

THE
KINGDOM
PRINCIPLES OF
WEALTH AND
BUSINESS

From As in Heaven:
Life in God's
Kingdom
NOW

BRYAN ELLIOTT

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*All emphasis in Scripture added by the author.

*Bolded scriptures highlight the words of Jesus.

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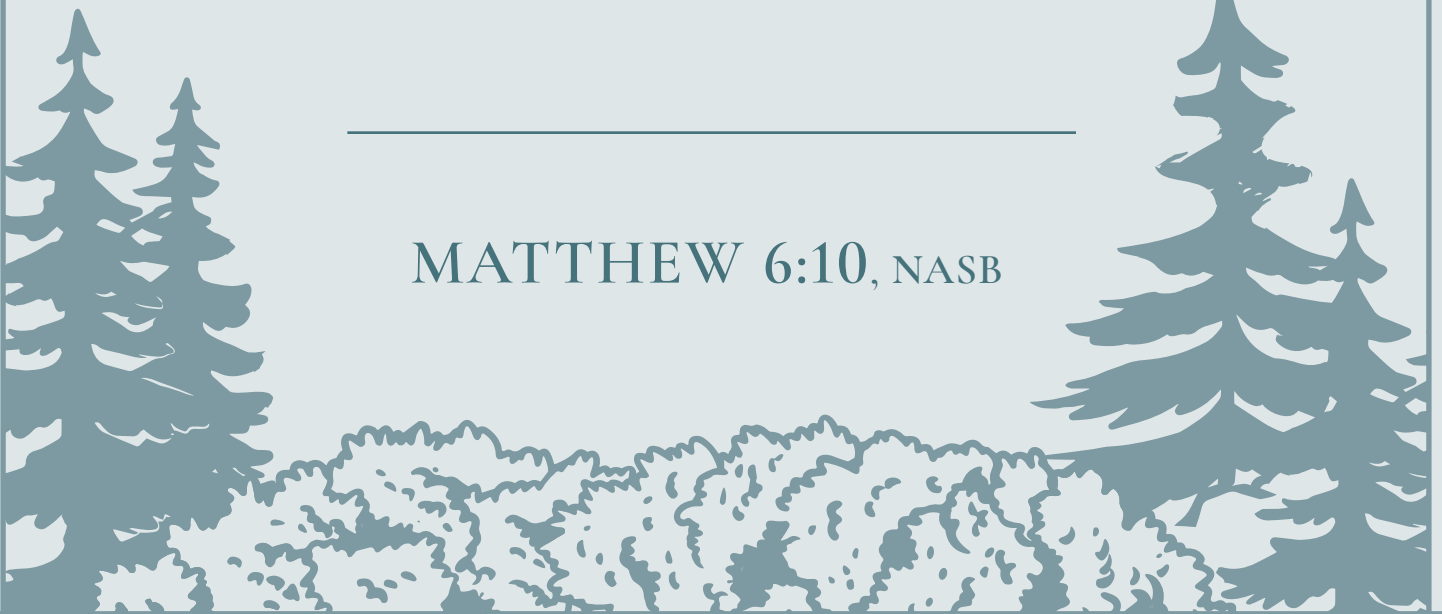
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*“YOUR KINGDOM
COME.*

*YOUR WILL
BE DONE,
ON EARTH
AS IT IS
IN HEAVEN.”*

MATTHEW 6:10, NASB



Introduction

The teachings of the godly ones are like pure silver, bringing words of redemption to others, but the heart of the wicked is corrupt.

—Proverbs 10:20, TPT

In early 2023, I had just released my first book, *More Than Gold*, a discipleship book about the foundations of faith, and I was planning to continue with this theme in my next book called *Greater Than Silver*. However, as I wrote the introduction, fresh inspiration from the Holy Spirit struck. I kept writing, and soon, that introduction became a whole new book—the one you are reading now. From start to finish, it has been a labour of love.

Life on earth is meant to be lived in the kingdom, *as it is in heaven*. This revelation came from a season that started in 2017 when the Lord began to highlight His kingdom to me, specifically regarding my business.

During this time, the Lord gave me a vision for a Christian company with God having majority ownership, which in my mind meant 51 percent. Then, in 2020, it became increasingly clear that everything I had was already His (100 percent ownership), and I was only a steward of what He had entrusted to me. I had more revelations about this in the coming years, which I will share later. This began my shift from a religious mindset to a kingdom mindset. I began to see that my external reality was a manifestation of my inward reality. As I took responsibility for my life, filled myself with the truth of Jesus, the living Word, and sought inner-heart healing, my world began to change, and my perspective became increasingly aligned with heavenly realities.

In 2022, with the Holy Spirit, I put together something titled the *Kingdom Manifesto*, where I outlined different elements of the kingdom and how they applied to life, family, relationships, business, wealth, etc. My theology, my view of God, my view of the world, and my priorities were all changing. My mind was being transformed by the Word of God and the Holy Spirit's presence in my life. I had read the Bible and all the scriptures about the kingdom of God before, but they started to look different. I was thinking differently. I was seeing differently. I understood differently.

WHAT IS LIFE IN GOD'S KINGDOM?

Jesus is *the way* into His kingdom.

His primary message is: the kingdom of God has come to earth for the restoration of all things.

His one new command is: to love others as He loves us.

His top priority and focus is: to seek first His kingdom and His righteousness.

His resulting promise is: to live above our circumstances knowing God is with us, ahead of us, and adding all things unto us, knowing that everything is by grace alone.

Our new identity is: as sons and daughters, kings, priests, kingdom ambassadors, and citizens of heaven.

Our purpose and mandate: We are chosen and born again from heaven to establish His kingdom on earth. We are conduits between heaven and earth, tasked with making the invisible kingdom visible. We are alive to experience the love of God and to share that love with others. To know God and make Him known. To serve and bless others. To be discipled and to disciple others. To grow God's family by making sons and daughters who become fathers and mothers who make sons and daughters. To be fruitful and multiply. To rule and reign in life by taking responsibility, each playing our part by tending our gardens, aligning our life, family, giftings, community, and business with heaven. To glorify Him with our lives, bringing heaven to earth from our life union with Jesus and in unity with the body of Christ to fulfill our destiny.

The centrepiece of the good news gospel, salvation by grace through faith is: that the just shall live by faith. Everything is by the extravagant grace of God. Grace is the power of God - God's unmerited, completely underserved and freely given favour. It cannot be earned. Grace is divine enablement. Grace is God's empowering presence that leads to His divine influence in our lives. Grace is the manifestation of God's unconditional love and mercy towards humanity. Grace is a sin conquering power. We live in grace-consciousness, not sin-consciousness as we yield to the dynamic life and power of the Holy Spirit.

The Testimony of God

They conquered him completely through the blood of the Lamb and the powerful word of his testimony. They triumphed because they did not love and cling to their own lives, even when faced with death.

—Revelation 12:11, TPT

Loving our lives even unto death means that we know our lives are not our own. It means knowing that we are each given a certain number of days on earth to steward what God has placed in our hands. Ultimately, not loving our own lives is a “stewardship” model of living.

How we steward what we’ve been given becomes our testimony. There is a difference between a biography and a testimony. A biography is about me. A testimony is about Jesus, the story of what God has done in me, with me, and through me. A testimony proclaims the greatness of God.

Every believer has a testimony of how Jesus became real to them personally. Our stories are different but equally powerful. Our testimonies help us and others overcome trials and tests. The word “testimony” comes from the Hebrew root word *odot* (עֲדוּת), which essentially means “do it again.” Every time we share our testimony of God’s faithfulness in our lives, we welcome the power of God to *do it again* in the lives of others. The Gospel is the testimony of Jesus, the power to destroy evil and give eternal life. Our testimonies are about how our stories fit into God’s greater story of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As we share our testimonies, we release the power of God for transformation to be released into the lives of others.

The spirit of prophecy is the testimony of Jesus. As we share what God has done in our lives, we become prophetic messengers and multiply the grace we have received to be activated in the lives of others. Every believer is meant to share their testimony, glorify God, and create the faith for others to receive breakthrough. Our lives serve as a living testimony of the kingdom of God, embodying the words of Jesus in Matthew 5:16: **“Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good words and glorify your father in heaven.”** Our Heavenly Father is no respecter of persons.¹ He shows no favouritism. What Jesus did for me, my daughter Bryn, or any other person, including all the people in Scripture, He can do for you!

Though our personal stories include tragedy and extreme loss, Bryn and I have been redeemed by Jesus and transformed into testimonies of Jesus. We tried life our way, then we did it Jesus’s way, the better way. His way is so different from anything the world has to offer. As we remember with gratitude what God has done for us, it builds our faith and honours God. It allows others to see God’s goodness. As we share our testimonies, God is glorified, and faith is ignited.

...For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy [His life and teaching are the heart of prophecy].

—Revelation 19:10, AMP

My Testimony

To understand how I came to write this book, I need to back up a few years to 2018. This was during the aftermath of my daughter Abbe's murder. To summarize the events that occurred on the day Abbe died, I've included an excerpt from my first book, *More Than Gold*.

Over the next hour in the hospital waiting room, I experienced a host of conflicting feelings. Heaviness, sadness, disbelief, hope... emotions overlapped, started, and stopped at strange intervals. I didn't know what to think or feel. No one would tell our family or me what was going on. There was no follow-up explanation. The only direct information we had was from that first call telling us Abbe had been stabbed. Family members arrived, one after another, gathering in silence as we waited for someone to tell us what was happening. When that moment finally came, the news was nearly impossible to believe. The doctors pronounced Abbe dead on arrival. The cause? She experienced five slash and stab knife wounds, with a stab wound to the heart as the ultimate cause of her death.

Everyone in the room cried out in sorrow and disbelief as the doctor's news sank in. I looked over and saw my younger daughter, Bryn, unravelling. Abbe was not just Bryn's only sister; she was her best friend. With my eyes locked on Bryn, my body registered severe, deep grief and debilitating disappointment. Could this really be happening? If it was, how could God allow it? My daughter had been stabbed in the heart. It was unimaginable. A tragic ending for my beautiful baby girl.

Only 21 years old, Abbe had tried and tried to get back on her feet from a life marked by intense suffering, tragedy, and ongoing struggles. After giving her life to the Lord and unsuccessfully attempting to heal from years of drug addiction and trauma, how could it end like this? How could something this terrible happen?

After hours of crying and trying to absorb what had happened, I went to bed that night, exhausted and numb. There was a void in my soul, the feeling that something precious was ripped from me. My mind raced. Heaviness filled my heart as I thought about my traumatized family and how Abbe was gone forever. Our lives would never be the same.

Yet, unexpectedly, I woke the next morning with an incredible and unexplainable peace I attribute solely to the grace of God. I was overwhelmed by the revelation that Abbe was in heaven with the Lord. She was now safe for all eternity with her Father in heaven, His great mercy revealed in her life. A true revelation and the experience of His mercy had produced in me a tangible joy, despite the devastating tragedy that had befallen my family. In His sovereignty, God saw the end from the beginning, and He allowed me to feel the heavenly reality that Abbe was finally home, safe and sound.²

Our loss was immense, but God had given me a compassionate and merciful gift of the revelation and consciousness of heaven's reality that will remain with me forever. Matthew 5:4 says, **“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted”** (NASB). Regardless of the miraculous peace the Lord gave me, my daughter Bryn experienced a very different reality in the weeks following the murder of her big sister. Bryn was thrown into complete mental chaos, instigated by Abbe's death, past traumas, and ongoing addiction. Immediately following Abbe's

funeral, we got word that Bryn was planning on getting “wasted” and had declared that she no longer wanted to live.

Later that evening, as she continued to spiral, we called 911, and the police escorted her to the hospital for a psychiatric evaluation. In hysterics, she left the house screaming every hurtful and cutting word she could muster towards me as an outlet for her rage. I followed her by car to the Canadian Mental Health Centre. When I arrived, the police asked me to leave because Bryn was upset with me being there, and they didn’t want to create a disturbance.

I returned home, hoping they would keep her for a few days, praying that God would breathe peace into my troubled daughter’s heart. She had already lived through too much for someone so young. Abbe’s death was the straw that broke the camel’s back.

Just after midnight, I received a call that Bryn had been released, even though we all knew she was still a danger to herself. Digesting this information, my mind began to replay the events of that day. It had started with Bryn in a panic before the funeral, declaring she didn’t want to live anymore and threatening to expose me as a terrible parent.

This began early in the morning and continued until I had no time left but to get dressed and rush to the funeral (which I led most of). I had planned on having a quiet morning to think through and emotionally prepare for the service, but the opposite happened. Even still, I was calm, peaceful, alert, and was able to honour Abbe’s life well, surrounded by hundreds of friends, family, business associates, and even gang members my daughter had befriended.

Bryn, on the other hand, spent her days leading up to the funeral with a “friend,” who we later discovered was still in contact with Abbe’s killers. She was afraid of what might happen to her in the wake of Abbe’s death and chose to hide away instead of mourning with those who were also grieving. Despite all this, God’s mercy and grace strengthened me beyond comprehension. His peace gifted me with rest when anxiety could easily have been my portion. Over the next week, I miraculously slept through each night. It was a supernatural grace response, one not shared by many who walked through this season with us. Each day, I had to surrender my living daughter to God, trusting He would see her through.

I didn’t know this then, but I was experiencing the kingdom realm of God, where my experience was not of this world but anchored in the presence of the King of Kings and Prince of Peace, Jesus.

At Abbe’s funeral, we chose to worship God amid our pain, and I assumed this would be my family’s turning point. I believed that God would intervene and turn Bryn’s life around in addition to many other areas of my life that were in disarray. Instead, it was an inception point of the Lord’s deep work that was underway.

