time, and harvest? I like it because I feel like it gives me a measure of control over my life." — Joyce Meyer

This is empowering, not manipulative. God has given us **choice**. We can choose what we sow, knowing that the harvest will correspond to our seeds.

2. Sowing in the Marketplace: What Does It Look Like?

In business, you are sowing seeds every single day—whether you realize it or not. The question isn't whether you're sowing; the question is **what** you're sowing and **where** you're sowing it.

a. **Sowing Financially: The Seed of Generosity**

Giving into God's Kingdom from your business—whether through tithing, offerings, or generosity toward employees and the poor—is sowing. When you release resources into God's hands, you position your business for supernatural return.

Robert Morris, who has extensively taught on this principle, explains:

"If you want to break the back of poverty, generosity is your weapon."
— **Pastor Robert Morris, The Blessed Life**

And he adds this profound truth:

"There's no greater adventure on earth than simply living the life of generosity and abundance that is available to all of God's people—but that so few ever dare to live. It is a journey of reward. It is the blessed life."

Tithing from your business isn't just about obedience—it's about **positioning**. It's about declaring that God is your Source, not your strategies. It's about putting Him first in your finances, not just your theology.

Morris also makes this crucial point about tithing:

"Tithing isn't really giving—it's returning."

When we tithe, we're acknowledging that 100% belongs to God. We're stewards, not owners. And when we return the first tenth to Him, we're declaring our trust in His provision for the remaining ninety percent.

Real-World Example

A Christian entrepreneur tithed faithfully from his business revenue, even during a severe downturn when every dollar seemed critical for survival. His accountant advised against it. His business partner questioned it. But he remained obedient.

Within one year, he landed a contract that tripled his income—a contract he had no business getting based on his company's

size and experience. The client later revealed they chose his company because of something they couldn't quite explain—they just had "peace" about the decision.

He sowed in famine—and reaped in abundance.

b. Sowing in Excellence and Service: The Seed of Reputation

Every act of excellent service is a seed. When you go the extra mile for a customer, you're sowing a reputation. When you keep your word with a vendor even when it costs you, you're sowing trust. When you honor contracts even when circumstances change unfavorably, you're sowing integrity.

"Doing the right thing doesn't always make us look good or feel appreciated. Sometimes doing the righteous thing will make other people hate us. Our choice is about God—His glory and honor is evident in our right decisions."

— **From Biblical Teaching on Sowing Righteousness**

The Chick-fil-A Illustration

Chick-fil-A is known not just for their chicken, but for their culture of honor, service, and excellence. Their commitment to Kingdom values has created customer loyalty and financial success that defies conventional business wisdom.

They close on Sundays—forefeiting an estimated **\$1.3 billion** in annual revenue. That's not just a business decision; that's a **sowing decision**. They're sowing honor to God, rest for their employees, and conviction in the marketplace.

And what do they reap? They have the highest sales per restaurant of any fast-food chain in America—despite being open one fewer day per week than competitors. Their average store generates nearly **double** what a McDonald's generates,

and they have remarkable employee retention and customer satisfaction.

That's the harvest of sowing excellence rooted in Kingdom values.

c. Sowing in Relationships: The Seed of Loyalty

God cares deeply about how we treat people. Employees are not merely tools for profit—they are people made in God's image with eternal souls, unique gifting, and inherent dignity.

When you invest in your team's growth, create a healthy culture, value their contribution beyond their productivity, and treat them as partners rather than resources, you sow loyalty, creativity, innovation, and productivity that money cannot buy.

"Build people, and the people will build the business."
— **Zig Ziglar**

The most successful Kingdom businesses aren't those with the best strategies—they're those with the most developed people. When you sow into your team's personal growth, spiritual development, and professional capabilities, you reap an engaged workforce that goes beyond job descriptions because they genuinely care about the mission.

3. The Quantity and Quality of Your Sowing Matters

Paul doesn't just teach that we reap what we sow—he also teaches that we reap **how** we sow:

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously." — **2 Corinthians 9:6 (NIV)**

This is a fundamental agricultural principle that transfers directly to business and finance. If you want to harvest lots of corn, you're going to have to plant lots of seed. Don't throw a handful of seeds into the ground and expect a bumper crop. It doesn't work that way.

The Nature of Your Harvest Reflects Your Sowing

The harvest you reap is of the **same nature** as the seed you sow. As one commentary explains: if you plant tomato seeds, you don't expect to eventually harvest green beans; you expect to eventually harvest tomatoes. Similarly, the most natural expectation of sowing material blessings is to reap blessings of that same nature.

This is supported throughout Scripture. Looking at 2 Corinthians 9:11, Paul says to generous givers:

"You will be enriched in every way for great generosity."

Every way. That includes both spiritual enrichment **and** material enrichment.

The Attitude Behind Your Sowing Matters

Robert Morris emphasizes this crucial point:

"Generosity is not a financial issue; it's a heart issue."

And he warns:

"God does not bless giving; rather, He blesses giving from a right heart attitude."

This is why Paul immediately follows his teaching on sowing and reaping with this instruction:

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." — 2 Corinthians 9:7 (NIV)

If you sow just so that you'll reap later, that's not generosity—it's really just selfishness masquerading as charity. The attitude of the heart matters more than the quantity of the gift itself.

Generosity Comes from Gratitude

Robert Morris shares a powerful story about Mary of Bethany, who poured expensive perfume worth a year's wages on Jesus' feet. Why such extravagant generosity?

"Generosity comes from gratitude. Grateful people are generous. If one of your family members was raised from the dead, would you be grateful? And do you think that might change the way you give to God?"

Mary's brother Lazarus had been raised from the dead two months earlier. Her extravagant sowing flowed from an overflow of gratitude—not from calculation or obligation.

When you truly understand what God has done for you—how He's delivered you, provided for you, blessed you, and saved you—generosity becomes not a duty but a **delight**.

4. Recognizing the Soil: Where Are You Planting?

Not every opportunity, partnership, or investment is good soil. In Kingdom Economics, **discernment** is as important as diligence.

Jesus taught extensively about different types of soil in the Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:1-23). The same seed produced dramatically different results depending on the soil:

- **Hard path** – No growth at all; seed stolen immediately
- **Rocky ground** – Quick growth but no depth; withers under pressure
- **Thorny ground** – Initial growth but choked out by competing priorities
- **Good soil** – Abundant harvest—thirty, sixty, or a hundredfold

Before sowing, a wise farmer examines the soil. Similarly, business owners must ask:

- Is this the right **market** for our product or service?
- Is this a **trustworthy partner** who shares our values?

- Does this opportunity **align** with our mission and convictions?
- Will this investment bear **Kingdom fruit** or just financial fruit?
- Is God leading us here, or are we forcing it?

Illustration: Values Over Profit

A Kingdom-minded business owner was presented with a lucrative contract that would have increased revenue by 40%. It was exactly what the company needed during a challenging season.

But there was a catch: the contract would require compromising on Sunday commitments to employees, misrepresenting certain product capabilities, and partnering with a company known for questionable ethics.

After prayer and consultation with advisors, the business owner declined. The financial projections looked terrible. The board was concerned. Some employees questioned the decision.

Three months later, a larger, values-aligned opportunity emerged—one that would not have been possible had they taken the compromising contract. The new opportunity didn't just match the declined contract; it exceeded it by 300%.

The delay became divine promotion.

Sometimes God will test whether you'll sow in bad soil for immediate gain or wait to sow in good soil for lasting harvest.

5. Reaping: Expectation and Patience

Once you've sown the seed, don't dig it up in fear or frustration. The Bible promises a harvest—but it also teaches the principle of **waiting**.

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."— **Galatians 6:9 (NIV)**

Kingdom entrepreneurs must cultivate **expectant patience**—faith that believes the harvest is coming combined with patience that trusts God's timing.

The Time Between Sowing and Reaping

Joyce Meyer emphasizes what she calls the often-overlooked middle part:

"When you plant your seed, whether it's a financial seed, or an attitude seed, or a thought seed, or a word seed, there is some time that goes by before you get a harvest. A farmer, when he plants his seed, he doesn't get a crop right away. He has to be patient."

The Bible describes the farmer keeping up "his patient vigil" over the seed, watering it, keeping the weeds pulled, taking care of it—all the while doing it in **hope** and in **faith** and in **belief** that he's going to get a harvest.

