



**Sunday March 11, 2012**  
**Marketplace Mandate (Part - 2)**  
**Proper Motivation for the Marketplace**

“right” and “wrong” motivation (motives) for individual success or for business success in the marketplace

**1 Corinthians 4:5**

**Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels (motives) of the hearts. Then each one's praise will come from God.**

We will be judged not just by the size of our achievements, but for the motives with which we did them.

**Motivation**

- How do I manage and maintain right motives as I seek to be a successful professional?
- How do I develop a passion for excellence and wealth creation without selling out to the god of mammon (money)?
- Can I do what's right and be successful in a competitive, profit-centric, bottom-line world?
- Can I be both ethical and spiritual?

**Nothing Wrong With Profit Motive**

Biblical principles and being profit-driven are not opposites.

It is not wrong to desire profit from work and to get motivated by profit.

**(A) God empowers us to profit**

The Wisdom that God gives leads to profit.

**Proverbs 1:20,21**

**20 Wisdom is crying out in the street; her voice is loud in the open places;  
21 Her words are sounding in the meeting-places, and in the doorways of the town:**

**Proverbs 2:6**

**For the Lord gives wisdom; out of his mouth come knowledge and reason:**

**Proverbs 9:10**

**The fear of the Lord is the start of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One gives a wise mind**

**Proverbs 3:13-18**

- 13 Happy is the man who makes discovery of wisdom, and he who gets knowledge.  
14 For trading in it is better than trading in silver, and its profit greater than bright gold.  
15 She is of more value than jewels, and nothing for which you may have a desire is fair in comparison with her.  
16 Long life is in her right hand, and in her left are wealth and honour.  
17 Her ways are ways of delight, and all her goings are peace.  
18 She is a tree of life to all who take her in their hands, and happy is everyone who keeps her.**

**Proverbs 4:5-8**

- 5 Get wisdom, get true knowledge; keep it in memory, do not be turned away from the words of my mouth.  
6 Do not give her up, and she will keep you; give her your love, and she will make you safe.**



**7 The first sign of wisdom is to get wisdom; go, give all you have to get true knowledge.**  
**8 Put her in a high place, and you will be lifted up by her; she will give you honour, when you give her your love.**  
**9 She will put a crown of grace on your head, giving you a head-dress of glory.**

**Proverbs 8:1**

**1 Is not wisdom crying out, and the voice of knowledge sounding?**  
**2 At the top of the highways, at the meeting of the roads, she takes her place;**  
**3 Where the roads go into the town her cry goes out, at the doorways her voice is loud:**  
**18 Wealth and honour are in my hands, even wealth without equal and righteousness.**  
**21 So that I may give my lovers wealth for their heritage, making their store-houses full.**

## **(B) Rich in faith and rich in the world**

The Bible contains the record of many people who were both rich in faith and rich/successful in the world.

My faith in God does not necessarily become compromised by my pursuit of success in the world.

- Abraham – Abraham was extremely rich and wealthy and was also strong in faith, being called a friend of God and the father of faith. (Romans 4:12, James 2:21,23; Genesis 13:2, 24:1,34,35)
- Isaac – Isaac received a 100-fold return on his investments because of God's blessing on his work. (Genesis 26:12-14)
- Jacob – Jacob's employer Laban soon came to recognize that every since he hired Jacob, profits increased. Jacob himself personally became wealthy because of the blessing of the Lord. (Genesis 30:27, 30, 43)
- Joseph – Even in adverse situations, God blessed, prospered and elevated Joseph at his workplace. (Genesis 39:2-4,21-23).
- Job – Job was a man who had a deep reverence for God and was also among the wealthiest in his time. (Job 1:1-3).
- David – David was "profit-driven" when he decided to use his faith in God to fight Goliath. Once he heard of the reward – great wealth, the king's daughter, political freedom – David asked around at least two more times to verify the reward, before venturing into combat. And David was "a man after God's own heart". (1 Samuel 13:14; 1 Samuel 17:22-31)

## **(C) The blessing of the Lord**

**Ecclesiastes 3:13**

**And for every man to take food and drink, and have joy in all his work, is a reward from God.**

**Ecclesiastes 5:18,19**

**18 This is what I have seen: it is good and fair for a man to take meat and drink and to have joy in all his work under the sun, all the days of his life which God has given him; that is his reward.**  
**19 Every man to whom God has given money and wealth and the power to have pleasure in it and to do his part and have joy in his work: this is given by God.**

**Psalms 35:27 God has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant.**

**Psalms 112:1-3**

**1 Let the Lord be praised. Happy is the man who gives honour to the Lord, and has great delight in his laws.**  
**2 His seed will be strong on the earth; blessings will be on the generation of the upright.**  
**3 A store of wealth will be in his house, and his righteousness will be for ever.**

**Psalms 128:1-4**



- 1 Happy is the worshipper of the Lord, who is walking in his ways.
- 2 You will have the fruit of the work of your hands: happy will you be, and all will be well for you.
- 3 Your wife will be like a fertile vine in the inmost parts of your house: your children will be like olive plants round your table.
- 4 See! this is the blessing of the worshipper of the Lord.