Surrendering the Helm: A Transformative Shift in My Business

I went back to the office several weeks after Abbe's murder.

As an engineer, I gravitate to technical businesses and hold several technological patents. My core business, Flō, is an engineering company operating in North America's food retail sector. In the month that followed Abbe's murder, in May 2018, Flō took several financial hits that, on their own, would have been fine but, in conjunction with a symphony of losses and unexpected events, placed cash flow in a precarious position.

In 2017 (one year after I had made Jesus Lord of my life, my King), I attended Flō's board meeting of Christian and non-Christian executives to announce that I was no longer the owner or the majority shareholder.

"Everyone," I announced, "God is now in charge of the ship."

The board went silent. Finally, one man said he had figured as much and wasn't surprised. Such a change had been in the process for some time. Those around me knew my heart and perspective of God had drastically changed. Another inquired how the change would affect our finances and banking arrangements. At the time, I wasn't very concerned with these details. I had given everything over to the Lord. I was focused on becoming a good steward, shepherd, and father rather than just a successful businessman.

And then came the "slash and burn."

Embracing the "Slash and Burn"

After years of family trauma, addiction, multiple divorces, betrayals, and the loss of Abbe, I thought I had finally reached the turning point of my life. Instead, in June 2018, Doug Schneider, the leader of an apostolic council with pastors and marketplace ministers across Canada, came to me apologizing about a prophetic word he was about to give me.³

Doug wanted to declare a quick end to the pain and challenges I was facing, but he felt conviction from the Lord that I was about to enter into what he called a "slash and burn" season.

When Doug said, "slash and burn," I knew God was about to do something radical and dramatic to bring forth a new harvest in my life, but it would not be instant or without pain. "Slash and burn" refers to a farming method used for new growth that involves burning all existing growth in a plot of land to prepare the land for regeneration and new life. In the process, everything becomes uprooted, and the land becomes barren for several years before it can return to its original growing capacity.

I wondered what was coming as Doug continued to affirm my identity as a warrior and a worshipper. He said this was not because I had done anything wrong, but to the contrary. He confirmed I would be healed through the process and that God would faithfully restore all that had been lost.

Every area of my life was shaken in the months and years that followed. This word became an anchor for my soul, and I knew God was in charge of the process. He was already in my future. It was God's mercy, goodness, and faithfulness that confirmed what was coming and provided the promise of a beautiful new future following the fire. God provided grace and comfort, day by day and week by week, as I kept my eyes on Him. The enemy was raging, but God's grace was infinitely greater!

So, what does all this mean? If God has determined to stand with us, tell me, who then could ever stand against us?
—Romans 8:31, TPT

If you are in a similar season, remember the storm will eventually pass. Jesus is already in your future, past, and today. No matter what you are facing, keep going. If you submit to Him, you will be overcome by the grace of God.

The Perfect Storm

As 2018 progressed, the slash and burn was in full swing. Everything seemed to be going wrong all at once. Roughly a year after giving the company to the Lord, I faced the harsh reality of unexpected declines plus simultaneous multiple seven-figure losses across a broad array of investments due to a series of unforeseen events and poor decisions. This process of financial shaking would continue to play out over the following years in various areas of my life, including a divorce, my other company, and beyond.

Despite all this, I found comfort in that when we give our lives to God, it doesn't mean we won't suffer. He cares deeply about us. When we choose to die to our flesh (our old sinful nature, pride, carnal or selfish desires, anything that opposes the Holy Spirit within us) and allow Him to sift and refine us, what remains has eternal significance.

In fact, everything in my life was so bad that by August 2018, a group of Christian friends rallied behind me for a month of dedicated prayer over the entire situation.

Moving into 2019, Bryn's struggles with deepening addiction, anxiety, and depression contributed to her dropping down to 90 lbs (significantly below her now healthy 135 lbs weight) in a matter of months. She developed mononucleosis and was continuously sick. She would scream, rip out her hair, throw herself against walls, hit things, and say that she was crazy and insane. Each morning, as she awoke, she screamed in agony that she was still alive. I tried to assure her of her identity and encouraged her we would get through this together.

In September 2019, Bryn and I testified in Abbe's murder pretrial. It was another jolt to our fragile family. To make matters worse, a couple of weeks later, I heard a knock at the door and was served with a million-dollar lawsuit resulting from issues in the forced sale of one of my companies the year prior (which had already resulted in the loss of millions).

Late in October, my third marriage ended. We had married long before my convictions surrounding Jesus became the primary driver of my life. My wife was rightfully exhausted from the years of incredible stress and trauma around the addiction issues with both of my daughters and then Abbe's murder. She was not a Christian and didn't agree with how I had been dealing with the situation, nor with where my deepening faith was headed.

During the divorce, we lost our family home, which was purchased as our "forever dream house." That same month, I put my business on hold to focus solely on Bryn. In fact, the core writing of two of my books occurred amid these events, plus the extreme COVID-19 lockdowns in Toronto, a three-year murder trial, and a corporate lawsuit—all while almost losing my only other daughter, Bryn.

My senior team rallied and came together to support me. I didn't know how long it would take, but they were 100 percent supportive as I continued focusing on my relationship with Bryn and helping her find the deliverance and healing she needed on a special father-daughter inner-heart healing journey.

Looking Back

As Bryn and I dove into the past, many things became clear. The truth was that before I came to know Christ intimately, I prioritized business over family. For decades, family proved to be an immense source of pain. Subconsciously, business seemed like a much easier and safer path for my heart than allowing myself to be vulnerable to the pain I had experienced in my childhood.

When I was just 14 years old, my image of a safe, connected family was shattered by a devastating gun accident that left my brother in a comatose state. My mother dedicated the next 24 years of her life to providing full in-home care for my brother before he eventually passed away.

Following the accident, my family's dynamic became full of unprocessed grief, resentment, and shame related to what had happened to my brother. Our relational ties became strained and slowly unravelled over the years due to ongoing suffering and grief. Ultimately, my father was deeply impacted by sadness and left my mother. He lost his business and relied on alcohol for years before somewhat turning his life around. My other brother attempted suicide multiple times.

Our family was all committed to the Lord for a time; however, my siblings and I drifted away before or while heading to university. As we grew older, we moved further and further away from God. Through it all, my mother believed that God would restore our family. It would take decades

for her prayers to come to fruition, but she faithfully began sowing seeds in those early years of our family's heartache.

From my early teenage years into adulthood, after much pain and disappointment, my heart's cry to have intimate relationships shifted to pursuing a life of success and achievement. In a sense, it was easier, and it felt safe. In business, I could rely on what I thought was my strength to succeed, whereas cultivating a healthy family life or walking with the Lord required humility and submission. My desire to be viewed as a strong provider took precedence over establishing a godly foundation in my home. I focused on many charitable endeavours and philanthropy. However, my giving was rooted in a desire to earn God's acceptance rather than out of obedience and the love of God. Although I was achieving higher levels of worldly success, deep down, I was riddled with anxiety whenever storms hit. My trust was in money. My house was not built upon the Rock.⁴ My preoccupation with myself and the things of the world left doors wide open for the enemy to attack my daughters.

By the time my girls hit their pre-teens, they slowly fell into the chains of depression and addiction. For a while, I was spending \$40,000 per month on in-patient care for my girls, visiting them as often as the addiction centres would allow. As time went on, we learned that both of my daughters had been emotionally and sexually abused by someone close to the family. The abuse opened the door to many other tragedies, including multiple rapes, promiscuous activity, suicide attempts, destructive relationships, etc. Sadly, I missed much of their high school years. Any sense of stability was undermined by the breakup of our family multiple times through divorce, the constant chaos around their lives, and time spent away at treatment centres. Thankfully, from that low point in October 2019, Bryn started to turn around following a deliverance session, after which she gained confidence and new strength in God daily.⁵ With the help of some wonderful believers, life coaches, and a lot of hard work on her part, I watched as Bryn was healed, set free, and delivered from spiritual oppression. Her life became a testimony of the redemptive power of the Gospel!

When the Smoke Clears

The fire levelled many things in my life. In many ways, I'm still dealing with challenges and uncertainties that continue to arise from the chaos of those years. Nevertheless, I have experienced incredible transformation throughout the process and see challenges and suffering very differently because of my deepening relationship with the Lord and the work He has and continues to do in my life.

Murder is an unthinkable evil, and it was not God's plan or His destiny for Abbe to die in that way. However, I know that what the enemy intended for evil, the Lord will use for good.⁶ In many ways, Abbe's release from this life into heaven was merciful. Though she struggled immensely on this earth, she knew the truth of Jesus. Abbe is now with the Lord and free of all the pain and suffering she experienced daily.

So we are convinced that every detail of our lives is continually woven together for good, for we are his lovers who have been called to fulfill his designed purpose.

—Romans 8:28, TPT

All things work together for good for those of us following Christ, even in the darkest circumstances. All things working together for our good doesn't mean we get what we want or for our comfort. The ultimate good in our lives is sharing the likeness of Jesus, which often involves suffering and being formed by challenges and trials. God can sovereignly counteract the effects of what Satan intended for evil for our good. When we invite the Lord into these situations, everything changes; there is a deepening of faith and relationship with Him, combined with the revelation of many blessings. God is good. The outpouring of love and deep connection He has in store for us is beyond comprehension. Ultimately, the tragedy of Abbe's death brought my family together and gave Bryn and me a second chance to live the lives God had planned for us from the beginning in His kingdom. We embraced the life of glorious freedom Jesus died to give us.⁷

Bryn's life is now fully dedicated to the Lord, and she is committed to sharing the hope of Jesus with this generation and beyond. She served for almost three years as a missionary with YWAM (Youth With A Mission), a far cry from the life she was living just a few years ago. It's incredible to see her transformation. She has shared her testimony multiple times on a global stage, received a biblical studies degree, delivered sermons, and has even written a fantastic book about her testimony called *Dying to Live: Experiencing God's Redemptive Power in the Midst of Tragedy*. She and I are finalizing a joint father-and-daughter book on apologetics that we are eager to release. She has been on various podcasts and co-hosts our father-daughter podcast, "The Father's Pursuit." Together, we started M46 Ministries, dedicated to biblical family restoration. After a life of such wide-scale devastation, pain, loss, abuse, and trauma, Bryn is experiencing an equal amount of wide-scale opportunities to share her testimony for the sake of others and the glory of God. I understand this is not the norm for most people, nor even the highest pinnacle of being a Christian. Following Jesus is about loving and living well daily, simply being faithful.

Bryn's journey unfolds as she grows in faith, navigating challenges contributing to her maturity in Christ. My youngest daughter is vibrantly alive, and our relationship with each other and the Lord deepens daily. God, in His mercy, has delivered us from the pit of hell, in the natural and the spirit. Our relationship is stronger than ever, with its ups and downs, and I can honestly say that God has given us back everything the enemy stole. For the first time, my family has become a place of healing, restitution, and joy.

As I look back over my life, the biblical story of Job has always been a source of strength. Job was a righteous man whom God loved very much, whereas my life was only righteous in my own eyes based on the world's standards. Satan, hearing God's praise of Job, made the case that Job's obedience and love of God were rooted in the incredible blessing God bestowed upon his life. God allowed Satan to test and try Job but not to kill him. Job had misconceptions of God as the source of his suffering rather than Satan. Towards the end of the trials, Job cries out to God to come and

explain Himself. God answers Job's cry by taking him on a tour of His created universe of unfathomable complexity. In response, Job was struck with the fear of the Lord.

The fear of the Lord means seeing God rightly in awe, wonder, and adoration, which results in humility. Refining requires fire, which God allows. Ultimately, Job doesn't understand why he went through what he went through but chooses to trust in God's wisdom, decisions, and nature.

The Lord gives blessing, but sometimes He allows it to be removed by Satan. This isn't a punishment; rather, it's a refinement. When the refining process is over, He restores what was lost, plus more! Why? Because the refining process teaches us how to steward *more*. With this in mind, our circumstances don't define us but refine us.

The end of the story? God gave Job another 140 years of life and restored all that Job had lost, but even better than before. This is God's redemption as we yield to Him and learn to trust Him. Job's life had been shaken so that his faith would be unshakable, and his testimony will continue to fuel believers to overcome hardships for thousands of years to come!

We all experience times of testing, which is normal for every human being. But God will be faithful to you. He will screen and filter the severity, nature, and timing of every test or trial you face so that you can bear it. And each test is an opportunity to trust him more, for along with every trial God has provided for you a way of escape that will bring you out of it victoriously.

—1 Corinthians 10:13, TPT

We all face times of testing, a natural part of being human. But in every trial, God is faithful, providing opportunity to deepen our trust in Him. Regardless of the source, our Sovereign King not only filters our trials to ensure they are bearable, but also equips us with His grace (strength, wisdom, and peace) to overcome victoriously. His grace empowers us to endure, while growing in character, trust, and faith. Let's avoid complaining or seeing ourselves as victims, recognizing that each trial serves a purpose for our benefit. From my own journey, I've learned that life isn't happening to us, but for us, under the loving guidance and power of the Lord. Our hope rests in the incredible promises of God found in His word!

*Find your delight and true pleasure in Yahweh,
and he will give you what you desire the most.*

*Give God the right to direct your life,
and as you trust him along the way,
you'll find he pulled it off perfectly!*

—Psalm 37:4-5, TPT

I hope that my testimony and understanding of the kingdom of God will impart hope into your life and help you see the goodness and faithfulness of God in a fresh, new way. In the pages ahead, I pray that you not just read about God's kingdom, but that you experience it yourself. This book is not about ingesting information; it's about taking what God has revealed in Scripture and applying

it to our lives. Remember Proverbs 16:24, which says God's Word is sweet like honeycomb. We would be fools to miss out on its goodness.

