

# **GODLY BUSINESS**

## **Building and Managing Business According to Biblical Principles**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Business is one of God's ordained means through which people create value, provide for their families, serve society, create employment, and support the work of God's Kingdom. From the beginning, God commanded mankind to be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and exercise stewardship over His creation (Genesis 1:28). Business is therefore not merely an economic activity; it is a stewardship responsibility.

Unfortunately, many people separate their faith from their business practices. They may be Christians in church but operate by worldly principles in the marketplace. The result is dishonesty, greed, exploitation, poor stewardship, and a damaged witness for Christ.

A godly business is not simply a business owned by a Christian. It is a business conducted according to God's principles. It honors God through integrity, excellence, fairness, diligence, generosity, and faithful stewardship.

The purpose of business is not merely to make money. Money is important, but business should also glorify God, meet human needs, create opportunities for others, and advance God's purposes on earth.

This lesson explores the biblical foundations of a godly business and the principles that every Christian entrepreneur, manager, and business owner should embrace.

**Key Truth:** A godly business seeks not only profit but also purpose, integrity, service, and God's glory.

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## 1. God is the Owner; We are Stewards

### Scripture

*"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it." (Psalm 24:1)*

### Lesson

Everything belongs to God, including:

- Businesses
- Capital
- Skills
- Opportunities
- Customers
- Employees

Business owners are managers of God's resources, not absolute owners.

### Application

Ask:

- Does my business honour God?
- Am I managing God's resources faithfully?

### Conclusion

A godly business begins by recognizing God's ownership.

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## **2. Business Must Be Built on Integrity**

### **Scripture**

*"The Lord detests dishonest scales, but accurate weights find favour with Him."* (Proverbs 11:1)

### **Lesson**

Integrity means:

- Honest pricing
- Honest advertising
- Honest accounting
- Honest dealings

Never deceive customers for profit.

### **Application**

A reputation for honesty is worth more than short-term profits.

### **Conclusion**

Integrity is the foundation of a godly business.

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## **3. Serve People, Don't Exploit Them**

### **Scripture**

*"Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant."*  
(Matthew 20:26)

### **Lesson**

The best businesses solve problems and meet genuine needs.

Business should improve people's lives rather than exploit their weaknesses.

## **Application**

Ask:

- What problem am I solving?
- How am I helping people?

## **Conclusion**

The purpose of business is service before profit.

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# **4. Practice Diligence and Excellence**

## **Scripture**

*"Do you see someone skilled in their work? They will serve before kings."* (Proverbs 22:29)

## **Lesson**

God honours excellence.

Customers return when they receive:

- Quality products
- Reliable service
- Professional treatment

## **Application**

Always strive to improve your products, services, and skills.

## **Conclusion**

Excellence attracts opportunities and builds trust.

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# **5. Avoid the Love of Money**

## **Scripture**

*"For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil." (1 Timothy 6:10)*

## **Lesson**

Money is a tool, not a god.

When profit becomes the highest goal:

- Integrity is compromised.
- Relationships suffer.
- Greed takes control.

## **Application**

Pursue profit ethically and responsibly.

## **Conclusion**

A godly business serves God, not money.

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## **6. Manage Finances Wisely**

### **Scripture**

*"The plans of the diligent lead to profit." (Proverbs 21:5)*

### **Lesson**

Successful businesses require:

- Budgeting
- Record keeping
- Planning
- Saving
- Investing

### **Application**

Know:

- Your income
- Your expenses
- Your profits
- Your cash flow

## **Conclusion**

Good stewardship leads to sustainable growth.

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# **7. Build the Business Before Building Luxury**

## **Scripture**

*"Put your outdoor work in order and get your fields ready; after that, build your house." (Proverbs 24:27)*

## **Lesson**

Many businesses fail because owners withdraw profits too early.

Reinvest before rewarding yourself excessively.

## **Application**

Use profits to:

- Expand operations
- Purchase equipment
- Improve systems
- Increase capacity

## **Conclusion**

Build productive assets before pursuing luxury.

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## **8. Treat Employees Fairly**

### **Scripture**

*"Do not hold back the wages of a hired worker." (Leviticus 19:13)*

### **Lesson**

Employees should be treated with:

- Respect
- Fair compensation
- Dignity
- Honesty

### **Application**

Pay fairly and on time.

### **Conclusion**

How you treat workers reveals your character.

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## **9. Avoid Unnecessary Debt**

### **Scripture**

*"The borrower is servant to the lender." (Proverbs 22:7)*

### **Lesson**

Debt can help growth when used wisely, but excessive debt can destroy a business.

### **Application**

Borrow only when:

- There is a clear purpose.

- The investment will generate value.
- Repayment is realistic.

## **Conclusion**

Wise debt builds; reckless debt destroys.

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# **10. Give Generously**

## **Scripture**

*"It is more blessed to give than to receive."* (Acts 20:35)

## **Lesson**

God blesses businesses that become channels of blessing.

Giving may include:

- Supporting ministry
- Helping the needy
- Community projects
- Mission work

## **Application**

Develop a culture of generosity.

## **Conclusion**

Generosity reflects God's heart.

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# **11. Build Long-Term Relationships**

## **Scripture**

*"A good name is more desirable than great riches."* (Proverbs 22:1)

## **Lesson**

Business success depends on trust.

Customers remember:

- Honesty
- Reliability
- Good service

## **Application**

Protect your reputation at all costs.

## **Conclusion**

A good name is one of the greatest business assets.

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# **12. Depend on God's Guidance**

## **Scripture**

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding." (Proverbs 3:5-6)*

## **Lesson**

Business decisions should be covered in prayer.

Seek God's wisdom concerning:

- Investments
- Partnerships
- Expansion
- Opportunities

## **Application**

Invite God into every business decision.

## **Conclusion**

The greatest business partner is God Himself.

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## **FINAL CONCLUSION**

A godly business is far more than a profit-making venture. It is a platform for stewardship, service, influence, and Kingdom impact. God calls believers to conduct business with integrity, diligence, excellence, generosity, and faithfulness.

When business is conducted according to biblical principles, it becomes a blessing not only to the owner but also to employees, customers, families, communities, and the Kingdom of God.

Success should not be measured solely by profit margins but also by the extent to which the business honors God, serves people, and creates lasting value.

### **Key Lesson**

**A godly business honors God, serves people, creates value, manages resources faithfully, and uses profit as a tool for Kingdom impact.**

### **Memory Verse**

*"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans."*

— **Proverbs 16:3**

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*"Building disciples, families, leaders, and businesses on God's Word."*

