

SESSION ONE



CHRISTIAN BUSINESS FELLOWSHIP

YOUR CALLING IN WORK: **HOW TO DISCOVER & AMPLIFY IT**

Learning & Executing the Salient Components for responding to the calling of God



THE IMPRINT OF AN ENTREPRENEURIAL GOD

If you believe that we are made in God's image & likeness, it is prudent to observe how God himself goes about what he does. We'll uncover the entrepreneurial imprint in His work, and ask how we can mimic it in ours.

Our goal is for you to come off the course with a renewed vision for your work, along with a plan to accomplish what God has ahead for you - all to the glory of God and to the benefit of those with whom God providentially brings into the path of your daily living.

WHO THIS COURSE IS INTENDED FOR

The primary candidates who will get the most value from this course are:

- ✓ Entrepreneurs and/or corporate “intrapreneurs”
- ✓ Nonprofit & business leaders
- ✓ Students
- ✓ Retirees, stay-at-home parents and those seeking a new career

HOW TO GET THE OPTIMUM VALUE FROM THIS COURSE

Although you are welcome to go through this course on your own, we highly recommend inviting a cohort from your school, church, networking group, or company to go through it with you. There are several points in the course where discussion and collaboration can drive very meaningful outcomes, and we would want you to benefit from those.

The summary outcome of this course is to produce God-glorifying workers energized by the knowledge that they are right on mission for their King.

SESSION ONE

IS ENTREPRENEURISM PART OF GOD'S BEHAVIOR?

“And God said, let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that crepes upon the earth.”

Genesis 1:26

Depending on how you were raised, and even where you currently study or work, the word entrepreneurship likely has a positive or negative connotation to you. You may have grown up around an industrious small business family and as a result, have a very fond association to it. Or you may have grown up (or worked for) a workaholic entrepreneur, and associated an unpleasant connotation to that word.

The interesting thing to consider is God's behavior when He works. In audio session 1, Joe and LaVon will explore the work of creation and a few other areas where we get to see God in action to see if that telegraphs how we (who are made in his image) were really meant to work ourselves.

ARE YOU REALLY ENTREPRENEURIAL?

Survey 100 people at your school or place of work and ask them if they are entrepreneurial. Chances are most will say no. The thought process most people employ is that unless you own and operate your own company, had a billion dollar sale of your business, or lost your shirt trying to start a business, you're likely not an entrepreneur. But is that assumption correct?

Research into entrepreneurial behavior has found that there are 14 different traits that entrepreneurs exhibit in the act of being "entrepreneurial". Take a look at just a few of the traits that research has associated with entrepreneurship.

- ✓ Future Focus
- ✓ Idea Generation
- ✓ Need to Achieve
- ✓ Risk Acceptance
- ✓ Passion
- ✓ Optimism
- ✓ Persistence
- ✓ Action Orientation
- ✓ Non Conformity

Stop for a moment and read through that list again. Have you ever displayed some of these traits? Unless you've been living under a rock, chances are you can quickly think up several instances - maybe even as recently as in the last week - where you've displayed some of these traits at home or at work.

News flash. Each time you displayed one or more of these traits, you were being "entrepreneurial".

What's really interesting to now consider though is that each time you have displayed these traits you have also been displaying the image of God. You may not buy into that right away, but we hope to convince you of that before we're done here.

See, that time you got a phone call from a worried family member with an urgent need and you rushed into a mode of problem-solving, and idea generation you were doing what God designed you to do.

That time when your boss needed something done urgently and you took on the extra risk of staying late and sacrificing time to accomplish a task that certainly wasn't part of your job description, that was your entrepreneurial DNA activating to serve and meet a need.

If I had a chance to interview you on your life story no matter how long or short of a time you have spent on this earth there are likely hundreds of situations where you have acted "entrepreneurially".

The question is, have you connected that behavior to a God-given imprint that you can now use in a very focused and strategic way to advance your work and his kingdom?

Unfortunately too many of us go through life not connecting the dots between our God-given entrepreneurial tendencies and his calling in our life. We blow the experiences off as seemingly unrelated occurrences (or even bursts of heroics) when in reality it is one of the most powerful tools in the toolbox God has given you to accomplish great things for Him.

Login and listen to audio session number 2 where Joe and LaVon do a quick exercise on the activation of entrepreneurial behavior and dig in a bit further.

CLOSING THOUGHTS ON THE TOPIC

Rewind in time for just a moment to a scene on a hillside in Israel. After a long day of outdoor ministry, the disciples came to Jesus to point out an urgent need fueled by thousands of hungry men, women and children. The fact that the disciples came to Jesus with this urgent need (rather than calling doordash or solving the problem themselves) would suggest that Jesus had proven to them time and time again that he was a problem solver, an idea generator, an innovator, and the 'go-to' person when there was a need.

Have you established yourself within your family, your school, your church, or your workplace as a go-to, make-it-happen kinda person? If so, welcome to the world of entrepreneurship! If not, what are you waiting for? The wiring is already there.

One last thing. One of the traits that drives a lot of entrepreneurial behavior is need to achieve. Simon Sinek calls it your "Why" in his book and TED talk appropriately named "Start With Why".

Now think about Jesus, the Son of God and His life on earth. If someone was to ask you if Jesus displayed "need to achieve" or "risk acceptance" or "non-conformity", in his life on earth, what would you say? He had an urgent, inexplicable, seemingly insane need to achieve ONE thing: His Father's will, and your redemption. That WHY drove one of the most brilliant displays of entrepreneurial behavior ever seen. As a matter of fact, take a look at any figure in history (or even a major influencer in your life) and you'll find that what made them that influential figure in your life - was their ability to activate and leverage these behavioral traits for something they believed in.

If you take nothing else out of this course please take this. Entrepreneurism comes from and through God and each time you display entrepreneurial traits to serve others, you are displaying Christ's likeness while glorifying him.

This course is going to position you to do more of it with greater intentionality, and less hesitation. Don't run from it. Don't think of entrepreneurship as risky or scary. Get ready to start using it as a tool to become a high performance, God glorifying, worker in His service.

CONNECT WITH JOE & LAVON



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Lavon is pretty active on Facebook and easy to find there. Lavon's blog can be found at <https://lavoninspirations.org/>



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CHRISTIAN BUSINESS FELLOWSHIP

If you're a business owner, check out ChristianBusinessFellowship.org to learn about that ministry and its membership benefits.