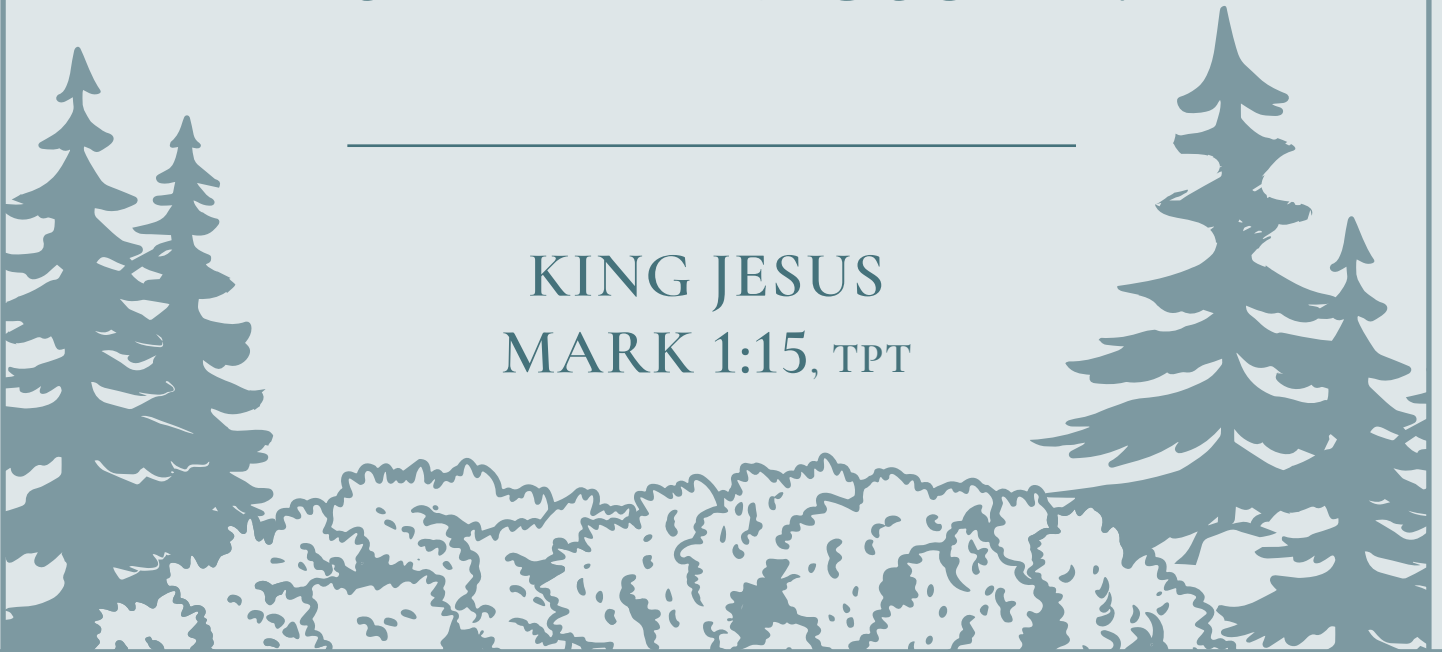
1. Romans 2:11.
2. Bryan Elliott, *More Than Gold* (Toronto: M46 Publishing, 2023).
3. A prophetic word is a message that reflects God's communication with us. God speaks. He is always speaking. He speaks through creation, dreams, visions, and the church community. God can also speak directly through an individual who receives a special or specific message for us. Of course, like every other spiritual gift, some people abuse, misuse, or fake prophecy. Some try to use "prophetic words" to manipulate and control others, in the same way some teach false doctrines. We test whether a prophetic word (or any other spiritual teaching, including mentoring, sermons, books, podcasts, etc.) is from God in several ways. It should be in line with Scripture. It should encourage and correct rather than tear down or damage. Prophecy should be confirmed as accurate by other believers, your spirit, and the witness of the Holy Spirit.
4. Matthew 7:24-27.
5. "Deliverance" was modeled by Jesus's ministry throughout the gospels. He commanded His followers to do the same (see Mark:16-17-20). It is a term used to describe special prayer ministry employed to "deliver" or "cast out" oppressive spiritual forces (demons) that contribute to physical, mental, or emotional distress.
6. Genesis 50:20.
7. Our story is documented in my first book, *More Than Gold*. If you are a new believer or want to refresh your walk with Jesus, I recommend starting with *More Than Gold* before continuing with *As in Heaven*. See www.m46ministries.com.

*WELCOME
TO THE
KINGDOM!*



*“AT LAST THE FULFILLMENT
OF THE AGE HAS COME! IT IS
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PUT YOUR TRUST IN THE
HOPE-FILLED GOSPEL!”*

KING JESUS
MARK 1:15, TPT



Welcome to the Kingdom

“Heaven’s kingdom realm is also like a jewel merchant in search of rare pearls. When he discovered one very precious and exquisite pearl, he immediately gave up all he had in exchange for it.”

—Matthew 13:45-46, TPT

I want you to imagine a King on earth with unprecedented, unmatched, and unlimited power and authority. Imagine a King with unlimited resources whose kingdom is unshakable and eternal. This King rules a kingdom whose government is always increasing with no end.

This benevolent King unconditionally and perfectly loves His subjects. He is a King who is humble and meek. He gave His life for every single person in His dominion.

Imagine a kingdom of honour, a kingdom of family, and a kingdom of heavenly relationships in unity and oneness. This is a kingdom where everyone flourishes, lives abundantly and is governed and defined by love. In this kingdom of righteousness and justice, perfect peace, joy, fun, and celebration always exist.

Imagine a kingdom of hope, destiny, and legacy. A place that provides safety, peace, and provision for all and where all who submit to Him are welcome.

All the citizens here are a royal priesthood under the King of Kings, a kingdom where all its citizens are ambassadors of the King.

Imagine a kingdom where every citizen is asked to steward the unique gifts and abilities the King gave them.

This place has no crime, control, greed, disease, poverty, sickness, or toiling. It is a place bursting with fruitfulness, life, and light. In this kingdom, the King is responsible for the provision and protection of His people and is glorified by their fruitfulness.

Imagine a kingdom whose people share an inheritance with the King as sons and daughters.

Could this promise of a kingdom reality be worth more than gold or be greater than silver?¹ Is it the pearl of great price?² Does this kingdom sound like heaven? What if this was available now and not just when you die? What if the answer to all of those questions is “yes”? Would you trade or sell everything to be a part of this kingdom?

This is the gospel of the kingdom of our God and of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is the Father’s great joy to welcome you into His kingdom!

A Citizen of the Kingdom of Heaven

“Rescue us every time we face tribulation and set us free from evil. For you are the King who rules with power and glory forever. Amen.”

—Matthew 6:13, TPT

The kingdom of heaven is in the spirit realm: established, invincible, eternal, and unshakable. The kingdom of God is the rule of King Jesus. Wherever the King rules, the kingdom of God is at hand, even on earth.

Most agree that the terms “kingdom of heaven” and “kingdom of God” can be used interchangeably. However, for this book, I want to make a slight distinction as a point of clarity.

God is everywhere (life would not exist otherwise), but His kingdom is not yet everywhere. As the kingdom of heaven spreads throughout earth, the kingdom of God is established—His manifest presence comes, revealing and making evident the righteousness, peace, and joy of the Holy Spirit. The invisible kingdom comes into people’s hearts and then is manifested on earth and will continue until heaven and earth become one after the return of Jesus. Those who submit to Jesus as their Lord and Saviour, who are adopted into God’s family as co-heirs with Christ, are welcomed into the kingdom of heaven. This kingdom reality of living *on earth as it is in heaven* changes everything. The kingdom of heaven will come to earth fully in the future, with the new heaven and new earth. The kingdom of God is how heaven functions. A kingdom is not a democracy. It is a realm of ownership and absolute authority belonging to the King. As Christians, Jesus, our Lord and Saviour, rules *everything*. In the words of Jeremy Treat, Ph.D. and adjunct professor of theology at Biola University, in the kingdom, “God’s reign begins in the human heart, but it will one day extend to the ends of earth... The message of the kingdom is not an escape from earth to heaven but God’s reign coming from heaven to earth.”³

I accepted Jesus as my Saviour when I was 13 years old, but I did not make Him my Lord until I was an adult. The word “lord” means “someone or something having power, authority, or influence; a master or ruler.”⁴ I may have said the words in my salvation prayer, but I didn’t know what it meant to submit to King Jesus, nor was my heart ready to do so. Tragically, because I did not understand submission or lordship, I wound up living a worldly and rebellious life for many years. I left the church and lived according to my rules.⁵ Though I believed in Jesus and considered myself a Christian, my life looked very similar to non-believers. I justified my behaviour and choices, even though I knew they were not biblical. I knowingly entered into sin, comparing my life to others and not to the Word of God.

“However, your real source of joy isn’t merely that these spirits submit to your authority, but that your names are written in the journals of heaven and that you belong to God’s kingdom. This is the true source of your authority.”

—Luke 10:20, TPT

Jesus does more than save us from eternity in hell; He is our Saviour and Lord. The Bible refers to Jesus as “Lord” more than 700 times, which gives us an idea of the gravity of the term.⁶ To make Jesus Lord is to acknowledge Him as my owner, my master, the supreme power and authority over my life.

In 2016, I made Jesus my Lord. I submitted everything to Him, which began a new process of surrender and sanctification. I acknowledged that I was bought at a great price by the blood of Jesus. My King died for me! My King’s love was so great that He made the ultimate sacrifice for you and me. It is Jesus alone who qualifies us as citizens of heaven!

The kingdom of God is the dominion of God, encompassing any place under the rule and reign of Jesus. For His kingdom to come through us, we must submit to His rule and reign, with Jesus as our Lord! We are called to make the invisible kingdom visible.

Can you see why Lordship is essential for entering the kingdom of heaven? When I decided to dethrone myself and declare Jesus as Lord, a new process began. I started surrendering other areas of my life to His Lordship, embracing the process of the cross where suffering is often necessary. Reflecting on this, I now perceive not only the power of the cross but also its beauty. The cross is meant to strip away all that we were never meant to be, enabling us to become who God designed us to be.

This is the point in my story where I decided to give up the rights to my life and give them to God. Submitting your life to God is living in freedom, not as a robot, but as one who walks with God and experiences the abundance only He can provide. It’s the realm of fearing the Lord, where we see Him rightly in reverential awe and wonder. For most of my life, I was an unwise builder whose life was tossed to and fro... but not anymore!⁷

The more I learn about God and understand His ways, the more I realize how much He loves and cares for His children. He literally sent His Son, Jesus, to die for our sins so that we could be reunited with Him.⁸ If we think of those we love—our children, parents, grandparents, siblings, or even friends who feel like family—then we can imagine (at least to some extent) the unconditional love of our Father in heaven. He knew us before the foundation of the earth. He carefully knit each of us together in our mother’s womb and has a beautiful plan for our futures.⁹ He knows everything about us—the good, the bad, and the ugly—yet He loves us *unconditionally*. Jesus gave His life so we could have access to the kingdom. He sees *us* as the unique and exquisite pearl of great price.¹⁰

That’s right, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords sees you as a pearl of great price. This perspective changes *everything*.

1. Psalm 19:10, Proverbs 3:14.
2. Matthew 13:45-46.
3. Treat, J. (2019, May 21). *The Kingdom of God in 8 Words*. The Gospel Coalition. <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/kingdom-god-8-words/>.
4. “Lord,” *Oxford Language Dictionary*, accessed October 11, 2023, <https://rb.gy/fl1o2>.
5. For the sake of clarity, the term “church” is used throughout this book in reference to the physical church. “Church” (capitalized) is used in reference to the body of Christ.
6. Francis Chan, “Is Jesus Your Lord?,” *Crazy Love Podcast*, accessed October 11, 2023, <https://rb.gy/dlmt4>.
7. Matthew 7:24-27.
8. John 3:16.
9. Psalm 139:13, Jeremiah 29:11.
10. Matthew 13:45-46.

The Kingdom Principles of Tithing, Generosity, and Faithfulness

“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and put Me to the test now in this,” says the Lord of armies, “if I do not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing [until] it overflows. Then I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruit of your ground; nor will the vine in the field prove fruitless to you,” says the Lord of armies. “All the nations will call you blessed, for you will be a delightful land,” says the Lord of armies.

—Malachi 3:10-12, NASB

Tithing: A Heart-check and Kingdom Investment

Firstfruits, the first and best, is a powerful principle of giving an offering at the beginning of the harvest, and the tithe is the firstfruits of our regular income. God established the tithe in Leviticus 27:30-33. In this verse, God commands the Israelites to give the first 10 percent of any income or increase back to Him.

We honour God by giving the tithe to Him first, before anything else. The tithe acknowledges that all we have belongs to the Lord. The tithe is our opportunity to give back to God in faith what is already His. As a tithe is sown in faith, God says in Malachi 3:10-12 to test Him to watch how He unfolds supernatural increase and rebukes the devourer! When we tithe, we can actively declare and call on God’s promise to rebuke the devourer (or anything that would attack our God-given prosperity). I encourage you to take God up on His promise and test Him!

Abram (before his name was changed to Abraham) presented the first tithe to God in the Old Testament:

And He blessed him and said, “Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; And blessed be God Most High, Who has handed over your enemies to you.” And he gave him a tenth of everything.

