



TEN COMMON OBSTACLES CHRISTIAN

BUSINESS LEADERS ENCOUNTER

AND HOW TO OVERCOME THEM



By definition, every follower of Jesus must respond to Jesus' call on their life. And central to every Christian business leader's calling is loving their professional peers by sharing their faith in Jesus.

THE BIGGEST OBSTACLE TO SHARING OUR FAITH IS NOT THE EXTERNAL REALITIES OF OUR BUSINESS LIFE. RATHER, IT IS THE INTERNAL REALITY OF OUR THOUGHT LIFE.

Christian business leaders often hold beliefs that are simply untrue.

Not only are they false but they undermine our confidence and effectiveness as Christ's ambassadors in the marketplace.

A good way to overcome these false beliefs is to understand why they are not true and to *replace* them with confessions anchored in the truth of God's Word.

The Apostle Paul encourages us to renew our minds (Romans 12:2). And renewal is accomplished by deeply internalizing God's perspective regarding every aspect of life—including business leadership.

On the next page you'll find ten false beliefs that are among the most common obstacles to fulfilling our marketplace calling—and the reality of God's perspective about each one.



FALSE BELIEF

REALITY

#1 BUSINESS IS NOT A **LEGITIMATE** CALLING

All we are and everything we possess is a gift from God. In His sovereignty, God gives some individuals the talent and motivation to become, with personal effort, very effective in a business calling.

#2 BUSINESS IS NOT AN **IMPORTANT** CALLING

Private sector business makes an outsized contribution to human flourishing for many reasons including creativity, funding, and influence in society and across the global economy.

#3 BUSINESS IS **MORALLY** TAINTED

A business enterprise is not a moral entity. Rather, it is the leaders and others employed in business who sometimes have moral failures.

#4 BECAUSE BUSINESS IS A SECULAR REALM, I CANNOT BE **OPEN** ABOUT MY FAITH

God hasn't called us to be secret service agents in the workplace! In fact, Jesus has commanded us to shine our light *everywhere*.

#5 MY **IDENTITY** IS CLOSELY CONNECTED TO MY BUSINESS CARD

As followers of Jesus, we find our identity in who (and whose) we are, not in what we do.

#6 THE BIBLE IS NOT **RELEVANT** IN THE SECULAR, HIGH TECH MARKETPLACE OF THE 21ST CENTURY

Since God has an eternal perspective and His word is inerrant, it doesn't have a shelf life! Life principles and moral standards based upon objective truth never change.

#7 THERE IS AN INHERENT **CONFLICT** BETWEEN SCIENCE AND FAITH IN GOD WHICH MAKES ME NERVOUS WHEN SHARING MY FAITH

Many scientists today and down through the centuries are/were followers of Jesus. It is not science that divides scientists—it is their worldviews.

#8 THERE IS AN INHERENT CONFLICT BETWEEN MY **DUTIES** AS A BUSINESS LEADER AND MY BEING OPEN ABOUT MY FAITH IN THE MARKETPLACE

Jesus expects us to give our employers their due: our very best. We must take advantage of every opportunity to share our faith with our professional peers while not robbing our employer of our time.

#9 MY BUSINESS PEERS ARE NOT OPEN TO DEEPER **CONVERSATIONS** ABOUT GOD, MEANING AND LIFE'S PURPOSE

Because God made everyone in His image, He has wired my business peers with the need to uncover the meaning and purpose of their own lives.

#10 BEING OPEN ABOUT MY **FAITH** IS A CAREER-LIMITING MOVE

Our ultimate source is not our positions as leaders but the Lord. When we put His priorities first, we can count on His providing for our every need.