Just because you don't see immediate return doesn't mean nothing is happening. **God is working behind the scenes.**

The Harvest May Come in Unexpected Forms

Sometimes the harvest comes in unexpected ways:

- You may sow **money** and reap **favor**
- You may sow **kindness** and reap **contracts**
- You may sow **integrity** and reap **reputation**
- You may sow **forgiveness** and reap **peace**
- You may sow **time** and reap **influence**

God determines the form and timing of the harvest, but **He is faithful.**

One business owner sowed by giving away free consulting to a struggling nonprofit. He expected nothing in return—it was simply obedience to what God prompted. Two years later, a board member from that nonprofit became the CEO of a Fortune 500 company. The

first contract he awarded? To the business owner who had served his nonprofit with no expectation of return.

The harvest looked nothing like the seed—but it far exceeded it.

6. Multiplication: The Supernatural Factor

Unlike the world's economy, which is based on **exchange** (you give me this, I give you that), Kingdom Economics is based on **multiplication**. God can take a seed and multiply it far beyond what's reasonable or predictable.

"Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness." — 2 Corinthians 9:10 (NIV)

Notice the progressive nature of God's provision:

1. He **supplies** seed to the sower
2. He **increases** your store of seed
3. He **enlarges** the harvest of your righteousness

God is not just interested in blessing your business; He wants to **enlarge your capacity to be a blessing**.

Four Aspects of the Harvest

When we sow bountifully, what does the harvest look like? Scripture reveals at least four dimensions:

1. Greater Ability to Give

The first aspect of the harvest is an even greater ability to be generous. The more you give, the more you will be able to give. And if it is more blessed to give than to receive, you can see what a harvest of **joy** this will mean.

2. God Receives More Glory

When people see generous givers, they don't just see the giver—they see the Giver behind the giver. God gets glory when His people give generously because it displays that their God is an inexhaustible Giver.

3. Needs Are Met

The harvest includes the joy of seeing the needs of God's people and God's work supplied. When you sow generously, you participate in meeting real needs in the world.

4. Greater Fruitfulness in Every Area

Robert Morris testifies:

"When God changes your heart from selfishness to generosity, every part of your life journey is affected."

The harvest of generosity touches your marriage, your family, your health, your relationships, and yes, your business. Everything prospers when you align with God's economy.

7. A Caution on What You Sow: The Law Works Both Ways

Here's what makes the law of sowing and reaping sobering: **it's neutral**. It works whether you sow good or bad seed.

The Scriptures are clear:

"Whoever sows injustice reaps calamity."— **Proverbs 22:8**

"The one who sows righteousness reaps a sure reward."— **Proverbs 11:18**

This principle works both positively and negatively:

Negative Sowing Produces Negative Harvest

- Sow **dishonesty**—reap mistrust and damaged reputation
- Sow **greed**—reap loss and broken relationships
- Sow **manipulation**—reap suspicion and isolation
- Sow **harsh treatment**—reap resentment and rebellion
- Sow **corner-cutting**—reap exposure and consequences
- Sow **selfishness**—reap loneliness and emptiness

Galatians 6:8 makes this explicit:

"Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction."

As business owners in the Kingdom, we must take inventory of what kind of seed we are sowing daily. **The harvest we experience is often the result of seeds we forgot we planted.**

The Danger of Deception

Paul warns: "Do not be deceived." Why? Because it's easy to deceive ourselves about this principle. We think we can:

- Plant bad seed and expect good fruit
- Sow sparingly and reap bountifully
- Give grudgingly and receive joyfully
- Live selfishly and experience God's blessing

But **God is not mocked**. The law of sowing and reaping is as reliable as the law of gravity. What goes around really does come around.

As one pastor explained: don't sow your wild oats and then expect good things to come as a result. It doesn't work that way. You reap what you sow.

8. Making Sowing a Lifestyle, Not a One-Time Act

Don't treat sowing as a strategy to manipulate God—it's a **lifestyle** of obedience and trust. Make giving, excellence, service, and honor a part of your business culture. Train your team to think generously. Sow as a family. Sow as a company. Sow in faith.

"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap."— Luke 6:38 (NIV)

The I.O. Principle: Instant Obedience

Robert Morris shares a principle he and his wife have practiced:

"We have come to call [it] the I.O. Principle. I.O. stands for Instant Obedience. We have come to understand the importance of responding instantly when we hear God's voice. Sometimes in giving, if you wait, Satan is given time to come up with all kinds of good reasons not to do what God has told you to do."

When God prompts you to sow—whether financially, through service, or in relationships—**obey instantly**. Don't give the enemy time to talk you out of your harvest.

The Purpose of Reaping: To Sow Again

Here's a crucial corrective to prosperity gospel distortion: God doesn't bless you abundantly so you can live lavishly. He blesses you abundantly so you can **sow bountifully**.

The end of 2 Corinthians 9:8 tells us that God blesses us so that we will "abound in every good work." In other words, the whole reason that we seek to reap is so that we can sow even more later on.

We are blessed to be a blessing.

John Piper explains:

"The reason the use of your money provides a good foundation for eternal life is not that generosity earns eternal life, but that it shows where your heart is. Generosity confirms that our hope is in God and not in ourselves or our money."

The harvest isn't the end goal—it's fuel for the next season of sowing.

9. Sowing Into Eternity: The Eternal Perspective

The most important sowing you'll ever do isn't measured in dollars or contracts—it's measured in **eternal impact**.

When you use your business as a platform to:

- Share the gospel with employees and customers
- Support Kingdom work around the world
- Disciple emerging leaders
- Demonstrate Christ's love through excellence and integrity

- Create jobs that provide dignity and purpose
- Steward resources for eternal purposes

You're sowing seeds that will bear fruit **forever**.

"Success in the Kingdom is not measured by how much you keep, but by how much you release."— **Dr. Myles Munroe**

Robert Morris powerfully states:

"I was born selfish, but I was born again generous."

That's the transformation God wants to work in every business owner's heart—not just reformation of behavior, but transformation of identity. From hoarder to sower. From taker to giver. From self-focused to Kingdom-focused.

Aligning with Heaven's Economy

When business owners understand and apply the principle of sowing and reaping, they move from **striving** in a worldly system to **thriving** in a Kingdom system. They become part of something greater than profit—they become **stewards of purpose**.

Consider these final encouragements:

Your Business Is a Seed in God's Hand

Let your entire business become a seed in God's hand. Not just your profits—your whole enterprise. Your vision, your strategy, your relationships, your influence—all of it sown into Kingdom purposes.

And watch Him multiply it into a harvest that blesses:

- **You** and your family
- Your **employees** and their families
- Your **community** and region
- **Generations** to come
- The **nations** of the earth
- **Eternity** itself

The Harvest of Your Life Is in Your Hands

One profound insight bears repeating: **the harvest of our lives is actually in our own hands.** We determine it. Yes, God blesses and there's multiplication and miracles—but the principle of sowing and reaping is something that gives us agency and responsibility.

If you don't like what you're reaping, examine what you've been sowing. If you want a different harvest, start planting different seeds.

Don't Wait for Perfect Conditions

One final word from Ecclesiastes 11:4:

"Whoever watches the wind will not plant; whoever looks at the clouds will not reap."

If you wait for perfect conditions to sow—perfect cash flow, perfect market conditions, perfect timing—you'll never sow. And if you never sow, you'll never reap.

Start where you are. Sow what you have. Trust God with the harvest.

“Honor the Lord with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase; ¹⁰ So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine.”

Proverbs 3:9-10 NKJV

Key Takeaways

1. Sowing and reaping is a creation ordinance, not a fundraising gimmick - This principle is as foundational as gravity—established by God in Genesis 8:22 and reaffirmed throughout Scripture.

2. You always reap what you sow—in kind and in proportion
The nature of your harvest matches the nature of your seed. Sow financial generosity, reap financial blessing. Sow excellence, reap reputation. Sow dishonesty, reap distrust.

3. Everything you do in business is sowing a seed
Your words, attitudes, investments, relationships, service, and integrity are all seeds that will produce a harvest.

4. The quantity of your harvest is determined by the quantity of your sowing - Whoever sows sparingly reaps sparingly. Whoever sows bountifully reaps bountifully. You determine the size of your harvest by the size of your sowing.

5. The quality of your harvest is determined by the quality of your soil - Not every opportunity is good soil. Discernment is as important as diligence. Sow in good soil that aligns with Kingdom values.

6. There is always time between sowing and reaping
Don't dig up your seed in fear or frustration. Trust God's timing. The farmer keeps patient vigil over the seed with expectant faith.

7. God multiplies seed, not just returns it - Kingdom Economics operates on multiplication, not mere exchange. God can take your seed and produce a harvest far beyond natural expectations.

8. The purpose of reaping is to enable greater sowing
You are blessed to be a blessing. The harvest isn't for hoarding—it's fuel for the next season of generous sowing.