—Genesis 14:19-20, NASB

God does not *need* our tithe, but the kingdom on earth does need practical resources. Heaven contains infinite abundance. He does not need our money. Rather, the tithe is a tool to expose the condition of our hearts. Money reveals what we believe in and whom we trust. In giving, we acknowledge that all we have is from God. It demonstrates we believe He is our provider. The tithe is a principle in the kingdom. The tithe was made for us and our hearts today; it was not just an Old Covenant requirement. Many Christians say the tithe is an Old Covenant requirement of the law and we are currently under the New Covenant of grace, but the entire Bible is a treasure chest of ancient wisdom and goodness to be lived out.

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier provisions of the Law: justice and mercy

and faithfulness; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others.”

—Matthew 23:23, NASB

We know from the gospels that Jesus did not abolish the tithe. Jesus confirms in Matthew 23:23 that they should be tithing, along with following His other instructions. He also commanded us to be willing to give *everything* for the sake of the kingdom.¹ This is for our good! It trains us to be generous, and it is a privilege to give towards the promotion of the Gospel and the building up of the church. Generosity always yields abundant life.² Tithing is an act of faith and obedience that demonstrates our surrendered lives to God in a tangible way. It really is faith in action.

Tithing reminds us with every increase that all we have is from Him.

All we need, God will provide. He is the owner, and we are His stewards. Interestingly, as we are faithful with earthly riches, God will entrust us with true riches that can never be stolen. This includes the grace to walk out all He has planned for our lives. Many, like me, remember being a child in church. As the offering plate was passed around, our parents would put some money in our hands to put into the plate. The same is true today with our Heavenly Father. Ultimately, He provides our tithes, gifts, and offerings. Everything we have is from Him. The tithe is the Lord's.

Like any biblical principle, you are free not to follow them. However, it is wise to follow all of God's principles and the many dimensions of giving, including firstfruits, tithe, alms, legacy, and offerings. If you are not tithing or feel you don't have enough to start, consider building up to the tithe, starting with one percent the first month, two percent the second month, and so forth. This will create discipline and instill the habit of tithing.

Divine Stewards: Co-heirs and Servants in God's Economy

“How could you worship two gods at the same time? You will have to hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You can't worship the true God while enslaved to the god of money!”

—Matthew 6:24, TPT

We demonstrate stewardship and servanthood as we mature. Then, we can fully understand co-ownership and the power and privilege of our identity as sons and daughters and co-heirs with Jesus.

Baal, an ancient idol worshipped for fertility, means “master” or “owner.”³ When we become the owner of money (i.e., put our faith in money over God), it owns us. When we own our possessions, they will ultimately own us. This is why we are to claim nothing as our own. Consider the power our money and belongings have over us when not stewarded well. If you purchase a large house beyond your means, you will be controlled by a big mortgage, expensive electric bills, and land and property that needs constant tending. As a result, your time will be consumed with thoughts

of how you will manage the expenses looming over you, not to mention the hours of work to tend or pay for this massive responsibility.

On a more emotional level, money can often represent our value or worth in the world. We think the more we have to show for ourselves, the higher standing we have in the world. More money equals more power and influence, which is exactly what the kingdom of darkness (and the world) wants us to seek out first. In the kingdom, affluence is for godly influence and impact. We are blessed to be a blessing.

Rethinking Tithing for Kingdom Impact

Tithing also serves very practical purposes. On this side of the cross, tithing to the Lord goes towards where you are fed and blessed spiritually and receive the Word of God. Typically, this is your local church. By giving our tithe to God through the church, we provide for the tangible needs of those in vocational ministry. This allows pastors, leaders, and other church workers to continue serving the church, acting as managers to bless the community's relational, spiritual, and emotional needs. As the church is a place of outreach, our giving to the church also supports those in need locally, sends missionaries abroad, feeds the poor, and enables other acts of kindness in our communities. I believe we are moving from the age of the traditional church to the age of the kingdom! I believe we are moving from passive to active engagement, from sitting within the four walls of a church and being fed to the ekklesia operating 24/7 across every sphere of society, tearing down the walls between the sacred and secular. Christ created everything, visible and invisible. All things were created by Him and for Him. Christ is supreme in everything! This means there is no such thing as a sacred/secular divide. All things belong to Christ! God is tearing down the religious walls so people can enjoy where He has planted them, as God is bringing His kingdom everywhere! This type of church, or a church moving in this direction, is where I choose to sow my tithe.

Wealth is a gift from God, but it needs to be brought under the power and authority of our Lord, which is the purpose of the tithe. As stewards, if we can't be faithful with the 10 percent, which is the Lord's, why would we think we would be faithful with the remaining 90 percent? Redeemed wealth is key to God's plans to establish His kingdom on earth.

—Ed Silvano⁴

For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

—1 Timothy 6:10, NASB

Giving is surrendering control of our finances and trusting God as our provider, guarding our hearts from the love of money (money as an idol). Money is not good or bad in and of itself. But it must be submitted to God on all levels. Money can be a great blessing to many! When we give control of our finances to the Lord, they can be used mightily! A big house (or a home of any size, for that matter) can be a place to host church gatherings, bless those who need a safe place to stay,

and create opportunities for ministry of all kinds. Wealth can also be stewarded to provide for the needs of others, the church, or ministries (and ministers) needing funding. As we use our money to tithe, give generously, and care for the poor, widows, and orphans in advancing the kingdom, we are actually worshiping God with the money we are stewarding!

In the past, I debated how much I would give, where I would give, how much the tithe should be, etc. I was inconsistent in keeping the tithe and played mental games to justify my decisions. I got mixed up with firstfruits, tithes (the first 10 percent of income), and offerings (anything beyond the tithe). I now know how straightforward it is. Simply put, I give 10 percent to the church without argument. Anything I give to the church or those in need over and above that amount is a gift and an offering.

In fact, if we follow Jesus's model of giving in the New Testament, we would give away *everything*... not just 10 percent. Through giving, Jesus demonstrated the importance of our heart position and willingness to purchase the pearl of great price.

Jesus said to him, “If you want to be complete, go and sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

—Matthew 19:21, NASB

He then turns to His disciples and says in verse 24 that it is difficult to enter the kingdom when you are rich.

We can pass through with heavenly riches but must shed earthly entanglements. We are required to go low and recognize our spiritual poverty to enter the kingdom. The more we realize our poverty and total need for God for everything, the more we realize the kingdom. Following God requires full submission of your life and everything in it, including money.

The position of stewardship promotes generosity as we become set free to obey more and more! The tithe is a statement of stewardship, sanctifies our money, and frees us from the influence of both. This is true financial freedom, as opposed to the world's system, which is characterized by, first, *mammon*, second, greed, and third, riches. Mammon is a term used in Scripture meaning “riches” or “wealth” and is considered unrighteous.⁵ It refers to a demonic principality that deceives people into idolatry by encouraging us to believe that the source of power is money rather than God.

Each of the disciples was called to leave everything behind to follow Jesus. They left their jobs, families, time, control of their lives, and especially... their pride. As a reward, Jesus declared:

“And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or farms on account of My name, will receive many times as much, and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last; and the last, first.”

—Matthew 19:29-30, NASB

* * *

Father, we ask for the grace to honour the tithe and to live for You.

* * *

The Joy of Giving: Living Generously in God's Kingdom

Remind the wealthy to be rich in remarkable works of extravagant generosity, willing to share with others. These spiritual investments will provide a beautiful foundation for their lives and secure for them a great future, as they lay their hands upon the meaning of true life.

—1 Timothy 6:18-19, TPT

Generosity has always been a core value of mine, which I attribute to the model set by my parents. Ever since I was little, I witnessed my parents caring for the poor, needy, broken, and struggling families. My father has since passed away, but my mother still loves to open her house to refugees, missionaries, and people from out of town needing a place to stay as she serves and exercises her gift of hospitality.

*In everything I showed you that by working hard in this way you must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, “**It is more blessed to give than to receive.**”*

—Acts 20:35, NASB

We have all experienced the power and joy in the words of Jesus: *It is more blessed to give than receive.* As we give what He has blessed us with (time, words of life, encouragement, money, acts of kindness, prayer, etc.), the joy we experience is the kingdom of God in action! Generosity is not about money but a heart position to faithfully share our blessings and gifts with others, including intellectual, emotional, and spiritual gifts. Someone can give all the money in the world and be mean, rude, and unloving. God cares more about our hearts than about our bank accounts. He cares more about you being generous with love and kindness. There are times when a warm smile directed towards a stranger or taking the time to help someone talk through an issue can transform someone's day. I've witnessed great generosity in areas of extreme poverty. God has blessed me financially, so this has become an expression of generosity in my life, but it is not the only or most important expression. The point is that whatever God has blessed you with is meant to be used to bless others.

Sometimes, being generous means shifting my priorities when someone is in need and giving them the gift of listening and being truly present. This is boots-on-the-ground activation of the kingdom of God. The kingdom responds to a heart of generosity and giving without expecting a return. When we know we are to be faithful stewards and live according to the ways of the kingdom, we can freely give what we have freely received. We have wealth to be generous to others and advance the kingdom. Giving from a cheerful heart results in God pouring out more provision in and through you, whether that's money, time, love, support, friendship, serving, healing, etc. When we

give in faith, we can expect to receive true riches and abundant life. When we understand that everything we have that is good is from God, we are only giving back from that which He has already blessed us with. Everything is by the grace of God. However, we must be discerning in our giving as to what is seed and what is fruit. We are to give away our fruit *and not our seed* which is meant to be multiplied. One apple seed can produce an apple tree from which there will be a great harvest for generosity with much new seed to sow for new trees to grow.

Those who live to bless others will have blessings heaped upon them, and the one who pours out his life to pour out blessings will be saturated with favor.
—Proverbs 11:25, TPT

From Barns to Blessing: The True Treasure

As we give, we transfer our earthly riches to a far superior account, an eternal treasury with rewards that remain! We are called to be distribution centers, not storage houses. Those who selfishly store up riches for themselves, trusting in their assets instead of God, are like the man Jesus describes in the parable of the wealthy fool in Luke 12:16-21:

And He told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man was very productive. And he began thinking to himself, saying, ‘What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops?’ And he said, ‘This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and I will store all my grain and my goods there. And I will say to myself, “You have many goods stored up for many years to come; relax, eat, drink, and enjoy yourself!”’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your soul is demanded of you; and as for all that you have prepared, who will own it now?’ Such is the one who stores up treasure for himself, and is not rich in relation to God.”

The Cycle of Kingdom Abundance

Any form of blessing coming in and through us is one we can turn around and give to others. The love we have is from God. The life we have is from God. The family we have is from God. Our unique gifts and strengths are from God. The list is infinite. It is in giving that we receive. When we need a breakthrough, contend for the breakthrough of others. When we need strengthening, look to encourage and strengthen others. When we need healing, contend for the healing of others, and so on. Even our lifestyle of obedience profoundly impacts the lives of others, which in turn will yield powerful fruit in our own lives.

Consider the following scriptures:

- *Generosity brings prosperity, but withholding from charity brings poverty. Those who live to bless others will have blessings heaped upon them, and the one who pours out his life to pour out blessings will be saturated with favor. —Proverbs 11:24-5, TPT*

- *You will never go without if you give to the poor. But if you're heartless, stingy, and selfish, you invite curses upon yourself. —Proverbs 28:27, TPT*
- *Here's my point. A stingy sower will reap a meager harvest, but the one who sows from a generous spirit will reap an abundant harvest. Let giving flow from your heart, not from a sense of religious duty. Let it spring up freely from the joy of giving—all because God loves hilarious generosity! Yes, God is more than ready to overwhelm you with every form of grace, so that you will have more than enough of everything—every moment and in every way. He will make you overflow with abundance in every good thing you do. —2 Corinthians 9:6-8, TPT*

Giving is thanksgiving! We display God's generosity as we give. If the body of Christ were truly generous without holding anything back, there would be an incredible, unstoppable multiplication of blessings. The entire world would be overwhelmed by blessings in and through kingdom citizens, as the abundance of the kingdom of heaven would be on display for all the earth. No one would know what to do with so much blessing!

APPLIED WISDOM

We need wisdom to balance the multiplication of resources and financial generosity to continually increase our capacity for generosity. A great example of this sort of applied wisdom is found in the life of Arthur Guinness.

The Guinness Beer Story

In 18th century Ireland, Arthur Guinness of the famed Guinness Beer, still popular today, began brewing beer as an antidote to “The Gin Craze.” Pure water was unsafe to drink at that time due to germs and contamination. Since liquor importation had been banned by Parliament in 1689, people began making their own liquor, which was much stronger and led to gross drunkenness. By producing a beverage lower in alcohol, the people were provided with a safer and healthier drinking option.

Then, apparently, [Arthur Guinness] went to church on a Sunday [when] John Wesley was preaching. Wesley—who founded the Methodist Church—was known to commonly preach the same message: “Earn all you can. Save all you can. Give all you can. Your wealth is evidence of a calling from God, so use your abundance for the good of mankind.”¹

Guinness was so impacted by Wesley’s sermon that he began giving away large sums of money to help the poor. His generosity went against the money-obsessed upper class and influenced his family to follow in his footsteps.

Please never forget that every act of kindness, every word of life, and every dollar is a seed sown. *Father, we ask for the grace to be free and wildly generous!*

¹ “Bristol Palin, “The Christian Origin of the Guinness Beer Company,” Patheos, accessed October 14, 2023, <https://tinyurl.com/2dy3y8te>.

From Little to Much: The Journey of Faithful Stewardship

“And if you’ve not proven yourself faithful with what belongs to another, why should you be given wealth of your own?”

