

The Christian Business Leader's Guide to Wise Decision-Making

A STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS FOR GETTING
CLARITY AND FOCUS

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When I started my first business sixteen years ago, I sensed God calling me to create a company that had a higher purpose of reaching people for Christ and giving to the Kingdom. Since that time, my wife and I have started six additional companies and through them we've seen the lives of our remarkable team members impacted as well as thousands of others around the world.

Business leaders are faced with making multiple decisions every day that significantly influence our professional and personal lives.

- How do we model servant leadership to those we lead?
- How do we wisely steward the resources we have been given to manage?
- How do we make the best hiring choices when building a team?

When I reflect on what has had the biggest impact on my business success, it comes down to one thing: a daily practice and commitment to seek God's direction and then obediently take action. This influences every personal, family and business decision I make.

All that we have is a gift from God and we are simply stewards of what is his (Psalm 24:1). God owns everything, including all of the businesses, and so it is vital that I listen to His direction. The key to every success that I've been a part of in business and ministry has been to simply read and study the Bible, meditate on it day and night, hear God's voice daily and just obey what He asks of me.

I hope as I share my daily process with you, it will build your confidence in hearing the voice of God. And I pray that you, your family, your business, and community will thrive because of your obedience.

STEP ONE:

Pray with the Leading of the Holy Spirit



It's important that you create a quiet place where you will not be distracted. I have a room in my house that is very special to me, and it is where I go each morning to spend time with God. With the magnitude of my business, it would be easy to wake up and immediately jump into work. But I have realized that I must carve out time at the beginning of each day to listen to God and get His direction in every area of my life.

When we accept Christ as our Savior, the Bible says that the Holy Spirit comes to live inside us. I Corinthians 1: 21-22 in the New International Version puts it this way:

"Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come."

At the beginning of my prayer time, I specifically ask the Holy Spirit to show me how to pray and then take time to let the Spirit of God pray and intercede for others and situations through me.

"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying..." Ephesians 6:18

STEP TWO

Ask God to Speak

Every great conversation is a balance of talking and listening. God wants to have an intimate relationship with us, and we see examples throughout the Bible that God speaks to His children.

After praying through the leading of the Holy Spirit, I specifically ask God to speak to me about what I have just prayed about. I always have a journal in hand and after I ask God to reveal what He wants to say, I begin writing down whatever I discern He is prompting me.

It may be a scripture verse, a mental picture, a word of encouragement, or a specific direction or action step I or others need to take.

As you begin to practice this, don't doubt or second guess yourself. After you have asked God to speak, just start writing down what you sense He's saying to you, for you, and for others.

*“Call to me and I will answer you and tell you
great and unsearchable things
you do not know.”*

JEREMIAH 33:3

STEP THREE

Pray in Agreement

At this point, I read through my notes and ask myself:

- 01** — Does this align with God's Word? Is there a consistent pattern in the Bible showing me that the direction or words of encouragement I heard ring true?
- 02** — For instance, if I sense God's direction on an employee matter, would the steps I take demonstrate Godly wisdom and be an expression of the fruit of the Spirit? Are there several Scriptures that reinforce the step I am thinking of taking?
- 03** — Does this align with God's character? Will I demonstrate integrity, courage, honor, wisdom and love if I move towards the direction or action step I feel led to take?

Once I have confirmed that I believe God has spoken to me, I choose to receive it and pray in agreement with it. I choose to pray with the authority that Jesus has given to us as His children. I pray for God's Kingdom to come in my situation as it is in Heaven.

Then, I choose to stand on God's truth. Later, when I'm tempted to doubt what God said, I can go back to what I wrote down, believe God was speaking and simply walk it out in obedience.

I encourage you to share what you sense God is saying and revealing to you. There is power in agreeing with others as you pray in faith together. Invite your trusted family and friends into the process with you and be open to their feedback. This is all part of the process of confirming God's direction and walking wisely.

Final Thoughts

My prayer for you is that these simple steps will radically transform your prayer life and relationship with God. As He speaks to you, may you receive God-sized dreams to reach the world with His love and fulfill the plans and purposes He has for you and your business.

For more resources on how to integrate your faith in your business, please visit my website: www.meetjohnhouston.com

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