9. What you sow in time determines what you reap in eternity
The most important sowing isn't measured in dollars but in eternal impact. Use your business to sow seeds that bear fruit forever.

10. Your generosity confirms where your hope truly lies
Generosity isn't about earning God's favor—it's about demonstrating that your hope is in Him, not in your resources.

Daily Reminder

"What am I sowing today that I want to reap tomorrow?"

Ask yourself this question every morning before you start work. Then sow intentionally—in your words, your attitudes, your investments, your relationships, and your resources.

Because the harvest is coming.

And it will match your sowing.

A Final Word: The Most Important Seed

The most important seed you'll ever sow is your life itself—surrendered to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

When you sow your life into the Kingdom of God, the harvest is eternal life and partnership with God in His purposes on earth.

Every other sowing in your business flows from this foundational sowing.

Have you sown your life into God's Kingdom?

If not, that's where your sowing must begin.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."—**John 3:16 (NIV)**

God sowed His Son. The harvest is anyone who believes.

Sow your life into that harvest today.

And then watch Him use your business to multiply Kingdom fruit in ways you never imagined possible.

Faith:

The Currency of the Kingdom of God

Introduction: Understanding Kingdom Currency

Every economy has a currency that allows transactions to take place. In the world's economy, that might be dollars, euros, yen, or cryptocurrency. These currencies facilitate the exchange of goods and services, enabling commerce to flow and value to be transferred.

But in the Kingdom of God, there's a different currency altogether—one that doesn't jingle in your pocket or appear in your bank account, yet it's infinitely more valuable and powerful than any earthly currency could ever be.

Faith is the currency of the Kingdom.

Faith is not a wishful feeling, a hopeful optimism, or positive thinking dressed in religious language. Faith is the **actual medium of exchange** through which we interact with God's Kingdom. It's how we access everything God has made available to us. Without faith, you cannot engage in Kingdom transactions. Without faith, the riches of Heaven remain locked, unavailable, and out of reach—not because God is withholding them, but because you haven't accessed them the way He designed.

The Bible makes this abundantly clear:

"And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to Him must believe that God exists and that He rewards those who sincerely seek Him." — **Hebrews 11:6 (NLT)**

Notice two critical truths in this verse:

1. **Without faith, it is IMPOSSIBLE to please God** – Not difficult. Not challenging. Impossible.

2. **Faith requires two beliefs:** That God exists AND that He rewards those who seek Him

This means faith is not passive acknowledgment that God is real. Faith is **active confidence** that God not only exists but that He engages with those who seek Him. He responds. He rewards. He provides. He intervenes.

Faith is not a wishful feeling—it's **how we interact with God's Kingdom.**

How Does Faith Work as Kingdom Currency?

To understand how faith functions in the Kingdom economy, we must first grasp what faith actually is. The writer of Hebrews gives us the clearest definition:

"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." — **Hebrews 11:1 (NIV)**

Let's break down the key aspects of how faith operates as Kingdom currency:

1. Faith Shows the Reality of What We Hope For

Faith is not hope. Hope says, "I wish this would happen." Faith says, "This is happening because God said it." Hope is future tense. Faith is present tense. Hope desires. Faith possesses.

Kenneth Hagin explains it this way:

"Faith changes hope into reality." — **Kenneth E. Hagin**

When you exercise faith, you're not just wishing for something to materialize in the future—you're laying hold of what God has already provided. You're reaching into the spiritual realm and pulling it into the natural realm through belief and confession.

2. Faith Provides Evidence of Things We Cannot See

Faith doesn't deny reality—it denies the **finality** of reality. You can acknowledge that something exists in the natural realm while simultaneously believing that God's Word supersedes it.

"Faith never denies reality. It just denies the finality of reality."

— **Kenneth E. Hagin**

Your eyes may see sickness, but faith sees healing because God's Word says "by His stripes you were healed" (1 Peter 2:24). Your bank account may show lack, but faith sees provision because God's Word says "my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19).

Over the years of studying God's Word and seeing how God works in the lives of people and how people respond to life both good and bad I made a decision that I was going to believe God and His Word no matter what. I do not base my faith on what I experience or the experiences of others. My faith must be based on the Word of God and the Word of God only.

I believe what the Bible says, not what I see and hear. My faith is not in what I can see and hear. My faith is based on what God says."

3. Faith Gives Us Access to God's Grace and Favor

Romans 5:2 tells us that we "have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand." Faith is the key that unlocks the door to God's grace.

Andrew Wommack provides profound clarity on this relationship between grace and faith: "*Grace is God's part. Faith is your part.*"

He explains further:

"Grace means unmerited, unearned, undeserved favor. Therefore, the good news is, grace has nothing to do with you. Grace existed before you ever came to be. Faith is defined as being a positive response to what God has already provided by grace. In

other words, faith is your positive response to God's grace, or faith only appropriates what God has already provided for you."

This is revolutionary. God has already provided everything you need through grace—salvation, healing, provision, wisdom, peace, joy, deliverance. It's all been given freely through Jesus Christ. But it becomes operational in your life through **faith**.

"What God provided by grace 2,000 years ago now becomes a reality when mixed with faith. Faith appropriates what God has already provided. Faith doesn't move God; He isn't the one who is stuck. Faith doesn't make God do anything."
— **Andrew Wommack**

4. Every Kingdom Interaction Requires Faith

Whether you're seeking:

- **Salvation** – "For by grace you have been saved through faith" (Ephesians 2:8)
- **Healing** – "Your faith has made you well" (Mark 5:34)
- **Provision** – "According to your faith be it done to you" (Matthew 9:29)
- **Direction** – "Trust in the LORD with all your heart" (Proverbs 3:5)
- **Breakthrough** – "This is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith" (1 John 5:4)

Every single transaction in the Kingdom requires faith. You cannot operate in God's economy without it. It's the only currency He accepts.

Do I Have Enough Faith?

This is one of the most common questions believers ask: "Do I have enough faith for God to move?"

Here's the liberating truth that Kenneth Hagin taught extensively:

"God has not blessed one person with more faith than He has blessed someone else. Every believer has been given a measure—the same measure—of the God-kind of faith." — **Kenneth E. Hagin**

The Bible confirms this in Romans 12:3: *"God has dealt to each one a measure of faith."*

And Ephesians 2:8 declares: *"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God."*

Faith is a gift from God, and He has given it to every believer.

So the issue isn't whether you **have** faith—it's **what you do with the faith you have and what are you putting your faith in?**

Often we have more faith in the government, our job, education, money, than we do God. Think about it: When you drive your car, you have **faith** that other drivers will stay in their lanes. You have **faith** in business, believing your paycheck will arrive at the end of the month. You have **faith** in science, expecting that gravity will still work tomorrow. You even have **faith** in chairs—you sit down without testing them first.

We exercise faith constantly—dozens, even hundreds of times per day. So the real question isn't **"Do I have faith?"** but **"Where am I placing my faith?"**

If we can trust cars, employers, gravity, and chairs—why do we struggle to trust God?

The One who created the universe, who holds all things together by the power of His Word, who has never broken a single promise throughout all of history—why is He the hardest One for us to trust?

It's not a faith problem. It's a **knowledge problem**. See, I believe most people struggle with prayer and faith because they don't actually believe what the Bible, the Word of God says. Most believers don't have a faith problem; they have a knowledge problem. Knowledge of God's Word. Hosea 4:6 says, *"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge"*.

The solution? **Feed your faith on the Word of God.**

How Does the Kingdom Economy Work?

God's economy does not operate because we earn our way or accumulate enough to buy our way into Kingdom success. The Kingdom economy operates on **petition, trust, and alignment.**

1. Petition Over Purchase

In the world's economy, you buy what you need. If you have money, you purchase goods and services. It's transactional, commercial, and performance-based.

But in the Kingdom, you **petition the King** and trust His provision. You don't purchase favor—you receive it by grace through faith. You don't buy blessings—you access what's already been given.

Think about this, Jesus hasn't saved, healed, delivered, or prospered a single person in the last 2,000 years. How can that be true?

Because Jesus accomplished all of this **2,000 years ago** on the cross and through His resurrection. He already provided salvation, healing, deliverance, and every spiritual blessing. It's finished. It's done. It's complete.

Now, our responsibility is to **receive by faith** what He already provided by grace and those of who have are commissioned to go and share the good news with others, so they can have faith to receive what God has already provided for them.

2. Faith Opens the Door

You don't get what you **earn**; you receive what you **believe** in alignment with God's will.

Jesus Himself said:

"Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours." — **Mark 11:24 (NIV)**

Notice the tense: "Believe that you **HAVE** received it"—not "will receive it someday." **Present tense faith** for **present tense provision**.