—Luke 16:12, TPT

The tithe is the Lord’s and is a foundational qualification of our faithfulness. Two stories come to mind when I hear the word “tithe.” The first is the story of the woman who gave the little she had described in Mark 12:41-44. This is what Jesus had to say about her: “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.” The second is the story of the Widow’s Olive Oil in 2 Kings 4 (if you are unfamiliar with this story, now’s your chance to read it for yourself). Both women demonstrate faithful stewardship.

The first step in establishing ourselves as faithful stewards is to give to the storehouse of God. If you are faithful with little, you will receive more. If you manage what you have been given well, God will increase your capacity. Alternately, what we mismanage, we lose. I have mismanaged my budget and investments and experienced loss and lack. In business, I have mismanaged people and have experienced relational loss and people leaving the company. I have mismanaged my family and have experienced many hardships as a result.

As you demonstrate good and faithful stewardship in relationships, family, finances, management, leadership, and business, you are given more responsibility. This is no different from a child growing up and maturing to take on increasing responsibility as they increase in ability and wisdom. Our faithfulness is an external demonstration of our internal character and growth. This is why we must first get our house in order before we can effectively go beyond. If our personal finances are not in order, how can we be entrusted with a great increase in our businesses?

More will be given to those who learn to multiply whatever God has given them (relationships, creativity, finances, etc.). God loves fruitfulness. Many of Jesus’s parables deal with how servants steward what their master gives them. They demonstrate that God treats us equitably, not equally (although He loves us equally), as the faithful receive increase and those found unfaithful lose what little they have, as Jesus’s parables on the talents attest. The poor become poorer, and the rich become richer. We are to take risks and build our skills and capabilities to create value and multiply wealth. We must first be found faithful in the natural realm to be trusted in the supernatural realm. It is often the poverty spirit that stops people from moving forward with whatever they have. As we lean into God and do the little things, we gain authority over the poverty spirit and begin to walk in our design. Ultimately, Jesus is our master and will return as the King to judge how we stewarded His resources entrusted to our care! This is our time to shine and be found faithful with little to increase in wealth, authority, and influence!

“The one who faithfully manages the little he has been given will be promoted and trusted with greater responsibilities. But those who cheat with the little they have been given will not be considered trustworthy to receive more.”

—Luke 16:10, TPT

From Shepherd to King: The Faithful Journey of David

King David is a great example of a man after God’s heart. He was a shepherd boy who was faithful with little, defeated the lion and the bear, then Goliath, and eventually rose to be king after many seasons of preparation and growth. “Faithful with little” starts with personal internal mastery. Personal mastery results in meekness, achieving internal order and self-control to live in submission to the will of God. Having internal order opens the doors to bringing external order into our lives. Internal transformation comes before external transformation. Jesus testifies that the meek will inherit the earth.⁶ Faithfulness in every area of life is important in the formation of our character, which ultimately gives us the capacity to steward greater things.

The Courageous Path of Faithful Stewardship

Faithfulness and stewardship apply to everything, especially faith. How do we steward our current measure of faith to receive more? Are we exercising our faith regularly? Do we pray for healing or miracles when prompted by the Holy Spirit? Do we follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit, especially when it is uncomfortable, illogical, or risky? Are we allowing the fear of man to hinder our stewardship? Are we allowing ourselves to stretch and experience discomfort to receive the gift of faith to move into a greater realm of faith?

In the journey of wisely stewarding what we have been given so that God will entrust us with more, we must be careful not to chase glamour and riches. God’s provision does not look like the world’s. God looks at the heart, not external success, riches, or power. Hence, it is more important to remain faithful to our current assignment than to worry about what it looks like from the outside. As we prove ourselves faithful with little, God will bring the increase *at the right time* (i.e., not always in *our* timing). As we increase in our stewardship and mature as sons and daughters, God can release more of our inheritance as we become about our Father’s business and represent our Father.

1. Matthew 19:21.

2. Luke 6:38.

3. The Editors of the Encyclopedia Britannica, “Baal: Ancient Deity,” *Britannica*, accessed October 14, 2023, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Baal-ancient-deity>.

4. Ed Silvoso.

5. See Matthew 6:24; Luke 16:9, 11, 13.

6. Matthew 5:5.

THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLES OF TITHING, GENEROSITY, AND FAITHFULNESS

In the kingdom of God, the principle of tithing is an act of worship and obedience, acknowledging God's ownership of all things and expressing gratitude for His provision.

Generosity in the kingdom is a heart posture, reflecting the goodness and grace of our heavenly Father. It involves sharing God's blessings, meeting the needs of others, and creating a culture of love, compassion, and interconnectedness in the community of believers.

Father, we ask for the grace to faithfully tithe and be generous as You are generous!

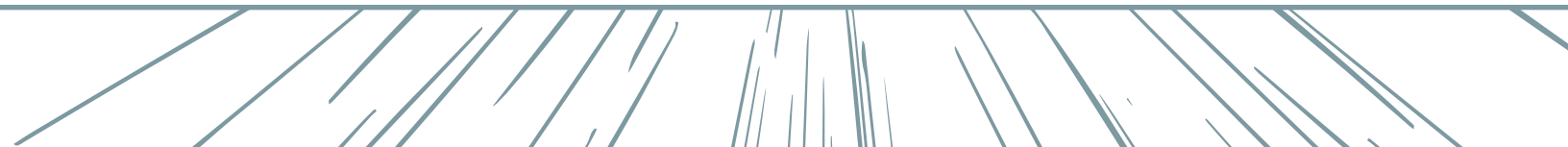
QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you through *The Kingdom Principles of Tithing, Generosity, and Faithfulness*? How can you apply this to your life?

Do you tithe regularly? Is tithing easy or difficult for you?

Jesus sacrificed everything for us. What is God calling you to sacrifice for the sake of the kingdom?

Notes

[illegible]

The Kingdom Principle of Wealth

“So above all, constantly seek God’s kingdom and his righteousness, then all these less important things will be given to you abundantly. Refuse to worry about tomorrow, but deal with each challenge that comes your way, one day at a time. Tomorrow will take care of itself.”

—Matthew 6:33-34, TPT

Even the strong and the wealthy grow weak and hungry, but those who passionately pursue the Lord will never lack any good thing.

—Psalm 34:9-10, TPT

Eternal Abundance: The Kingdom Citizen’s Wealth

For you have experienced the extravagant grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that although he was infinitely rich, he impoverished himself for our sake, so that by his poverty, we become rich beyond measure.

—2 Corinthians 8:9, TPT

We are drenched with wealth! Jesus is the ultimate treasure of heaven! True prosperity is eternal life, spiritual well-being, exhibiting the fruit of the Spirit, relationships, wholeness, righteousness, contentment, peace, wisdom, revelation, knowledge, understanding, and reflecting the love of Jesus. Jesus did not become poor so that we could be rich and in need of nothing. The Beatitudes reflect the heart condition of those truly blessed in the kingdom: those who are poor in spirit, who mourn, who are meek and gentle, pure in heart, and love righteousness. In essence, they are those who are utterly dependent on God for EVERYTHING. This is sonship. Obviously, none of these things can be purchased for any amount of money. As kingdom citizens and ambassadors, we mature as sons and daughters to gain full access to the abundance of the kingdom. We also have the mind of Christ, which, by faith, opens us to the unlimited nature of the kingdom. The principles of tithing, generosity, and faithfulness prepare the heart, build up, and support the acceleration of kingdom wealth generation. Our role now is to first seek His kingdom and let the King provide all the lesser things for us as His ambassadors. As we mature into sons and daughters, we become heirs with full access to everything our Father has! I once heard someone say that when the presence of God is more important than entering the promised land, we are ready to enter the promised land.

This is very different from (the less helpful aspects of) the prosperity gospel, which (generally speaking) views material wealth as evidence of one’s faith. I encourage you to read Revelation 3:13-22, the letter to the wealthy church of Laodicea who thought they needed nothing. The truth was, they were blind, poor, wretched, miserable, and naked! In contrast to the prosperity gospel, the goal of kingdom wealth is to apply biblical principles of wealth within the context of growing in spiritual maturity by seeking His kingdom first.

Kingdom Economics

Financial integrity is a moral principle of the kingdom of God, honouring God through our financial practices, intertwining the virtues of integrity, stewardship, and compassionate giving. Biblical principles laid the foundation for our societal norms, economic systems, and governance, which led to the incredible prosperity and social well-being enjoyed by the Western world. Regrettably, we are now reaping the consequences of veering away from these foundations. Now is the time for His kingdom to come *on earth as it is in heaven!*

Throughout our lives on earth, those in the kingdom are constantly learning His ways of wealth and stewardship. Money and wealth are different. Money is a medium of exchanging value and a store of value. Wealth refers to an abundance of resources and can be generated by creating different forms of value that range widely from assets to resources, intellectual property, quality of life, time, etc. Money is created by man, belongs to the world's systems, and in some cases has a limited supply, whereas wealth is unlimited as it is created. As you create wealth, money can be a byproduct and used to provide a quantitative value of wealth. To live out these fundamental truths, kingdom citizens must understand that money is simply a tool for trade, moving wealth, and creating wealth. For believers, the ultimate purpose of both money and wealth is for the kingdom's expansion on earth.

Financial Freedom: Serving God, Not Money

The Bible uses the term mammon to refer to a spirit that attempts to enslave by making the pursuit of riches, money, or material possessions a primary focus in life. Mammon wants us to believe that money, rather than God, is our source of power and security, making it our master. God is our source and our security. Jesus is the Lord of our lives, never money. Satan relentlessly seeks to ensnare us, whether through the shackles of poverty or the seduction of wealth. As stewards, we follow God's directives on the use of wealth and the tithe to honour God as our source, which guards our hearts from the spirit of mammon and leads to contentment.

“How could you worship two gods at the same time? You will have to hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You can’t worship the true God while enslaved to the god of money!”

—Matthew 6:24, TPT

Money, as our servant, is to serve God's kingdom. It is a form of power that enables us to exchange value for the benefit of the kingdom as we are obedient and let our light shine before men to glorify our Father. As the saying goes, money is a terrible master but a wonderful servant. Money frees us to be flexible, obey any call of God in our lives, and not be tethered to lack and limitations. We can use money to serve and love others well rather than become slaves to the love of money. When we exercise discipline over our money by budgeting, investing, or any financial planning, we are moving towards being a master of money rather than slaves to it. When we borrow for

consumption and not for investment, we become slaves to the lender. The opposite of a meek (who inherits the earth) approach to finances (living below your means) is debt (which is living above our means). We are designed to be financially free! The poverty or scarcity mindset, often present within the church, fosters division and competition, as it views resources as limited and finite. However, the kingdom operates from a perspective of infinite abundance, transforming dynamics and promoting collaboration.

We can learn to love problems because understanding problems paves the way for solutions. Albert Einstein said it well, "If I had an hour to solve a problem, I'd spend 55 minutes thinking about the problem and five minutes thinking about solutions."¹ God has a solution for every problem and wants to partner with us to bring kingdom solutions.

Building Through Unity, Honour, and Partnerships

Wealth generation requires intentional communication, active cooperation, unity, honour, partnerships, and the creation of or participation in relational networks. Relationships are a form of wealth that increase in value over time. They also serve as a currency of the kingdom, uniting us in the shared pursuit of God's purposes.

The more we serve and meet the needs of others, the more we are rewarded. We are designed to serve well, take responsibility and risk, grow, adapt, and live interdependently as we learn to understand our need for one another and our unique design. As members of God's family, we get to live out God's principles and trust Him for the impossible as risk becomes an adventure of obedience, faith in action, and dependence.

"Use the wealth of this world to demonstrate your friendship with God by winning friends and blessing others. Then, when it runs out, your generosity will provide you with an eternal reward."

—Luke 16:9, TPT

Commonwealth of the Kingdom: Embracing Heaven's Abundance

Dr. Myles Munroe captures the infinite abundance of heaven in his book *Kingdom Principles*. Consider the following excerpt:

Why is wealth so important in a kingdom? So the king can take care of his citizens. A righteous and benevolent king does not amass wealth for himself but for the welfare of his citizens. This is why it is only in a kingdom where we truly find commonwealth; that is, the wealth is common to all the people... No kingdom is greater or richer than the kingdom of heaven because it encompasses all that exists. And no king is wealthier than the King of heaven because He owns everything everywhere in both the natural and supernatural realms. Consequently, no citizens of any government are more prosperous or have greater

welfare than do citizens of the kingdom of heaven because all the infinite wealth of that kingdom is their common wealth.²

When we adopt the kingdom's culture of tithing, generosity, faithfulness, etc., while loving the King, we will experience life as heaven intended and release the power of God on earth. We will be truly wealthy. Wealthy people pursue purpose, not money. The scriptures support diligence, discipline, development, perseverance, service, excellence, integrity, and creativity in the generation of wealth.

The Blueprint of Wealth: Mindset, Strategy, and Kingdom Principles

Wealth is a mindset (beliefs, attitudes, and thinking patterns that shape our perspective and behaviour) filled with abundance, curiosity, creativity, and possibility. We must align our mindset with heaven as God's kingdom is one of unlimited abundance, and we have full access to His kingdom. Wealth is also practical and requires strategy, consistency, and vision. Without a plan, wealth is only an elusive wish. Strategy is more than a plan; it's an act of discernment, aligning our actions with heavenly wisdom—as in heaven.