**Proverbs 10:22** The blessing of the LORD makes one rich, And He adds no sorrow with it.

Profit motive is not necessarily evil. It is a gift from God when used properly. Profit motive is to a businessman what the drive to win is to an athlete.

### **However We have to maintain Godly Motivation**

Proper Motives to maintain when pursuing professional success and significance:

#### **1. Glorifying God**

**1 Corinthians 10:31**

So then, if it is a question of food or drink, or any other thing, whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

**Isaiah 28:5,6**

5 In that day the LORD of hosts will be For a crown of glory and a diadem of beauty To the remnant of His people,

6 For a spirit of justice to him who sits in judgment, And for strength to those who turn back the battle at the gate.

#### ***Glorify God through excellence***

Excellence becomes a passion, when you know that it pleases God and it makes God look good.

**Ephesians 6:5-8**

5 Servants, do what is ordered by those who are your natural masters, having respect and fear for them, with all your heart, as to Christ;

6 Not only under your master's eye, as pleasers of men; but as servants of Christ, doing the pleasure of God from the heart;

7 Doing your work readily, as to the Lord, and not to men:

8 In the knowledge that for every good thing anyone does, he will have his reward from the Lord, If he is a servant or if he is free.

As a professional, I am being "rewarded" (paid & promoted) for the service I provide. If I choose to be an excellent "servant" success and significance will follow me.

Hard work is not a chore when you know that God has said that "the hand of the ready worker gets in wealth" (Proverbs 10:4)

#### ***Glorify God through releasing His Kingdom***

Matthew 6:33

But let your first care be for his kingdom and his righteousness; and all these other things will be given to you in addition.

Make the purposes of the Kingdom of God a priority.

I choose to live by the principles and values of His Kingdom, and seek ways to see His Kingdom come, His will be done through my role in the marketplace.



It all depends on the clarity of your vision

**Matthew 6:19-24**

**19 "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal;**

**20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.**

**21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**

**22 "The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light.**

**23 But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!**

**24 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.**

## **2. Wealth creation for the common good**

**1 Timothy 6:17,18**

**17 Give orders to those who have money and goods in this life, not to be lifted up in their minds, or to put their hope in the uncertain chances of wealth, but in God who gives us in full measure all things for our use;**

**18 And to do good, having wealth in good works, being quick to give, taking part with one another;**

I pursue success because my being successful can become a conduit of blessing to those around me.

I move from "earning a living" to "serving a purpose".

Many organizations implement Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) or means to "give back" to the community.

## **3. A heart free from Covetousness and Indifference toward God**

**Luke 12:15-21**

**15 And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.**

**16 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully:**

**17 And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?**

**18 And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.**

**19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.**

**20 But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?**

**21 So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.**

Money or financial success is not wrong. However prioritizing money over God is wrong.

**Mark 4:19**

**And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.**

"Career lust shows itself in tearing down people around you, insulting or disparaging them in order to make your own candle burn brighter" – Jack Welch in "Winning", 2005

**1 Timothy 6:6-10**

**6 But godliness with contentment is great gain.**



**7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.**

**8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.**

**9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.**

**10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.**

Contentment = Greek: "self-sufficiency", a mind satisfied with its lot.

**Proverbs 13:11**

**Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished: but he that gathereth by labour shall increase.**

### **Closing Thoughts**

How do I define success?

Expand your definition of success from making money to making a difference.

Expand your definition of success from just outcome (achievement, fame, recognition, wealth) to include meaningful purpose (meaning, importance, relevance, value)

1. My definition of success should include the fulfilling of my God appointed purpose.
2. My definition of success should include being (a) a good steward of those things (resources, talents, skills, capabilities) that God has given me and (b) a good steward of things belonging to others that I am entrusted with
3. My definition of success should include an eternal perspective

Prayer + Altar Call

Invite LG Leaders



**USEFUL RESOURCES**



Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

**YOUTUBE:** <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

**WEBSITE:** <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

**CHURCH:** <https://apcwo.org>

**FREE SERMONS:** <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

**FREE BOOKS:** <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

**DAILY DEVOTIONALS:** <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

**JESUS CHRIST:** <https://examiningjesus.com>

**BIBLE COLLEGE:** <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

**E-LEARNING:** <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

**WEEKEND SCHOOLS:** <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

**COUNSELING:** <https://chrysalislife.org>

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