Kenneth Hagin taught extensively on this principle:

"Faith is present tense." — **Kenneth E. Hagin**

When you pray in faith, you don't beg God to do something in the future. We are not trying to convince God do something. Faith says I have it. We thank Him that it's already done because His Word says so, and by faith we know that we know we have it even when we don't see it or feel it. That is what faith is.

Once you see and have what you are praying and believing for it is not longer faith. Faith is knowing you have what you don't see. (Heb. 11:1)

3. Trust in the King's Response

Sometimes God says **yes**, sometimes He says **wait**, and sometimes He says **no**. Faith means trusting that His answer is always good, even when it doesn't match our desire.

This doesn't mean we become passive or resigned. It means we align our will with His and trust His wisdom, timing, and methods.

Grace and faith work together. It is only by the grace and favor of God that we are able to release our faith without doubt or reservation and receive God's blessings.

4. Alignment is Key

If our desires are not aligned with the King's purposes, our requests will always feel unanswered. James addresses this directly:

"You don't have what you want because you don't ask God for it. And even when you ask, you don't get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure." — James 4:2-3 (NLT)

God is not a vending machine where we put in faith and get whatever we want. **Faith aligns us with God's will** so that our requests match His Kingdom's purposes.

When your faith is aligned with God's purposes, you're not trying to manipulate outcomes—you're partnering with Heaven to see His will done on earth.

Why Do We Struggle with Faith?

Faith isn't hard because God is unreliable. Faith is challenging because **faith requires surrender.**

Faith Means:

- **Trusting God's timing** even when we want things now
- **Submitting to His will** rather than pushing our own agenda
- **Believing without seeing** the whole picture
- **Letting go of control** and resting in His sovereignty
- **Standing on His Word** when circumstances scream the opposite

Think about it this way: Imagine you're walking in thick fog. You can only see a few steps ahead, but you trust the path is there. That's how faith works. **You don't need to see the whole journey—you need to trust the One leading you.**

Kenneth Hagin provides this analogy:

"What bread (or food) is to the body, the Word of God is to the spirit, or the heart, of man. You know that if you eat food regularly, it will build you up physically. Yet if you eat right but don't exercise, all you'll do is get flabby and out of shape. In much the same way, you need to feed your faith on God's Word."
— **Kenneth E. Hagin**

You can't survive on one meal a week physically. Neither can you survive on one sermon a week spiritually. Your faith needs daily nourishment.

How Faith Works: By Love and the Spirit of Faith

Faith Works By Love

Galatians 5:6 reveals a crucial truth about how faith operates:

"For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love."

Faith doesn't work in isolation. **Faith works by love.** Faith that isn't rooted in love for God and love for people becomes religious duty or selfish manipulation.

When your faith is grounded in love for God, you:

- Trust His character even when you don't understand His methods
- Obey His Word even when it's costly
- Pursue His purposes even when they conflict with your preferences
- Rest in His goodness even when circumstances are difficult

When your faith is expressed through love for people, you:

- Sow generously into others' lives
- Serve sacrificially without expecting return
- Forgive freely as you've been forgiven
- Build others up rather than tear them down

The Spirit of Faith: We Believe and Therefore Speak

One of the most powerful principles about faith comes from 2 Corinthians 4:13:

"It is written: 'I believed; therefore I have spoken.' Since we have that same spirit of faith, we also believe and therefore speak."

This is the **spirit of faith**: What you believe in your heart, you speak with your mouth. So, you can really have what you say when what you say is what God says! Believe it in your heart; say it with your mouth, that's the spirit of faith. (2Cor. 4:13)

This isn't positive confession divorced from Scripture—this is Biblical confession **rooted in** God's Word. You're not making things true by speaking them; you're agreeing with what God has already declared to be true.

Think about this, *The words you speak create the world you live in. Your words reveal your level of faith.*" — **Mike Murdock**

When you speak doubt, fear, and unbelief, you create an atmosphere of defeat. When you speak faith, hope, and God's promises, you create an atmosphere for breakthrough.

The Connection Between Heart and Mouth

Romans 10:9-10 establishes the inseparable connection:

"If you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved."

Kenneth Hagin explains this pattern:

"With the heart man believes, and with the mouth confession is made. Through His death, burial, and resurrection, Jesus made salvation, preservation, healing, provision, wholeness, and every good thing available to us. Jesus did the work. How do we receive those provisions? With our heart we believe it, with our mouth we confess it, and then we receive it." — **Kenneth E. Hagin**

Faith in your heart + Confession with your mouth = Reception of God's provision

This is how faith works as currency in the Kingdom.

How to Develop and Grow Your Faith

If faith is the currency of the Kingdom, then we need to understand how to acquire more of it—not by earning it, but by developing what God has already given us.

1. Faith Comes By Hearing the Word of God

Romans 10:17 gives us the primary method:

"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

Not just reading it. Not just studying it. **Hearing it.** There's something powerful about hearing God's Word proclaimed that builds faith in ways silent reading alone doesn't.

When you go to church if what you hear preached doesn't cause faith to come and build faith in your spirit, then it either isn't the Word of God or you're not hearing it. Faith come by the Word of God AND by hearing the Word of God. Preachers make sure you are preaching the Word and believers making sure you are hearing.

This is why it's crucial to:

- Sit under anointed teaching that declares God's Word faithfully
- Listen to sermons and teachings that build your faith
- Speak the Word out loud to yourself
- Surround yourself with people who speak faith

2. Meditate on God's Word Day and Night

Joshua 1:8 reveals the secret:

"Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful."

Meditation isn't passive—it's **active engagement** with God's Word:

- Thinking about it throughout the day
- Pondering its meaning and application
- Rehearsing it in your mind
- Imagining yourself walking in its truth

When we meditate on all of God's promises and establish them deep in our heart, we will begin to reap those promises and blessings as we walk (live) according to God's Word.

"The more we meditate on God's Word, the more our minds will be renewed, and our lives transformed." — **Mike Murdock**

3. Study the Word to Show Yourself Approved

2 Timothy 2:15 instructs:

"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth."

Studying isn't just reading—it's:

- Digging deeper into context and meaning
- Comparing Scripture with Scripture
- Understanding the original language and culture
- Applying what you learn to your life

"When you know the Word of God, it will change you." — **Kenneth E. Hagin**

It is crucial for each of us to know the truth (facts) of God's Word—what belongs to us according to the Word of God and who we are in Christ – in Him.

4. Speak the Word Consistently

Your confession matters. What you say shapes what you believe and what you receive and it all starts with what you are thinking on.

A lot of times, our thinking is wrong. It's not in line with the Bible. And if our thinking is wrong, then our believing is going to be wrong. And if our believing is wrong, then our talking is going to be wrong.

The solution is to make sure you align your thinking with God's Word, which will align your believing, which will align your speaking.

Our faith must be **spoken**. Jesus said in Mark 11:23:

"Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them."

Notice: You must **say** to the mountain. Jesus did say talk about or complain about the mountain or even pray about the mountain. He said speak to the mountain. Faith **speaks**!

5. Feed Your Faith and Starve Your Doubts

Kenneth Hagin's famous saying:

"Feed your faith and starve your doubts."
— **Kenneth E. Hagin**

He explains:

"Certainly God furnishes the means whereby faith can be increased. But you increase your faith by doing two things: feeding it on the Word of God and exercising it—or putting it into practice." — Kenneth E. Hagin

You feed your faith by:

- Consuming God's Word daily

- Listening to faith-building teaching
- Fellowshiping with people of faith
- Rehearsing God's promises and past faithfulness

You starve your doubts by:

- Refusing to meditate on negative reports
- Avoiding people who speak unbelief
- Casting down imaginations contrary to God's Word (2 Corinthians 10:5)
- Guarding your thought life

We must guard against every evil thought that tries to come into our mind to try to make us doubt God's Word. Thoughts are governed by observation, association, and teaching.

Faith Isn't About Controlling God—It's About Trusting Him

This is perhaps the most important corrective we need: **Faith is not a tool to manipulate God into giving us what we want.**

Faith is a way to **confidently approach Him**, knowing:

- His will is better than ours
- His timing is perfect
- His promises never fail
- His character is unchanging
- His love is unfailing

Andrew Wommack clarifies the balance:

"Grace without your positive response of faith won't save you, and faith that isn't a response to God's grace will bring you into condemnation. But put your faith in what God has already done for you, and you have the victory that overcomes the world." — **Andrew Wommack**

You have faith just continue to develop and strengthen that faith and make sure to place your faith in the **right place**: in God's character, in His Word, in His finished work through Jesus Christ.