From Toil to Dominion: Wealth Building With God

As we bring kingdom solutions to the world through starting businesses or investing wisely, our money will release us from toiling and *work for us* rather than us *working for it*. Wealth of all kinds empowers our purpose and accelerates transformation on earth. Wealthy people learn to multiply money. To multiply is to use leverage. We can leverage money, investments, knowledge, ideas, creativity, time, solutions, businesses, systems, and people to increase results exponentially. I once heard the definition of Christian charity as “productivity plus generosity.” Financially speaking, we cannot be generous if we are not productive in generating wealth.

But you are to remember the Lord your God, for it is He who is giving you power to make wealth, in order to confirm His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

—Deuteronomy 8:18, NASB

We are designed to work with God on earth as our work is a form of worship. We worship as we obey God in our day-to-day lives. It is not perfection we should seek but excellence, growth, learning, and continuous improvement. God may shift our specific channel of provision in new seasons; we simply need to be attentive to His leading. His wealth strategies enable wealth generation, even while we sleep.³

Time, much like currency, is a form of wealth. Echoing Miles Monroe's wisdom, "Whatever you trade your time for, you become."⁴ We are to assess how we allocate our time to enhance our quality of life. Just as we intentionally budget and prioritize our finances, so should we govern our time. We can learn to leverage time through people, structures, and systems. It's about mastering

our moments, making each count towards our growth, fulfillment, and contribution to the world around us.

All true wealth and heavenly riches are the Lord's. All the gold, silver, and cattle on a thousand hills are His and must go into His kingdom treasury to expand His kingdom on earth. The earth is the Lord's, and all that is within.⁵ The land is the Lord's and is part of our domain stewarding our dominion mandate. It is God who gives us the ability to create wealth and steward land or property. As we honour wisdom, we attract wisdom, and wisdom attracts wealth.

Wisdom extends to you long life in one hand and wealth and promotion in the other. Out of her mouth flows righteousness, and her words release both law and mercy.
—Proverbs 3:16, NASB

CREATING WEALTH

God has given us unique gifts and abilities that are to be cultivated for us to prosper by creating value. God also gives us the power to create wealth as we use our gifts to benefit others. We have an innate need to contribute, living with a focus beyond just ourselves, which is met as we love and serve. We serve one another directly or indirectly as we apply our gifts and abilities. Serving requires us to work together, which requires relationships. We are designed to serve and bless others. As we serve, it causes others to experience love. To know the need, we must connect and seek to understand others.

We create wealth as we create value. The better we serve and meet the felt needs of others (people, companies, communities, etc.), the more value we provide. As we create different forms of value (products, intellectual property, skills, relationships, services, etc.), we create different forms of wealth. As we specialize, our value creation becomes more specific and increasingly valuable, thereby increasing wealth. As wealth is created, there are no limitations, only possibilities and abundance. We can multiply those we serve by raising leaders to reproduce ourselves. As the ways of the kingdom progress, kingdom culture is formed, and new godly economic systems will emerge.

15 KINGDOM STEPS TO WEALTH

by Bryan Elliott and Wesley Wright (CEO, Money Fitness Expert)

1

Faithful Stewardship: Demonstrated through giving to the storehouse of God, managing resources well, and proving faithful in relationships, family, finances, management, leadership, and business.

- **Practical Application:** Regularly evaluate and manage your finances, ensuring that giving to God's purposes is a consistent priority. Caution, do not give out of and from a position of financial deficiency unless clearly called or invited to so, by a rhema word from God.
- **Action Steps:** Develop a budget, understand what your bottom line is, maintain and increase a positive cash flow, set financial goals, and commit to regular tithing. Seek financial advice for effective management from trusted experts.

2

Increase through Faithfulness and Wisdom: Faithfulness in wise stewardship leads to increased responsibility and capacity, both in the natural and supernatural realms.

- **Practical Application:** Identify areas in your life where you can demonstrate faithfulness in wise stewardship and appropriate responsibility, both personally and professionally. Remember, everything, whether forming intention or the subsequent actions and resulting deeds, are all personal in the kingdom.
- **Action Steps:** Take on additional and appropriate responsibilities at work or in your community (n.b., is the responsibility just a good thing or is it a God thing?). Reflect on personal growth areas and commit to learning how to be reliable. Where there is room for improvement, take heed of wise counsel.

3

Multiplication: God loves fruitfulness, and as faithful and wise stewards, we are called to multiply what we have been given, and more will be entrusted.

- **Practical Application:** Look for opportunities to multiply your character, skills, efforts, and resources.
- **Action Steps:** Explore ways to expand your impact in your workplace, community, or ministry. Mentor others to multiply your influence.

4

Risk-taking and Skill Development: Taking risks, developing skills, and creating value are essential to multiplying wealth. Faithfulness in the little things leads to authority over much and has the potential power to arrest the poverty spirit.

- **Practical Application:** Embrace calculated risks and invest in skill development. Seek advice from trusted experts and take heed to such advice.
- **Action Steps:** Identify areas where you can take strategic risks, such as starting a new project or business. Invest time and resources in improving skills relevant to your goals.

5

Kingdom Wealth Definition: Kingdom wealth is redefined as eternal life, spiritual well-being, living in the fruit of the Spirit, loving and healthy relationships, righteousness, contentment, peace, wisdom, revelation, knowledge, and reflecting the love of Jesus.

- **Practical Application:** Prioritize spiritual well-being by spending quality time with God, creating, building, and sustaining godly relationships, and living righteously.
- **Action Steps:** Cultivate a daily spiritual practice, invest time in building meaningful relationships, and pursue righteousness in your decisions and actions.

6

Tithing, Generosity, and Faithfulness: Kingdom citizens mature as sons and daughters and then as friends of God, to gain full access to the abundance of the kingdom through principles like wisdom, tithing, generosity, and faithfulness.

- **Practical Application:** Make wisdom, tithing, generosity, and faithfulness integral parts to your financial habits.
- **Action Steps:** Be guided by God, create a giving plan, allocate a portion of your income for charitable acts, and consistently demonstrate faithfulness in your financial stewardship.

7

Financial Integrity: Financial principles are moral in the kingdom of God, and believers are called to learn and apply His ways of wealth and stewardship throughout their lives.

- **Practical Application:** Continuously educate yourself on financial principles aligned with biblical values.
- **Action Steps:** Attend financial literacy workshops, read books on biblical finance, and seek guidance from financial advisors who share your values.

8

Money vs. Wealth: Money is a tool for trade and wealth creation, with the ultimate purpose of expanding the kingdom on earth.

- **Practical Application:** View money as a (multi) tool for serving God and advancing His kingdom.
- **Action Steps:** Regularly evaluate your financial decisions to ensure they align with kingdom principles and values. Practice generosity as a way of using money for the benefit of others.

9

God as the Source: God is the source of power, not money. (However, money on earth is a practical form of power in the world system; the more money you have, potentially the more power on earth you possess.) Believers are called to love and serve God first, and out of and from that loving relationship use money as an effective tool for the benefit of the kingdom.

- **Practical Application:** Cultivate a mindset that recognizes God as the ultimate provider.
- **Action Steps:** Spend time with God, experience Him, follow His leading and guiding hand, learn to trust Him by experiencing His goodness and love, and have faith in who He is and who He has made you to be. Develop a habit of prayerful decision-making regarding finances. Partner with God and trust His guidance when faced with financial challenges.

10

Creating Wealth: God has given us unique gifts and abilities to create wealth by serving, solving problems, and adding value to others' lives.

- **Practical Application:** Identify and utilize your unique gifts and abilities to create value. Be alert and open to opportunities, and remember, opportunity is when preparation meets the occasion.
- **Action Steps:** Explore entrepreneurial ventures, invest in skills that align with your strengths, and seek opportunities to create value in your community. Look for and be aware of God's signposts.

11

Leveraging Resources: Believers can leverage various resources, including money, knowledge, ideas, creativity, time, and relationships, to multiply results.

- **Practical Application:** Strategically use your resources to maximize impact, but remember, the end does not always justify the means.
- **Action Steps:** Identify areas where you can leverage your skills, time, and relationships to create more significant outcomes. Collaborate with others to achieve shared goals. In all situations, hold dear, implement, and never depart from God's fundamental principles or values (e.g., love, honesty, truthfulness, integrity, compassion, and humility, to name a few).

12 **God's Partnership:** Believers are designed to work with God on earth, and their financial plans and strategies should align with God's wealth-generation principles.

- **Practical Application:** Align your financial plans with biblical principles. Know where you are on your journey with God. Are you in a training season, or have you entered into manifesting the calling in your life? These two positions are very different; therefore, the focus and results are also different.
- **Action Steps:** Regularly assess your financial goals to ensure they align with God's purposes. Seek wisdom from mentors or financial advisors who share your faith.

13 **True Prosperity:** True prosperity comes from seeking God's kingdom first, pursuing purpose over money, and applying biblical principles in wealth creation.

- **Practical Application:** Prioritize seeking God's kingdom first in your daily life.
- **Action Steps:** Establish a daily spiritual practice, consistently seek God's guidance in decision-making, and align your goals with His purposes.

14 **Character Development:** Christlike character, including meekness, humility, and teachability, is crucial for inheriting the earth and leaving a lasting legacy.

- **Practical Application:** Actively cultivate Christlike character in all areas of life.
- **Action Steps:** Practice humility, meekness, and teachability in your interactions. Seek accountability from mentors or a supportive community.

15 **Mindset Shift:** A shift in mindset, breaking old beliefs, and aligning thoughts with kingdom principles are essential steps in achieving internal and external prosperity.

- **Practical Application:** Actively work on changing old beliefs and aligning thoughts with kingdom principles.
- **Action Steps:** Engage in regular self-reflection, challenge limiting beliefs, and replace them with biblical truths. Enroll in courses or join groups that focus on mindset transformation.

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To learn more, visit moneyfitnessexpert.com and [@moneyfitnessexpert](https://www.instagram.com/moneyfitnessexpert).

Navigating Prosperity: Rethinking Wealth in the Kingdom

To all the rich of this world, I command you not to be wrapped in thoughts of pride over your prosperity, or rely on your wealth, for your riches are unreliable and nothing compared to the living God. Trust instead in the one who lavishes upon us all good things, fulfilling our every need.

—1 Timothy 6:17, TPT

Money is important, so much so that the Bible mentions money, tithing, and possessions more than 2,000 times.⁶ Contrary to historical or popular opinion, money (as with technology) is not good or evil, but it takes on good or evil depending on the person who has the money and what they choose to do with it. It is the love of (or rather, lust for) money that breeds issues and many different forms of evil, not the money itself.⁷ The world bases “worth” on wealth, power, and reputation. While money allows us to feed the poor, print copies of the Bible for unreached people groups, sponsor missionary work, and care for our families (a biblical responsibility), it can also have another side. Money can easily become an idol, where we trust it to provide for our needs instead of God. Money can quickly become a distraction, obsession, and an open door to sin. Jesus makes this clear.

“The seeds that fall into the weeds represent the hearts of those who hear the word of God but their growth is quickly choked off by their own anxious cares, the riches of this world, and the fleeting pleasures of this life. This is why they never become mature and fruitful.”

—Luke 8:14, TPT

I have enjoyed some of the best things the world offers, which enables me to share different perspectives. From NBA courtside season tickets, luxurious vacations, expensive nights out to getting engaged in the foothills of the Andes in a vineyard in Argentina, and married on a 900-acre estate in Tuscany, I had it all (according to the world). Before 2019, I even lived in a house valued at six million dollars. If I wanted something, within reason, I could buy it. I was under the deception of self-sufficiency, not understanding that everything is by grace.⁸ I was generous with my giving, but I still had more security in money than I knew, making money a master more than a servant. I am not saying anything is wrong with any of these things in and of themselves. Rather, I’m saying that these experiences have given me perspective on what truly matters and the potential emptiness and traps of wealth, the illusion of self-sufficiency, and the dangers of self-focus and self-indulgence.

God made beautiful things for us to enjoy in moderation. They must not be our highest focus or distract us from our call to serve others, our pathway to joy and fulfillment. I can say from experience that, after a period, we become accustomed to things, even when they are luxurious. Any luxury can become a new normal, which requires another upgrade and then another to keep feeling the “wow factor,” no different from drugs. Chasing fulfillment through items and experiences is chasing after the wind. The solution is gratitude (which leads to contentment and moderation), generosity (the antidote to greed), and humility (the antidote to pride). Proverbs 10:22

says, “True enrichment comes from the blessing of the Lord, with rest and contentment in knowing that it all comes from him,” (TPT). This proverb emphasizes that true rest and contentment stem from recognizing that all blessings originate from God and highlights the importance of divine providence in our lives.

Aligning With Kingdom Wealth

Putting His kingdom first ensures God is our (loving) master. When God is our master, money is our servant. As we shift our hearts by the power of the Holy Spirit, our lives will gradually come into proper alignment as the things of this world fade away. As our faith deepens, the natural realm loses its impact. When the world no longer has a hold on us, then we are prepared to steward kingdom wealth. In the words of Paul, “May my only boast be found in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. In him I have been crucified to this natural realm; and the natural realm is dead to me and no longer dominates my life.”⁹ This is spiritual maturity, that is, sonship.

One who is an heir can be entrusted with material and spiritual wealth. *Things* cannot define sons and daughters of God. Like the rich young ruler whom Jesus asked to give up the “things” that defined him and the ways of the world to join the countercultural kingdom, He asks us to do the same. Your identity is the key to not allowing wealth to keep you tethered to the world. If you see yourself as a steward of what God’s given you rather than as an owner, staying free from the trappings of wealth is much easier.

To become a citizen of the kingdom, the young ruler needed to understand that he was a steward of the King’s wealth. He was to be a steward of resources. He had to demonstrate a heart that was willing to place God above his money. He thought he was rich, but he was poor.

