



THY KINGDOM COME
**MY FATHER'S
BUSINESS**

BISHOP FELTON HAWKINS

Luke 2:48-52

48 And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing.

49 And he said unto them, **How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?**

50 And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them.

51 And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

- Many times, people fail to see the kingdom as a place of business and commerce. But, it is clear while the ultimate reason for the kingdom is to promote God's plans and business, these principles reach across every dimension of life here on earth.
- Jesus from an early age had a clear idea of his purpose and mission on earth.
- He also realized that in order to fulfill the purpose and vision, he would need earthly provisions for this spiritual obligation.
- Kingdom business, like any business, requires a clear and concise vision of what we need to accomplish. Steven Covey says "begin with the end in mind." We must ask what does the finished product look like and understand the gravity of the commitment needed to accomplish it.

Luke 14:25-33

25 And there went great multitudes with him: and he turned, and said unto them,

26 If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.

27 And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.

28 For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?

29 Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him,

Luke 14:25-33

30 Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish.

31 Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand?

32 Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth conditions of peace.


33 So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.


- Every vision has a price that has to be made. It is interesting that Jesus starts off by talking about the price of the vision rather than the grander of the vision.
- Every vision for your business will require a budget that you should know before you start the vision
- Too many of us get enamored with the potential of profit we can make and overlook the sacrifice that must be made in order to get to that place.
- Jesus starts off by talking about the price, the burden of the cross, self-denial, and following instructions.
- It is interesting how many people refuse to follow instructions, think they know it all, and end up a disaster because they don't have the spirit of God.
- If it does not cost anything it probably is not worth anything in the first place.

Luke 6:39-40

39 *And he spake a parable unto them, Can the blind lead the blind? shall they not both fall into the ditch?*

40 *The disciple is not above his master: but every one that is perfect shall be as his master.*

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- It is amazing how many people who have never seen any real consistent success try to take the lead in areas they know very little about.
 - How is the student greater than the teacher? How is the apprentice greater than the supervisor? How does the disciples give the master instructions?
 - In business it takes more than talent, gifts, and intelligence to manage and run a business successfully.
 - Proper training, submission, and attitude are key ingredients that will determine the level of success we will have.

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- The grave is full of talents, gifts, and great minds that were wasted because those who died with them thought that was all they needed to have certain levels of success.
 - If it was easy, everyone would be able to do it. Everyone is an expert until they have to execute and produce results.

Matthew 13:22

22 He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.

- You cannot have a successful business if you are caught up on the cares of this world.
- You cannot have a successful business if you are deceived by riches and don't understand how wealth is built.

Matthew 21:12-13

12 And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves,

13 And said unto them, It is written, **My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.**

- Here Jesus is outraged because the sanctity of the temple is perverted by those who are tampering with worship by manipulating people with the sale of sacrifices.
- They have conned the people out of their money with high prices and sacrifices that did not qualify for burnt offering and sacrifices.
- Not only that, but the place of worship had become a market for merchandise sold to make the religious leaders rich.
- The house of God became a den of thieves and the worship of God had become a place of profit through illegitimate business.
- To have a successful business you must have a quality product.
- You must know your industry and you must know your competitors.

John 4:34-35

34 Jesus saith unto them, **My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.**

35 **Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.**

John 9:4-5

4 **I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.**

5 **As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.**