Life Application: How to Grow in Kingdom Faith

Faith isn't just about believing—it's about **where you place your trust** and **how you act on that trust**. Believing is important, but even the demons believe. (James 2:19) Faith without corresponding action is dead. (James 2:17) This week, challenge yourself to:

1. Evaluate Your Faith

Where are you placing your trust? Make a list:

- In God or in human systems?
- In His Word or in circumstances?
- In His promises or in probability?
- In His provision or in your own ability?

Be brutally honest. Where is your **functional** trust—not your theological belief, but your actual, daily reliance?

2. Surrender Your Desires

Commit to consistent, faith-filled prayer instead of trying to control outcomes.

- Pray God's Word back to Him
- Declare His promises over your situation
- Thank Him for what He's already done
- Release the outcome to His wisdom

3. Pray Over What You've Given Up On

List three things you stopped believing God for and start praying over them again:

- That business breakthrough you stopped expecting
- That relationship restoration you deemed impossible
- That financial turnaround you resigned yourself to never seeing

Reignite your faith. God hasn't changed. His Word hasn't failed. His arm isn't shortened.

4. Build a Daily Faith Routine

- **Morning:** Read and meditate on God's Word for at least 15 minutes
- **Throughout the day:** Speak God's promises over your life and business
- **Evening:** Review what God has done and thank Him

"Learn to think in line with God's word." — **Kenneth E. Hagin**

"You will never change your life until you change something you do daily. The secret of your future is hidden in your daily routine." — **Mike Murdock**

Reflection Questions

Take time to honestly answer these:

1. What dreams have you stopped believing God for?

Write them down. Why did you stop believing? Was it repeated disappointment? Weariness? Doubt? Reignite your faith for those God-given dreams.

2. Are your prayers aligned with God's Kingdom mission or just personal desires?

There's nothing wrong with personal prayers, but are you also praying for His Kingdom to advance? For His will to be done? For His glory to be revealed?

3. In what areas of your life do you need to shift your faith from the world's systems to God's economy?

- Finances?
- Business strategy?
- Relationships?
- Health?
- Future planning?

Identify where you're trusting in horses and chariots instead of the Name of the Lord.

Closing Truth

The Kingdom Is Built on Believing, Not Earning

"The Kingdom of God isn't built on earning—it's built on believing. Faith is the currency, and God is the King who always provides."

You cannot earn your way into God's favor. You cannot work your way into His blessings. You cannot accumulate enough good deeds to purchase His provision.

But you can believe.

You can receive by faith what Jesus purchased by His blood. You can access by faith what God provided by His grace. You can walk in victory by faith because Christ has already won.

Faith brings results!

Key Takeaways

1. Faith is the currency that gives access to everything in God's Kingdom

Without faith, it's impossible to please God or receive from Him. Faith is how Kingdom transactions occur.

2. Every believer has been given the same measure of faith

The issue isn't whether you have faith—it's where you're placing it and how you're developing it.

3. Faith is your positive response to God's grace

Grace is what God has already provided. Faith is how you appropriate it. They work together.

4. Faith comes by hearing, meditating, studying, and speaking God's Word

These four practices build your faith and renew your mind to align with Kingdom reality.

5. Faith works by love and expresses itself through the spirit of faith

We believe in our hearts and therefore speak with our mouths. Heart belief + mouth confession = reception.

6. Faith doesn't deny reality—it denies the finality of reality

You can acknowledge what exists while believing God's Word supersedes it.

7. Your faith must be aligned with God's will and purposes

Faith isn't about manipulating God to give you what you want—it's about trusting Him to do what's best.

8. Feed your faith daily and starve your doubts

What you feed grows. What you starve dies. Choose wisely.

9. The Kingdom operates on petition, trust, and alignment—not earning or purchasing

You receive by faith what Jesus provided by grace. It's finished. Now believe and receive.

10. Speaking God's Word in faith activates spiritual reality in the natural realm

The spirit of faith believes and therefore speaks. Your confession matters.



Daily Declaration

"Today, I choose to place my faith in God's Word above my circumstances. I believe His promises are true, His provision is sure, and His faithfulness never fails. I speak life, blessing, and breakthrough over my business and my life. By faith, I receive what God has already provided by grace."

Speak this over yourself every morning. Let it reshape how you think, how you pray, and how you operate in business.

Because in the Kingdom economy, **faith is not optional—it's essential.**

And you have everything you need to walk in faith, because God has already given you the measure. Now develop it. Exercise it. Speak it. Act on it.

And watch God do what only He can do.

Faith is the currency. God is the King. And He always provides for those who trust Him.

Warnings and Dangers of Wealth

The Prosperity Paradox

I encounter criticism of the so-called "prosperity gospel" everywhere—from conversations in church pews to debates among pulpit leaders. I understand why people express concern, but here's what troubles me: most of these criticisms aren't rooted in Scripture. Instead, they're based on opinions formed by secondhand information, personal experiences, or observations of others who have mishandled wealth.

The fundamental question we must settle is straightforward: Is it God's will to prosper His people or not? God doesn't waver on this issue. He's not schizophrenic or indecisive about His intentions for His children. Throughout Scripture, He has made His will perfectly clear—He desires His children to prosper. This has always been His will, and since God does not change, it remains His will today.

Consider Deuteronomy 8:18, which instructs us to "remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth." Think about the implications of this verse. If God opposed prosperity for His people, if it contradicted His divine will for them to prosper, would He ever give them the power to acquire wealth? The answer is obvious—He wouldn't. The very fact that God grants His people the ability to create wealth reveals His heart on the matter.

Psalm 35:27 declares, "Let the Lord be magnified, Who has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant." How could a holy, perfect God take pleasure in something that violated His own will? He couldn't. This verse confirms beyond doubt that God delights when His servants prosper.

The apostle John, writing in 3 John 1:2, says, "Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers." John would never pray for something contrary to God's will. As one of Jesus's closest disciples, he understood the Father's heart. His prayer for comprehensive prosperity—spiritual, physical, and material—reflects God's desire for His people.

Why the Resistance?

If Scripture so clearly affirms God's will for prosperity, why do so many people struggle with this truth? Why do believers actively oppose the idea of prosperity for God's people? I believe several factors contribute to this resistance, not least of which is the enemy's deliberate campaign to undermine God's will through lies and deception. Satan is a thief who comes to steal, kill, and destroy (John 10:10), and what better way to limit Kingdom impact than to convince believers that poverty is somehow more spiritual than prosperity?

However, the devil isn't the only factor. Most people develop their theological positions based on experience—their own experiences and the experiences of others. I've had countless conversations with sincere believers, including pastors and theologians, who challenge me with this question: "How can you claim God's will is for people to prosper when there are so many poor people in the world—people starving and dying from malnutrition?"

Here's what I need you to understand clearly: The fact that people don't experience God's will doesn't change God's will. Romans 3:3-4 asks, "For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect? Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar." God remains faithful to His Word regardless of human experience or unbelief.

There is no truth in Scripture more clearly stated than God's desire for you to prosper. The existence of poverty in the world—tragic as it is—doesn't negate this truth. Just because you may not be experiencing prosperity in this season of your life, or because others suffer in abject poverty, doesn't mean you should abandon your faith in God's promises. The gap between God's will and human experience exists not because God is unfaithful, but because we live in a fallen world where free will, sin, injustice, and poor stewardship create outcomes that grieve God's heart.

I've had respected men of God contact me, arrange meetings, and question my teaching on prosperity. What consistently amazes me is the disconnect in their logic. I often ask them: "If you truly believed

what you're telling me—that God doesn't want His people to prosper—why are you living in such a nice house? Why are you driving such a nice car? Why are you working so hard to 'make a living'?"

Think about it. If I genuinely believed prosperity contradicted God's will, I would do everything possible to become as poor as I could. I would never intentionally pursue something that opposed God's purposes. The fact that critics of prosperity live comfortably reveals that they don't actually believe their own arguments—they've simply adopted a theological position that sounds humble while living a lifestyle that contradicts it.

Prosperity with Purpose

God wants your business to increase and prosper. This isn't a selfish desire or a cosmic slot machine where you pull the prayer lever and money pours out. Prosperity has a purpose. The conclusion of Deuteronomy 8:18 reveals why God gives us power to acquire wealth: "that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day."

Every blessing carries a mission. Money has a purpose beyond your personal comfort. God blesses us to be a blessing. He prospers us so we can advance His Kingdom, support His work, care for the vulnerable, and demonstrate His goodness to a watching world. When we disconnect prosperity from purpose, we miss the entire point and open ourselves to the very dangers Scripture warns us about.