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

—Luke 12:34, NIV

This idea is no different from the letter to the church of Laodicea in the Book of Revelation. I resonate much with this letter's recipients, who were living a compromised and prideful life.

Because you say, ‘I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing,’ and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked.

—Revelation 3:17, NASB

Revelation 3:17 describes my blindness prior to making Jesus Lord in 2016. Jesus advises the church in this passage and us today in verse 18 to buy gold as refined in the fire so that we can be truly rich. I have experienced the false and fleeting safety and security of money. I have lived apart from God and partially with God and have discovered the immense blessing of living my life *all in* for God. When our finances are surrendered to God, the pressure and burden of self-reliance shift to an appropriate reliance on God as our provider. The amount of anxiety and fear around

finances or, conversely, the amount of peace we experience from above is a good indicator of our mindsets, especially in trying circumstances. Shalom is priceless!

I am convinced that my God will fully satisfy every need you have, for I have seen the abundant riches of glory revealed to me through Jesus Christ!

—Philippians 4:19, TPT

The Narrow Path: Finding True Security in God's Kingdom

When Jesus tells the disciples it's easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven, He didn't say this because He has something against wealth.¹⁰ Rather, He said it to make us question who rules our hearts. God or money? It is harder for a rich man to see his need for God because his faith and security can easily be placed in the wrong areas. While wealth may provide temporary insulation from repercussions of actions and circumstances, true security only comes from God. Any security outside of security in God is aligned with the kingdom of darkness. It's not impossible for those with financial wealth to maintain dependence on God, but it is difficult as our perceived need for God can easily be diminished. Giving Jesus absolute lordship is a costly and narrow path few are willing to take. It takes moving from operating as an orphan in our finances to operating as a son of God! After experiencing everything the world could offer, Solomon said it was all “meaningless, meaningless, utterly meaningless.”¹¹

Jesus alone shows us the way to true wealth.

At the end of the day, money will magnify what is in our hearts, either good or evil. It is an expression of these two things on earth. Suppose you have any serious issues around health, marriage, or family. Will your trust be in money or a loving Heavenly Father of an unshakable, eternal kingdom of light, abundant life, perfect peace, and joy?

I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness will not be revealed; and eye salve to apply to your eyes so that you may see.

—Revelation 3:18, AMP

Kingdom Impact in the Marketplace: Grow Where You're Planted

There is no separation between the sacred and secular for the believer; everything is consecrated or holy to the Lord. We are to see every task as sacred. Recognizing work as a form of worship allows us to see how using our God-given gifts and talents to pursue our divine calling can transform our perspective on where He has placed us, creating and stewarding wealth. Our work reveals God and His kingdom as it reflects our beliefs and whom we serve to the world. The crucial factor is maintaining God's supremacy in our lives by seeking first His kingdom. Whether you're a minister in the church in the marketplace, it is all the same to God. Your ministry happens wherever He plants you.

I believe there is much more prophetic gifting (envisioning new ideas, innovations, etc.) at work in the marketplace than we realize. Our infinitely creative God created us in His image. We can glorify God with our work and the application of wealth as salt and light in a dark world. As we grow in affluence, we grow in influence and can provide a platform to disciple the marketplace and impact culture. The key to accomplishing all these things is having a Christlike character. A Christlike character includes meekness (power under control, humility, gentleness, and discipline).

“Blessed are the gentle, for they will inherit the earth.”

—Matthew 5:5, NASB

A good person leaves an inheritance to his grandchildren, And the wealth of a sinner is stored up for the righteous.

—Proverbs 13:22, NASB

Who is the person who fears the Lord? He will instruct him in the way he should choose. His soul will dwell in prosperity, And his descendants will inherit the land.

—Psalm 25:12-13, NASB

A Divine Exchange: Kingdom Priorities

The Bible teaches that the meek, those who are submitted, teachable, and humble of heart, shall inherit the earth. This refers to God's blessings that include land, as does our covenant of Abraham restored through Jesus. Leaving a secure inheritance to our children's children is the continuation of this generational blessing.

When we are truly humble and meek, *we claim nothing as our own and live in total dependence on God.*

However, the Proverbs 13:22 wealth transfer from the unrighteous to the righteous isn't merely about acquiring tangible riches; it embodies a divine exchange aligned with God's kingdom priorities. This includes seeking His kingdom first, embracing heavenly wisdom to generate wealth through systems such as businesses and work, and understanding that the true purpose of wealth is not only for personal enrichment but also for the advancement of His kingdom. It calls for spiritual maturity and stewardship aligned with kingdom values and principles. Chantal Fowler, our prayer team leader at Flō, shared her revelation on this topic:

This wealth transfer goes beyond material assets to encompass the riches of heaven, the principles of God's economy, the empowering presence of heaven, and the government of the kingdom of God to rule and reign in righteousness. It is a system that works and fosters prosperity for all, advancing His kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

Everything is a gift. Character results in consistent stewardship, leaving margin in our lives for what God wants us to do. This means having clear priorities (focused on God), actively avoiding distraction, living simply, and being wise stewards of our finances. Practically, this looks like not

being over-extended, having savings, being ready to capitalize on opportunities, making your money work for you, etc. Character also means being patient, faithful, having self-control, and sacrificing in the short-term for long-term gain. As we remain steadfast in prayer and the ways of God, we will rule and reign on earth. We are designed for victory, and living victoriously brings joy and peace as the kingdom advances, living above our circumstances.

The lovers of God will have more than enough, but the wicked will always lack what they crave.

—Proverbs 13:25, TPT

Worship in awe and wonder, all you who've been made holy! For all who fear him will feast with plenty. Even the strong and the wealthy grow weak and hungry, but those who passionately pursue the Lord will never lack any good thing.

—Psalm 34:9-10, TPT

Christlike character emerges when we actively change our mindsets to look like Jesus. There are kingdom wealth courses that begin by addressing the lies and issues of the heart around identity and mindsets and then continue to build towards creating a vision and a wealth plan.¹² It is an inside-out process, helping us develop internal prosperity before realising external prosperity.

Embracing Kingdom Wealth Principles

Breaking agreement with old, ungodly beliefs and stepping into agreement with kingdom principles of wealth is necessary for every believer. When we come into agreement with an ungodly belief, we come under its influence. It is important that this is not done simply at face value (e.g., simple affirmations). We all need a complete perspective shift. It's vital to look at what created those old beliefs, then see what the Word of God says about wealth and align our thoughts with His. When we put these new beliefs into action, it breaks the spirit of poverty. When a solid biblical foundation has been laid, it is time to gather practical tools and strategies for wealth creation and multiplication unto freedom and kingdom expansion. This is to ensure that wealth is attainable, a cycle of gain and loss does not occur, and that money does not have a hold on your heart.

Ultimately, the best way to steward God's resources well is to learn to listen to and obey His voice.

As Christians, we must take wealth creation seriously and understand the strategies of finance. The church has taught on the power of tithing and generosity but not on how to generate wealth.¹³ Today's problems and frustrations are the fuel to create new solutions and wealth. We spoke previously about strongholds in the mind, which can also foster non-biblical views or ungodly beliefs about money and wealth. The kingdom works through faithfulness or management. If you want to grow financially, first look at how you manage what you have. True financial freedom begins with surrendering our finances to God, believing He is our provider, honouring His ways, and obeying His commands. Wealth in the form of financial freedom gives us the freedom to obey God and use our gifts and resources to serve and bless others, planting more and more good seeds!

Wealth is a powerful weapon in the hands of a son or daughter of God that can be used to bring a massive expansion of His kingdom.

And don't allow yourselves to be weary in planting good seeds, for the season of reaping the wonderful harvest you've planted is coming!

—Galatians 6:9, TPT

Wealth Transfer: Manifesting Kingdom Prosperity on the Earth

As we multiply what we sow, let's initiate a wealth transfer from heaven to earth as we sow good seeds according to the Spirit and reap a kingdom harvest! To deepen your journey in accumulating kingdom wealth, consider these expanded steps:

1. Generously share not just money but also your time, knowledge, and connections, reflecting God's endless generosity. (Luke 6:38)
2. Use your skills and talents to serve God's purpose, transforming every act into an offering to Him. (Matthew 25:14-30)
3. Acts of service carry eternal significance; by helping others, you mirror Jesus's compassionate ministry. (Matthew 20:26-28)
4. Spread the gospel of the kingdom and guide others in their spiritual growth, multiplying the kingdom's reach. (Matthew 28:19-20)
5. Faithfully manage all God has entrusted you with intention and wisdom, ensuring they're used in ways that honour Him. (1 Peter 4:10)
6. Apply God's wisdom in solving the world's problems, showcasing the kingdom and its principles in practical actions and inspired solutions. (James 3:17)

By living out these principles, along with others like unity, honour, prayer, faith, and forgiveness, you're not merely accumulating eternal wealth that can never be lost or stolen; you're also creating significant value, impacting the present for the kingdom of God. As we seek first His kingdom in faith and action, living by His principles, it is God alone who will provide for all our needs.

As an aside, the Bible does not talk about retirement for good reason. By God's design, our lives are meant to be continuously productive until the end. We are to continue to steward whatever resources and abilities God has given us and not to grow weary in doing good. The later years of life may look different but there is an incredible opportunity for ongoing generosity and legacy, transferring the wisdom and practical understanding gained over the course of a life well lived. Every believer is meant to live a life of service as a blessing to others. These are biblical keys to a wonderfully fulfilling life filled with purpose.

By seeing our lives and resources as channels or instruments of God's grace entrusted to us for the purpose of advancing His kingdom, we align with the biblical principle of stewardship, reflecting the economy of God's kingdom. We get to be conduits of God's kingdom, participating in God's

divine plan, reflecting His nature, and bringing His provision, manifesting His kingdom from heaven to earth! We are blessed with the opportunity to honour God in our financial actions, living out the principles of integrity, stewardship, and compassionate generosity. Doing wealth God's way and with His wisdom results in both eternal wealth and temporal wealth generation, pressed down, shaken together, and running over!

Honor the LORD with your wealth And with the first fruits of all your crops (income); Then your barns will be abundantly filled And your vats will overflow with new wine.

—Proverbs 3:9-10, TPT

1. Laura Haarakalju, "How Can Conversational Analytics Assist You in Solving Business Problems?," *Feelingstream*, accessed October 14, 2023, <https://tinyurl.com/4kyhhhzu>.
2. Myles Munrow, *Kingdom Principles: Preparing for Kingdom Experience and Expansion* (ReadHowYouWant, 2010), 93.
3. Psalm 127:2.
4. Dr. Myles Munroe, "You are a product of how you manage time and change," *TikTok*, 2024, <https://www.tiktok.com/@jacquestjudejohnsonsr/video/7341228321931267370>.
5. Psalm 24:1.
6. Jesse Wisenski, "Bible Verses About Money," *Tithely.com*, Accessed October 16, 2023, <https://tinyurl.com/rejv5tmz>.
7. 1 Timothy 6:10.
8. 1 Corinthians 4:7.
9. Galatians 6:14, TPT
10. Matthew 19:23-24.
11. Ecclesiastes 1:1-11.
12. I recommend Jim Baker's online workshop, "Wealth with God" available at www.wealthwithgod.com.
13. I also recommend Dave Ramsey's "How to Win with Money in 7 Easy Baby Steps," at www.ramseysolutions.com.

THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE OF WEALTH

In the kingdom, wealth is redefined as stewardship, where abundance is a means to bless others, advance justice, and participate in God's redemptive purposes on earth. Kingdom wealth emphasizes spiritual abundance over material riches, focusing on eternal life, righteousness, and serving others. Believers steward wealth as a tool for kingdom expansion. By prioritizing spiritual maturity and aligning with God's values, wealth is used to glorify God and to bless others, fulfilling the role of kingdom ambassadors.

Father, we ask for the grace to be humble, to seek first Your kingdom, to serve well, to create wealth, and to expand Your kingdom.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you through *The Kingdom Principle of Wealth*? How can you apply this to your life?

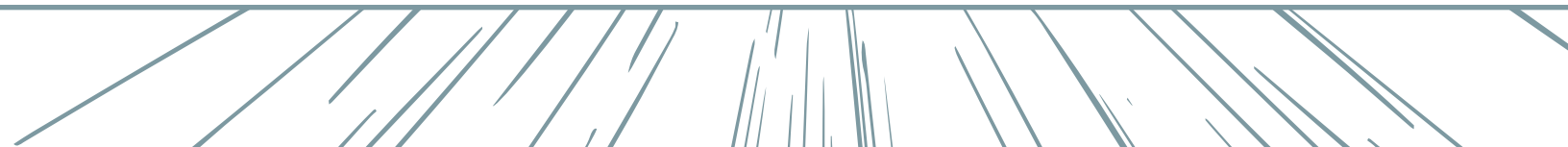
What types of wealth has the Lord given you?

Has the Holy Spirit revealed any ungodly beliefs you have about money and wealth? Explain.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION *(continued)*

I challenge you to dream with God! What gifts and abilities has God given you? How can you expand the kingdom with wealth in service to others?

Notes

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a template for handwriting practice or general writing. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.

The Kingdom Principle of Business

Living for eternity NOW is the best life on earth!

“And he called ten of his own slaves and gave them ten minas, and said to them, ‘Do business with this money until I come back.’”

—*Luke 19:13, NASB*

From Pioneering to Prosperity: A CEO's Journey in Kingdom Business

God loves people, and He loves partnering with us in all aspects of life, including business. The purpose of business is to be a redemptive blessing to the world, not exploitative. Business is an operational expression of love.

