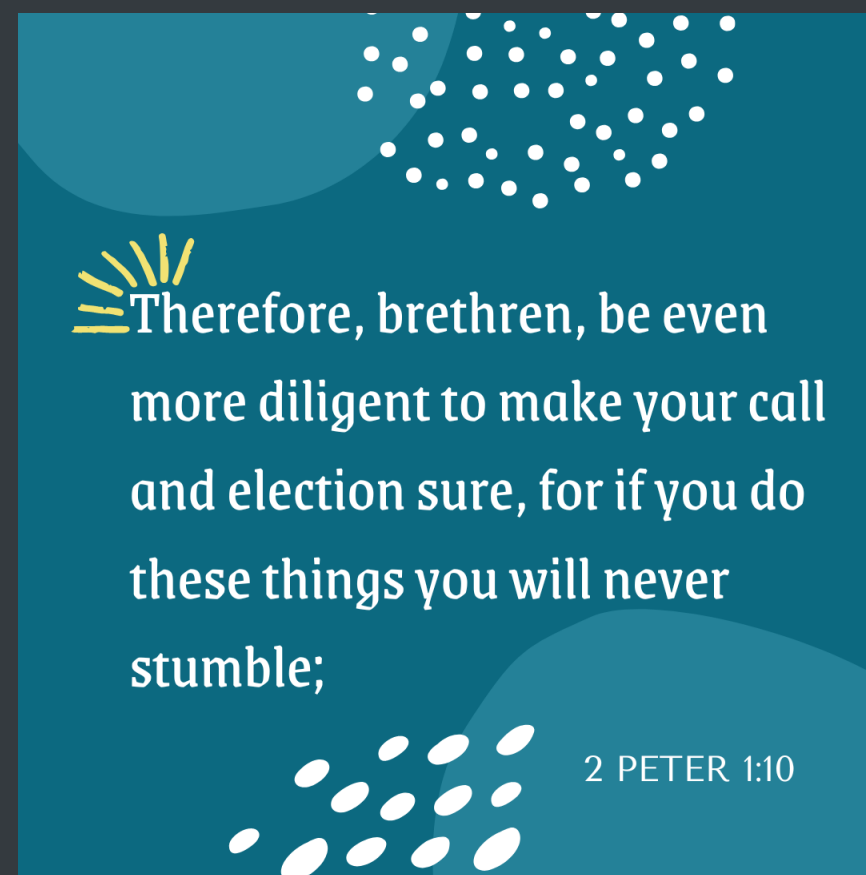


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Diligence: The Key To Success



Dear Friend

The blessing by itself cannot produce; we have to learn to cooperate with it. Deuteronomy 28:12 says: "The Lord shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow". God blesses the work of our hands. Deuteronomy 8:18 says: "But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day." God has given us the power to create wealth. Notice God does not give us wealth; He gives us the power to create this wealth. This power comes as talents, gifts, skills, opportunities, creativity and innovation. We have to realize that the ability we have to work in the marketplace comes from God. As we cooperate with the blessing we become a success in the marketplace.

1 Corinthians 15:10 says: "But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. It is by the grace of God that we are who we are. It is not by our own ingenuity or cleverness. God made us the way we are and blessed us to be who we are. Most people think that grace is the license not to do anything, whereas grace is actually the empowerment to fulfil your assignment. Paul recognized this truth and it fuelled him to work harder. He concludes by saying it wasn't him doing the work but the grace bestowed upon him. In other words, he cooperated with grace to make sure that it was not in vain.

There are so many great examples of marketplace leaders who were successful in the Bible. Jacob was an example of a marketplace leader with a great track record of success because he cooperated with the blessing of God. In Genesis 29:1-15 (MSG), we read that when Jacob received the blessing from his father Isaac he took off and went into the marketplace. We also read that Jacob got his first job from his uncle, Laban. Jacob had a great initiative: he moved the stone from the mouth of the well and watered the sheep of his uncle Laban. This is one of the most important qualities in the marketplace for promotion. He didn't wait for Rachel to ask him to move the stone. He moved it without being asked. The other workers were stuck in routine and laziness but Jacob was ready to work, even before a formal contract was in place. Jacob moved without an instruction. He used the blessing to do a project that usually took a team of shepherds. He had the blessing on him and he used it to get results. When Laban heard of Jacob, he immediately offered him a job. This turned out to be a defining moment for Laban because Jacob brought him great success. Jacob was a model employee - he was diligent, productive and faithful. He worked faithfully for 14 years and was eventually given shareholding.

The blessing also enables us to apply ourselves in the marketplace with excellence and innovation. The Hebrew word for "work" can also be translated as "worship". When we work, it is a part of our worship to God and as such, we should do it with excellence. Colossians 3:23 says: "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men", Isaiah 45:2 says: "I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight. I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron". The shortest distance between any two points is innovation. Innovation makes "crooked paths straight". Innovation makes things easier and quicker. Those that have the Holy Spirit have the advantage. John 16:13 says: "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come". Beloved, the Holy Spirit will show you things to come. He will show you innovations, inventions and technologies that can change the world.

With love,



Faith Hill Church

Faith Hill is a multicultural, family friendly church where all people from all backgrounds are welcome. Our church is led by our Senior Pastors, Tafara and Chipo Butayi. Both of whom are passionate about the Word of God and seeing lives being transformed.



Prayer for today's devotion

Dear Father

I thank You for my life this day. I thank You that I am prospering and I am in good health even as my soul is prospering. I thank You for giving me all the wisdom that I need pertaining to life and godliness. I will be victorious in this life. (2 Peter 1:3)

I thank You for the grace of prosperity that enables me to succeed in the Marketplace. You have given me the power to get wealth through my gifts, talents and opportunities. I will cooperate with this power to succeed in the Marketplace. (Deuteronomy 28:12)

I will put my best foot forward and present the work of my hands as worship unto you. I will allow the Holy Spirit to enable me to function with excellence in the marketplace. I will allow Him to show me things to come concerning my work and how to execute my tasks in innovative ways. (John 16:13)

In Jesus' name I pray, Amen



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