I've taken time to establish this biblical foundation for prosperity because what follows might seem contradictory if you don't understand God's heart. Yes, God wants you to prosper. Yes, He takes pleasure in blessing His servants. And yes, there are serious warnings and real dangers associated with wealth that every Kingdom entrepreneur must understand and guard against.

The Double-Edged Sword

As we approach the conclusion of our journey through Kingdom Economics, we must take notice of and guard ourselves against the

dangers of wealth. Money and materialism can become significant hindrances to the Christian life and our love for God if we don't handle them correctly. We must maintain right motives and build strong defenses against greed. Money can never be our priority. We must seek first the Kingdom of God, and then all other things will be added to us (Matthew 6:33).

The Bible doesn't mince words when addressing the spiritual dangers associated with a strong attachment to material possessions. Let's examine some of the most critical warnings Scripture provides.

- Trusting in Wealth

Proverbs 11:28 warns, "He who trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will flourish like the green leaf." Notice the contrast—those who place their confidence in wealth will ultimately fall, while those who trust in God will flourish. The difference isn't in having or not having wealth; it's in where you place your trust.

Jesus stated plainly in Mark 10:23, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!" He wasn't condemning wealth itself but identifying the spiritual obstacle that wealth creates. When you possess abundant resources, the temptation to trust in those resources rather than God becomes almost overwhelming. Wealth creates an illusion of self-sufficiency that can blind us to our absolute dependence on God.

- Serving Two Masters

Matthew 6:24 presents an unavoidable choice: "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth." Jesus doesn't say it's difficult to serve both—He says it's impossible. The word for "wealth" here is "mammon," which refers not just to money but to the entire system of materialism and the pursuit of wealth.

This isn't about whether you have money in your bank account. It's about what has your heart. Who are you really serving? What drives

your decisions? What keeps you awake at night? What shapes your daily priorities? The answers to these questions reveal your true master.

- The Deceitfulness of Riches

In the parable of the sower, Jesus warns that wealth can choke God's word, making it unfruitful (Matthew 13:22). Notice He doesn't say wealth might do this or could potentially do this—He states it as a fact. Riches are deceitful. They promise security but deliver anxiety. They promise satisfaction but produce restlessness. They promise freedom but create bondage.

Paul writes in 1 Timothy 6:9-10, "Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare, leading to ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil." The desire for wealth—not wealth itself—sets a trap that leads to spiritual destruction. This trap is so subtle that most people don't realize they're caught until they've already been ensnared.

- Pride and Forgetfulness

Deuteronomy 8:10-14 describes a dangerous progression that wealth can trigger: "When you have eaten and are satisfied, you shall bless the Lord your God for the good land which He has given you. Beware that you do not forget the Lord your God by not keeping His commandments and His ordinances and His statutes which I am commanding you today; otherwise, when you have eaten and are satisfied, and have built good houses and lived in them, and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and gold multiply, and all that you have multiplies, then your heart will become proud and you will forget the Lord your God."

Prosperity has a way of eroding our spiritual memory. When things are going well, when bank accounts are full, when business is booming, we subtly shift from depending on God to depending on our resources. We forget that every good gift comes from above. We begin to believe our own press releases, crediting our success to our intelligence, work ethic, or business savvy rather than recognizing God's faithfulness and provision.

- Greed and Contentment

Jesus issued a stark warning in Luke 12:15: "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions." The phrase "watch out" indicates imminent danger. "Be on your guard" suggests an active, ongoing vigilance is required. Greed doesn't announce its arrival—it creeps in gradually, disguised as ambition, planning, or responsible stewardship.

Paul contrasts this with the virtue of contentment in 1 Timothy 6:8: "If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content." Contentment doesn't mean we stop working or cease to improve our circumstances. It means we find our satisfaction in God rather than in the accumulation of more things.

Money: Tool or God?

Here's a truth we must grasp: Money is not the problem. Money is a great tool but an awful god. Money and prosperity are not the goal. Our focus needs to remain on Jesus, who is the author and perfecter of our faith (Hebrews 12:2).

God uses money to shape our hearts and reach the nations. Throughout Scripture, God warns us about the dangers of making money our goal and placing our hope in wealth. Giving money the place in our hearts that's reserved for God might lead to a momentarily full bank account, but it will certainly lead to a spiritually famished heart.

The power of money can be either constructive or destructive. Who has the money and what they do with it determines which. In the hands of the right person with the right heart, money becomes a tremendous blessing. In the hands of the wrong person with wrong motives, it becomes a destructive problem.

It's easy to become obsessed with pursuing wealth. This is true even in the poorest villages of the world. Greed and covetousness aren't just first-world problems—they're human problems that transcend economic status and cultural boundaries.

Redefining Success

Consider how you define the term "success." When we describe someone as "a very successful person," what do we usually mean? Typically, we're referring to someone who has attained wealth, status, and possessions. But is this definition biblical?

True success, according to Scripture, is not measured by material possessions. Biblical success is defined by one's relationship with God and living in accordance with His will, rather than by wealth, fame, or power. It involves obeying God's commands, bearing fruit in one's life, and making a positive impact on the world around us. We are successful in God's eyes when we fulfill His divine purpose for our lives.

This fundamental misunderstanding of success creates enormous pressure and leads many believers astray. When we adopt the world's definition of success, we pursue the world's goals using the world's methods, all while hoping for God's blessing. This approach is backwards and destined to leave us feeling empty even when we achieve what we thought we wanted.

The Blindness of Wealth

The New Testament provides a sobering example in the story of the Rich Young Ruler (Matthew 19:16-22). This young man believed he was spiritually healthy because he kept the law, yet he couldn't surrender his great wealth to follow Jesus. His riches had become his security, his identity, his god. When forced to choose between his wealth and following Christ, he chose his wealth and walked away sorrowful.

The Old Testament offers a parallel example in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. In Hosea 12:8, they boasted, "Ah, but I am rich; I have found wealth for myself; in all my labors they cannot find in me iniquity or sin." Yet the nation was guilty of oppressing the poor, lying, murder, stealing, adultery, Baal worship, and possibly even human sacrifice.

Wealth produced in these people a profound spiritual blindness and self-righteous confidence that led to disastrous consequences. When you have abundance, it's easy to convince yourself that you're doing fine spiritually, that God must be pleased with you because He's blessing you financially. But material prosperity is not necessarily a sign of spiritual health. Our confidence and trust can never be in money—it must be in God alone. You cannot serve two masters.

Relational Destruction

Another danger of wealth is the damage it can cause within relationships. James 4:2 warns that our desires for things we don't have lead to fights and quarrels. Have you ever witnessed people fight over money? Just ask anyone who has navigated inheritance and estate issues with siblings. You'll hear stories of families torn apart, relationships destroyed, and decades of closeness shattered—all over money.

James goes further, saying that coveting sometimes even leads to murder. This isn't hyperbole—just read the news about people being shot during armed robberies or killed in disputes over money. The Old Testament provides the example of King Ahab of Israel having Naboth murdered because he wanted his vineyard for a vegetable garden (1 Kings 21). A man died so a king could have a garden.

Let me be clear: There is absolutely nothing wrong with having nice things—possessions, cars, houses. The issue is whether these things have you. Do you own your possessions, or do your possessions own you? Can you hold them loosely, ready to release them if God calls you to? Or have they become so intertwined with your identity and security that you couldn't imagine life without them?

Eternal Versus Temporal Wealth

I believe the best way to navigate these dangers is to understand the difference between eternal wealth and temporary wealth, ensuring our priority and focus remain on the eternal.

Jesus taught in Matthew 6:19-23: "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!"

Let's unpack these critical verses. Jesus starts with a negative command: "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth." He follows with a positive command: "Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven." Then He provides the reason: "Your heart follows your treasure."

Jesus is teaching us that everything we value should be invested in eternal things because those are the things that will last. Everything on this earth—our bank accounts, our possessions, our portfolios—are perishable and temporary. They're not made to last forever. Our possessions are temporary tools with which we serve the Lord and which He uses to meet our needs, but they should never become our treasure.

Consider the parable of the rich fool in Luke 12:13-21. Jesus tells the story of a wealthy man whose land produced abundantly. Instead of seeing this abundance as an opportunity to bless others and advance God's Kingdom, the man built larger barns to hoard his wealth so he could "relax, eat, drink, and be merry."

Sound familiar? This is most people's financial dream—a life defined by not having to work, simply hanging out and doing whatever pleases them. Before we judge this man too harshly, we should examine our own hearts. How many of us are working toward this exact goal? Let me clarify: there's nothing wrong with enjoying a vacation, going fishing, or playing golf. The issue is the priority we assign to these things and whether our ultimate goal is personal comfort or Kingdom impact.

Jesus calls this man foolish. Why? Because God knew the man would die that very night, and everything he'd hoarded would be given to someone else. Jesus labeled him a fool because his wealth was designed to bring himself pleasure rather than fulfill God's purposes. This illustrates the truth behind the saying "you can't take it with you."

Since all of this man's treasures were bound to earth, he had invested nothing that would benefit him in the next life. He spent his life acquiring wealth he couldn't keep to purchase stuff he couldn't keep. That's not wisdom—it's folly.

The things of this earth are temporary and passing away. Building a financial empire on this foundation alone is like building a house on sand. So while riches and wealth are not inherently bad, and money is not evil in itself, there are real dangers we must recognize and warnings we must heed. The key is using what God blesses us with to be a blessing and help build the Kingdom of God.

Guarding Your Heart

So how do we practically guard against the dangers of wealth while still embracing God's will for prosperity? Here are some essential practices:

Maintain Perspective: Regularly remind yourself that you're a steward, not an owner. Everything you have belongs to God and has been entrusted to you for Kingdom purposes.

Practice Generosity: Make giving a priority, not an afterthought. Generous giving keeps your heart focused on eternal values and prevents wealth from taking root in your affections.

Stay Accountable: Surround yourself with people who will speak truth to you about your relationship with money. Give them permission to ask hard questions.

Guard Your Heart: Monitor what you're consuming through media, who you're comparing yourself to, and what desires are taking root in your heart.

Remember Your Purpose: Regularly reconnect with why God has blessed you—it's to advance His Kingdom, not build your own empire.

The warnings about wealth aren't meant to make you afraid of prosperity. They're meant to help you steward it wisely, keep it in proper perspective, and use it for maximum Kingdom impact. God wants to bless you, but He wants you even more. Don't let the blessing eclipse the Blessor.

It is crucial for you as a believer and a businessperson man/entrepreneur to properly understand kingdom economics.

Money and Stewardship - A Biblical Approach

Kingdom Economics is God's way of thinking about money, resources, and provision. It is not simply about finances — it is about faith. While the world teaches us to pursue security through wealth, savings, and possessions, Jesus teaches us to pursue security through trust, obedience, and dependence on God. Kingdom Economics shifts our focus from accumulation to stewardship, from self-interest to generosity, and from fear to faith.

Jesus summarized this approach when He said, *“Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you”* (Matthew 6:33). In other words, when God's priorities become our priorities, He takes responsibility for our provision.

Kingdom Economics does not reject money — it redeems it. It teaches us how to use financial resources as tools for advancing God's purposes rather than as trophies of personal success. The purpose of this book has been about helping the reader understand this.

Core Principles of Kingdom Economics

1. Divine Provision Over Human Security

In the Kingdom of God, provision flows from relationship, not from possessions. Scripture consistently teaches that God is our source — not our salary, savings, or investments. This does not eliminate hard work or wise planning, but it places ultimate trust where it belongs: in God.

Jesus taught His followers not to worry about food, clothing, or tomorrow because their Heavenly Father already knows what they need. Kingdom Economics replaces anxiety with assurance and fear with faith. It invites believers to live confidently, knowing that obedience positions them for God's supernatural supply.

2. Community, Generosity, and Shared Life

In the early church, believers lived out Kingdom Economics in powerful ways:

"They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need" (Acts 2:45).

This was not forced redistribution — it was voluntary compassion. Resources were viewed not as personal property to hoard but as Kingdom tools to bless others. The result was not poverty but unity, joy, and abundance.

Kingdom Economics teaches that generosity is not a loss — it is an investment. When we give, we participate in God's work and experience the joy of becoming channels of His blessing to others.

Kingdom Economic Practices

1. A Countercultural Financial Mindset

The world's economic system is driven by self-preservation, competition, and accumulation. Success is measured by how much we own, earn, or control. Kingdom Economics flips that model upside down.

In God's economy, success is measured by faithfulness, generosity, stewardship, and obedience. Instead of asking, "How much can I get?" Kingdom thinkers ask, "How much can I steward for God's purposes?" This mindset transforms spending, saving, giving, and investing into spiritual acts of worship.

2. Biblical Justice and Compassion — The Gleaning Laws

God's economic system has always included protection and provision for the vulnerable. In the Old Testament, landowners were commanded to leave the edges of their fields unharvested so the poor, widows, and foreigners could gather food with dignity (Leviticus 19:9–10).

This principle teaches that Kingdom Economics is not about charity alone — it is about empowerment, dignity, and opportunity. God’s system builds people, not dependence. It reflects His heart for justice, compassion, and restoration.

Spiritual and Practical Impact of Kingdom Economics

1. True Financial Freedom

The world promises peace through wealth, but wealth often brings anxiety, pressure, and comparison. Kingdom Economics offers something better — freedom. When money no longer controls us, we are free to live generously, joyfully, and purposefully.

Financial freedom in God’s Kingdom does not mean unlimited resources; it means unburdened hearts. It means trusting God instead of money, obeying God instead of fear, and resting in God instead of striving for security.

2. Holistic Living — Faith in Every Financial Decision

Kingdom Economics calls believers to integrate faith into every financial choice — earning, spending, saving, giving, and investing. It asks not only, “Is this wise?” but also, “Is this aligned with God’s will?”

This approach produces a life of purpose, peace, and impact. Money becomes a servant instead of a master. Resources become tools for ministry instead of measurements of worth. And success becomes defined not by accumulation, but by obedience and fruitfulness.

So, Kingdom Economics is not a theory — it is a lifestyle. It teaches us to trust God as our source, steward resources wisely, live generously, and use money to advance His Kingdom on earth. It challenges the world’s values and invites us into a higher way of living — one rooted in faith, love, obedience, and eternal impact.

When believers embrace God’s economic system, they discover something powerful: **God’s way always leads to peace, provision, and purpose.**

Conclusion

Step Into the Kingdom—Live Out the Difference

As you reach the conclusion of *Introduction to Kingdom Economics*, you're standing at a pivotal crossroads—not just in your business journey, but in your spiritual walk. This isn't merely about embracing a new set of principles; it's about a transformative shift in perspective that will redefine everything you thought you knew about success, prosperity, and purpose.

You've been exposed to a radical alternative to the world's economic system. You've seen that your business is not solely a means to personal success, but a platform for advancing God's Kingdom on earth. The question that remains is this: Will you step across the threshold from knowledge into action?

A Different Foundation, A Different Future

Kingdom economics challenges the conventional wisdom of the marketplace at its very foundation. It calls you to prioritize purpose over profit, stewardship over ownership, and service over self-interest. This paradigm shift isn't just theoretical—it's deeply practical, influencing how you lead your team, make decisions, manage resources, and interact with clients and competitors.

Throughout this book, you've discovered that God's economic system operates on principles that are often counterintuitive to worldly wisdom. Where the world says "hoard," the Kingdom says "give." Where the world says "compete," the Kingdom says "collaborate." Where the world says "maximize shareholder value," the Kingdom says "maximize Kingdom impact." These aren't simply nice ideas to consider—they're divine directives designed to unlock a level of effectiveness and fulfillment that no worldly strategy can match.

You've learned that the Kingdom economy is built on abundance, not scarcity. It operates through generosity, not greed. It measures success not by the size of your bank account, but by the scope of your obedience and the depth of your impact. Most importantly, you've

discovered that when you align your business practices with God's principles, you don't just honor Him—you position yourself to experience His supernatural provision, wisdom, and favor in ways that transcend human effort.

The Proof Is in the Practice

Consider again the example of Arthur Nash, the businessman who applied the Golden Rule to his enterprise. When his clothing manufacturing business was on the brink of bankruptcy, Nash made a radical decision. Instead of cutting costs and exploiting workers like conventional wisdom dictated, he chose to treat his employees exactly as he would want to be treated. He shared profits, invested in their wellbeing, and created a culture of mutual respect and dignity.

The result? His business didn't just survive—it thrived. Productivity soared. Quality improved. Employee loyalty became legendary. Within a few years, Nash's company was more profitable than it had ever been, and his story became a testament to the power of Kingdom principles in the marketplace. His legacy reminds us that when we align our business practices with God's principles, we not only honor Him but also create thriving, impactful organizations that outlast us.

But Nash's story isn't an isolated anomaly. Throughout history and in our present day, countless business leaders who have dared to operate by Kingdom principles have discovered the same truth: God's ways work. They work in ways that are sustainable, meaningful, and eternally significant. They work not because they're clever business strategies, but because they align with the very fabric of how God designed the universe to function.

The Questions That Define Your Future

As you reflect on the insights from this book, it's time to get honest with yourself. Let these questions penetrate beyond your intellect and reach your heart:

Have I fully surrendered my business to God's authority, or am I still holding onto areas I consider "mine" to control? Too often, we give

God Sunday mornings while reserving Monday through Friday for our own strategies and ambitions. Kingdom economics demands complete surrender—not because God is a tyrant, but because He is the only one who truly knows the path to the success and significance you're seeking.

Am I seeking first His Kingdom in every decision I make, or do I treat Kingdom principles as a supplement to my existing business philosophy? There's a vast difference between being a Christian who does business and being a Kingdom entrepreneur. One compartmentalizes faith and work; the other integrates them completely. One asks, "How can God bless what I'm building?" The other asks, "What is God building, and how can I participate?"

How can my business serve as a conduit for God's love and justice in the marketplace? Your business isn't just about products or services—it's about people. It's about the employees whose livelihoods depend on your leadership. It's about the customers whose needs you serve. It's about the community your enterprise impacts. It's about the culture you create and the values you model. Every business decision is an opportunity to demonstrate the character of God in the marketplace.

Are my financial practices reflecting Kingdom values of generosity, integrity, and stewardship, or am I still operating with a scarcity mindset rooted in fear? The way you handle money reveals what you truly believe about God. If you hoard, you believe in scarcity. If you give, you believe in abundance. If you cheat, you believe you're on your own. If you operate with integrity, you believe God sees and rewards faithfulness.

Am I building a legacy that will outlast my lifetime, or am I settling for short-term gains that evaporate with the next market shift? Kingdom economics is always playing the long game. It invests in eternal values that compound across generations. It builds on the rock of God's unchanging principles rather than the sand of fluctuating market trends.

More Than Rules—A Relationship

Here's something crucial to understand: entering the Kingdom isn't about adopting a set of rules or implementing a new business methodology. It's about embracing a relationship with the King. It's about allowing His values to permeate every aspect of your life and business. It's about daily dependence on His wisdom, moment-by-moment sensitivity to His Spirit, and unwavering commitment to His purposes.

When you make this shift from principle to relationship, everything changes. Decision-making becomes less about formulas and more about following. Strategy becomes less about your cleverness and more about His guidance. Success becomes less about your achievements and more about your obedience. And provision—the thing most business owners worry about constantly—becomes a natural byproduct of seeking first His Kingdom and His righteousness.

This is the promise Jesus made in Matthew 6:33, and it's a promise He keeps. When you prioritize God's Kingdom, when you align your business with His purposes, when you operate according to His principles, you'll find that everything else—provision, purpose, peace, and even profit—falls into place. Not always in the timeline you expect. Not always in the manner you anticipate. But always in the way that's best.

Your Moment of Commitment

Let this be your moment of commitment. Not a casual acknowledgment that Kingdom principles sound nice, but a firm decision to stake your entire business future on the reliability of God's Word and the faithfulness of His character.

Choose today to operate not just as a businessperson who happens to be a Christian, but as a Kingdom entrepreneur who intentionally advances God's purposes through your work. Choose to measure success not by the world's metrics, but by Kingdom impact. Choose to pursue profit not as an end in itself, but as a tool for Kingdom expansion. Choose to view every transaction as a divine appointment,

every employee as someone created in God's image, and every business challenge as an opportunity to demonstrate Kingdom power.

The path may not always be easy. There will be moments when Kingdom principles seem costly, when doing the right thing appears to disadvantage you, when trusting God feels risky. In those moments, remember that you're not alone. You're part of a Kingdom that cannot be shaken, serving a King who owns the cattle on a thousand hills, and operating according to principles that have sustained God's people through every economic season in human history.

The impact of your decision will ripple far beyond your balance sheet. When you choose Kingdom economics, you're not just building a business—you're creating a model that others can follow. You're establishing a culture that honors human dignity. You're generating resources that can advance the Gospel. You're demonstrating to a watching world that there's a better way to do business, a way that doesn't sacrifice people for profit or integrity for increase.

What's Your Next Step?

The Kingdom is open. The King is calling. Will you answer?

If you've just entered the Kingdom through faith in Jesus—welcome! You are now a citizen of Heaven with full access to its resources, wisdom, and power. Your journey as a Kingdom entrepreneur begins today. Start by immersing yourself in Scripture, particularly the teachings of Jesus about money, stewardship, and the Kingdom. Surround yourself with other believers who can mentor you in integrating faith and business. Begin implementing the principles you've learned in this book one decision at a time, trusting that God will guide you as you go.

If you've already been in the Kingdom—then it's time to live like it. Stop dipping your toes in the world's system while hoping for Kingdom results. Stop compartmentalizing your faith and your business. Stop adopting worldly strategies and asking God to bless them. It's time for full alignment. It's time to commit completely. It's time to advance boldly.

God did not call you to merely survive in a broken system. You were called to build, lead, and prosper—under the government of God. You were called to demonstrate a better way, to be salt and light in the marketplace, to prove that Kingdom principles work in the real world of commerce, competition, and capitalism.

The King is still seeking stewards who will carry out His agenda on earth through their business, leadership, and finances. He's looking for men and women who will trust His Word more than market trends, who will value people over profits, who will choose integrity over expediency, who will give generously rather than hoard fearfully, and who will build for eternity rather than settle for temporal success.

The World Is Watching

Here's the truth that should both humble and embolden you: the world doesn't need more Christian business owners who think like the world. We have plenty of those already. What the marketplace desperately needs is Kingdom-minded leaders who operate with Heaven's wisdom, integrity, and boldness. Leaders who are willing to be different, to swim against the current, to trust God when conventional wisdom says it's foolish.

The world is watching to see if what we profess on Sunday actually works on Monday. They're watching to see if our faith makes a practical difference in how we conduct business. They're watching to see if following Jesus actually produces the abundant life He promised or if it's just religious rhetoric that crumbles under the pressure of real-world economics.

What will they see when they watch you?

Let them see a business leader who keeps their word even when it's costly. Let them see an entrepreneur who treats employees with dignity and respect. Let them see a manager who refuses to compromise integrity for profit. Let them see a CEO who gives generously and trusts God's provision. Let them see someone whose faith isn't just theoretical, but transformative.

Your Kingdom Legacy Starts Now

Your journey with Kingdom economics doesn't end with the closing of this book—it begins here. Every decision you make from this point forward is an opportunity to either advance God's Kingdom or default to the world's system. Every interaction with an employee, every negotiation with a vendor, every strategic planning session, every financial decision is a chance to choose Kingdom principles over worldly patterns.

The transformation won't happen overnight. You'll make mistakes. You'll face situations where the right Kingdom response isn't immediately clear. You'll encounter resistance from others who don't understand why you're choosing a different path. But as you persist in applying these principles, as you grow in your relationship with the King, as you experience His faithfulness in your business, you'll develop a track record of Kingdom victories that will strengthen your faith and inspire others.

Years from now, when you look back on your business legacy, what do you want to see? Do you want to see a life spent accumulating wealth that you can't take with you, or investing in Kingdom impact that echoes into eternity? Do you want to see a career defined by worldly success that ultimately feels hollow, or Kingdom significance that brings deep fulfillment? Do you want to leave behind just a successful business, or a model of Kingdom economics that transforms your industry?

The choice is yours. The Kingdom is open. The principles are proven. The King is faithful.

Let that leader be you.

Step into the Kingdom. Live out the difference. And watch as God does immeasurably more than you could ask or imagine through a business surrendered to His purposes and aligned with His principles.

The world is waiting. Your King is ready. The only question that remains is: Are you?

About the Author

Bruce Edwards is a pastor, teacher, and author with over 40 years of leadership experience in business and ministry. He has been married to his wife, Trudy, for over 50 years. They have two children and 6 grandchildren.

He has a master's degree in business management and a degree in pastoral ministry. He served over 28 years at Victory Christian Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma, as Senior Associate Pastor. He has written over 30 books and helps pastors grow their churches.

As a pastor, he has a passion for helping people experience the abundant life provided through Jesus and is committed to teaching and communicating the principles of God's Word with clarity, simplicity, and boldness.



Understanding -

1. The Priorities of the Kingdom
2. The Ways of the Kingdom
3. How to Unlock Heavens Provision
4. Who Your God Is
5. Who/What You Trust?
6. The Entrepreneurs Trap
7. Faith as the Currency of the Kingdom
8. The Warnings and Dangers of Wealth

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you" Matthew 6:33



Bruce R. Edwards