As the CEO of Flō Energy Solutions Inc., I am first and foremost the CSO (Chief Spiritual Officer, a key element of my CEO role), a custodian of kingdom DNA as positioned by God. As the CSO, it's my job to put and keep things in God's order as I serve those who serve the company. This book highlights God's kingdom principles, which serve as a kingdom plumbline for Flō, and this section was a collaborative effort with many of our leaders. By following God's design and applying God's truth, kingdom culture is formed within our company, which leads to human flourishing for all involved, believers and non-believers alike.

As a father figure to those in my company, I have the privilege of teaching others how to live blessed lives, care for the souls of our people, and model healthy sonship by pointing people to their Heavenly Father. You know my story by now; it certainly hasn't been easy on the personal side or the business front. My heart is to freely share what I have freely received. I want my experience of pioneering, persevering, and breaking through to prepare a way for others to accelerate and prosper in the kingdom in whatever sphere of society they operate in.

For this section, I will use the example of the business the Lord has entrusted to our team and me. However, please keep in mind that we are always learning, and I am simply sharing our process and where we are today. I suspect that in the coming years, it will look very different as the process of transformation continues incrementally, day by day. As a company, we are in the process of bringing business back to its original intent, first receiving and then releasing the kingdom through everything we do. This is according to the biblical principle that we cannot give what we have not received or experienced, described in Luke 6:38. At Flō, I can confidently say that our people are transforming, and faith is rising!

The Kingdom Company Model: A New Era for Business

Aside from our primary mission to serve and bless the food retail sector, Flō's function is to model and share what we are learning as a kingdom company. Our core belief is “A Better Way,” which fuels our innovative engineering solutions and business in general. We strongly believe in having a

win-win attitude rooted in an “abundance mindset.” Knowing that we have access to everything in the kingdom allows us to seek mutually beneficial deals for everyone involved.

Please keep in mind that we have believers *and* non-believers at Flō who all engage in creating our value system and are proud to support the ethos of Flō. However, we hire based on a person’s alignment with the needed role and according to our values, not their faith. God loves believers and non-believers equally, and so do we. Here is a small example. As a company, we sponsored a Syrian family eight years ago. They are not believers but needed a fresh opportunity to start over. We hired the father, who could barely speak English. We gave him simple tasks as he began to learn the language and culture. Today, he is flourishing at Flō and is a great contributor to our accounting team and our business. He has become a dear friend, and although he doesn’t yet know Jesus, we pray together and have walked through some very difficult life challenges together. Often, when he comes into the office, he gives me a big hug and tells me how much he loves me and this company. (His wife also makes dinner for us from time to time, which is absolutely incredible!)

What’s taking place at Flō is called “ekklesia.” An ekklesia is the assembly of two or more people gathering as God’s legislative assembly in Jesus’s name to make decisions and declarations based on the Word and will of God, for it to be *on earth as it is in heaven*. Ed Siloso’s ministry, *Transform Our World*, explains ekklesia well:

An Ekklesia, as the most embryonic expression of The Church, is the gathering of at least two believers in the midst of the manifest presence of God, functioning with His authority to bind and release His will, beginning in their sphere of influence and spreading outward until The Great Commission is fulfilled... Ekklesia [is] a building-less mobile people movement designed to operate 24/7 in the marketplace for the purpose of having an impact on everybody and everything.¹

These principles and practices apply to kingdom leaders running organizations or teams. If you don’t run a business or are not in a position of leadership at your place of work, keep in mind that it only takes two people to form an ekklesia. Not only can you apply some of these practices to your role, but you can find one or two other believers to form an ekklesia and begin to pray for your leaders and the company. The kingdom is often packaged in small things, so do not despise small beginnings. As you model the kingdom, bringing heaven to earth through a process of going deep and building solid foundations, growth will occur.

And by the blood of His cross, everything in heaven and earth is brought back to Himself—back to its original intent, restored to innocence again!
—Colossians 1:20, TPT

Living Stones: Building Kingdom Businesses with God's Presence

God's kingdom resides in the hearts of people. We are living stones with Jesus as the chief cornerstone and capstone. With this in mind, a kingdom business is simply a business of people who love God and seek first His kingdom and His righteousness. The believers at Flō value His presence and act as living gates for Jesus. Our businesses are gateways for the kingdom to come into the marketplace. The expression of every kingdom business on earth will be unique, as it is God's designed expression. Each organization, whether a business, government, parachurch organization or otherwise, has a specific redemptive purpose and plays a role in discipling the nations. This means that each believer is called to play a role in advancing the kingdom wherever he or she is positioned.

What expression of love does God want to express to the world through your life and business?

Building His Kingdom: The Transformation of Business in Sonship

As we grow in sonship, the areas of Flō that are aligned with the orphan systems of the world continue to get exposed and replaced. Orphans think like slaves. They are self-focused, self-reliant, and motivated by self-promotion, fear, control, etc. These are the result of the Fall and are the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, and they are a fallen mindset.

An orphan-minded business looks like "my business," building "my kingdom," and is susceptible to fear, control, and greed, whereas a son builds "His business" and "His kingdom." Kingdom business is about partnering with God to birth the desires He has put in our hearts to fulfill our destinies. The orphan is self-led, and the son is Spirit-led. An orphan builds a company, and a son builds a family, a safe place of honour and belonging for all to grow and flourish. Orphans tend to surround themselves with people like them, whereas leaders who are sons build diversified teams.

God uses sons and daughters as heirs to build His kingdom. Just like Jesus, a son is about His Father's business. When we mature from an orphan mindset to sonship, we move from independence to dependence on God and then to interdependence with others in the family of God. Orphans' relationships are transactional and prone to focus on win-lose outcomes. On the other hand, a son or daughter is others-focused, values relationships, and looks for a win-win that blesses everyone who participates.

Kingdom Companies: Stewarding God's Business for Eternal Impact

Flō is an ekklesia, a church, a kingdom business, an embassy of heaven, a marketplace ministry, a light set on a hill, and an apostolic outpost (a place that equips and sends out people to expand the kingdom). There is no divide between the sacred and secular, as we are meant to live a unified life. This shatters the religious paradigm. As believers in His kingdom, all things are sacred. His kingdom encompasses all of creation. Your workplace and home are as important and holy to God as the church. The church is made up of people, not buildings, which makes Flō a church where

we minister to the needs of our people and industry. As sons and daughters, we are called to be ambassadors of the King in the marketplace.

A kingdom company is a company that values what God values—fruit, much fruit, and fruit that remains.² This fruit comes not through religious activities or human striving but by His Spirit. As Ed Silvoso teaches, the marketplace, as modelled by the first-century Christians, is the heart of cities and nations, has been redeemed by Jesus, and must now be reclaimed. We can work passionately, regardless of our position or calling, knowing that what we do will make an eternal difference.

We are designed to faithfully steward what the Lord entrusts to us. Because the company is the Lord's, He carries the weight, burden, and responsibility of the business. The outcomes are His, and the glory is His. We know that all success is from God, and all that we are is a gift from God. Flō and the impact we have on people is God's legacy on earth.

In 2017, I tried to “make” a Christian company by following a religious recipe to create what I thought a Christian company should look like. I gave Jesus 51 percent “ownership” to honour His lordship over my life. However, this just revealed the level of orphan thinking still present in my life at the time. And because it was a religious decision and model, even the Christians within the business didn't like it! I was working for God to earn His approval out of an orphan identity. My intentions were noble, but they lacked genuine surrender and divine revelation.

It wasn't until 2020, as I grew in my identity of sonship, that I truly caught on to the principle of stewardship. That was when I began to understand that *nothing* in this life is mine alone. As we mature, we come into our inheritance as heirs of God, making us co-owners and partakers in ALL of God's promises. To steward well, I have to know the owner! I can't steward successfully what I've been given unless I intimately know what the owner wants! This allows me to work with God from a place of pre-approval and full acceptance in relationship and submission.

Recently, I had a discussion on the kingdom with an Uber driver who was a former pastor. He said, "We can do church without God, but we can't do the kingdom without God." Of course, he was speaking of religion. So true! We are a people of God carrying God's presence for His kingdom to expand in and through us. The kingdom is the church (His body), which is the church as God intended, operating everywhere, all the time.

Embracing Vulnerability: The Power of 360 Discovery

In 2019, I had 18 people on my team rate me on a 360 evaluation. My results were intriguing, revealing many positive areas of my life alongside many weak areas needing attention as they negatively impacted the company. As the CEO and owner (steward/servant), I decided to openly share my results and comments with everyone at a town hall meeting, making myself accountable to everyone at Flō. I then looked at my greatest weaknesses and created a development plan to

address the top weaknesses impacting the company, which, to name a few, included me being inconsistent, impulsive, reactive, distracted, and lacking clear strategic direction.

Impulsivity, the bias for action with a high sense of urgency, is a good trait for an entrepreneur, but this can also lead to problems if the actions are not strategic and intentional. I've read many books with lots of good ideas, but trying to implement them without a system led to inconsistency within Flō. It gave others the feeling that we were only and always pursuing the "flavour of the month." Without a clear strategy for our company and its goals, I tended to be reactive and distracted rather than responsive to the challenges and opportunities available. Shining a light into these areas created awareness; once acknowledged, half the battle was already over.

Empowering Leadership: Building Capacity Through Feedback and Development

The following year, I engaged in another 360 evaluation and shared my results. I put the 2019 and 2020 results side-by-side with the same audience to show my growth and improvement. There were marked improvements, but there was still room for growth. Once again, I made the focus of my development plan to continue growing in these key areas known to my team. By doing this, I measured myself against myself (and continue to do so), from where I was before to where I am now. By opening up and sharing my weaknesses, I removed any mask I could hide behind. Understanding my weaknesses was a gift as it helped me recognize and hone in on my strengths. People could really see who I was, for better or for worse. I experienced great freedom in not needing to be perfect or pretend I had it all together when I didn't. This opened the door for others to follow suit, as many began requesting 360 evaluations as openness begets openness.

From Weakness to Strength: Harnessing Growth Opportunities

When I started this process, I was involved "hands-on" in almost every aspect of the business. This limited the growth of the company and our team. My strengths were overplayed, which became a weakness. This was resolved by empowering leadership across the company. We hired a new president who has a much stronger skill-set in strategic execution, allowing me to leverage my strengths more fully. I went from spending over 80 percent of my time "in" the business to less than 10 percent. I let go of many daily activities to make room for more high-level strategic endeavours. Through this process, I removed myself as the bottleneck for others dependent on me and instead built and empowered the team to lead and grow in new ways. As a leader, I discovered I didn't need to have all the skills. Instead, I surrounded myself with others who had the specific skills and gifts required.

Many executives and people in general suffer from imposter syndrome, including myself for many years. When I became transparent about my strengths and weaknesses, light rushed into the darkness, bringing a new level of freedom. I no longer needed to pretend to be something I'm not. Knowing our weaknesses also makes our need for others obvious, leading to valuing others and strengthening unity.

Not long ago, our president at the time took a one-month sabbatical, and everything ran well while he was gone. His teams are now empowered to lead themselves. He created greater freedom by removing himself from the day-to-day to operate in his unique sweet spot to grow, innovate, strategize, and build greater leadership capacity at Flō. This is our goal for everyone. Although this is a piece of the puzzle, ultimately, sonship is the answer to identity, value, and purpose. He has since transitioned to a new company with which we've partnered to infuse the DNA and systems of excellence of the kingdom. We've dubbed this initiative a "kingdom incubator" and are excited to see what God will do through the process.

This process of being stretched continues within the organization, empowering people in the areas of their giftings, narrowing in specialization as they develop mastery, increase in ability, grow in self-accountability, and, as a result, are accountable to others.

A leader is one who leads as he follows and follows as he leads and no one will know which one he is doing.

—Oswald J. Saunders³

Self-Government in Leadership: Fostering Accountability and Growth

Another way to describe the process is for us to use authority to lead those under us to mature in responsibility. Delegation is about management, while leadership focuses on empowerment. This enables us to give authority by creating accountability. This is how we multiply authority so that others can do the same in building other responsible leaders. The kingdom is all about self-government, as described in Genesis 1:28. We are building leaders who can govern themselves. This process increases capacity, effectiveness, and freedom with discipline. We support growth by holding one another accountable, which accelerates the process.

“The greatest among you will be the one who always serves others.”

—Matthew 23:11, TPT

Be free from pride-filled opinions, for they will only harm your cherished unity. Don't allow self-promotion to hide in your hearts, but in authentic humility put others first and view others as more important than yourselves. Abandon every display of selfishness. Possess a greater concern for what matters to others instead of your own interests.

—Philippians 2:3-4, TPT

The greatest in the kingdom shall be the servant, and as we grow in humility, we will put others first. The lines of leadership and followership beautifully blur as we honour and submit to one another, which is practically demonstrated by Jesus who served His disciples by washing their feet. In the kingdom, we gain authority when we are under authority. Our gifts are to serve and build up others, which creates successors so that what is built can endure.

FOLLOWERSHIP is a prerequisite for LEADERSHIP, as true leadership flows out of followership.

In 1988, a Harvard Business Review article on leadership titled “In Praise of Followers” masterfully defined leadership and followership.

“The Qualities of Followers: Effective followers share a number of essential qualities:

- 1 They manage themselves well.
- 2 They are committed to the organization and to a purpose, principle, or person outside themselves.
- 3 They build their competence and focus their efforts for maximum impact.
- 4 They are courageous, honest, and credible.”

The best followers are independent, self-managed, self-developers, critical thinkers, consistent, and actively engaged as risk-takers and self-starters.¹

¹ Robert Kelley, “In Praise of Followers,” Harvard Business Review, accessed October 14, 2023, <https://hbr.org/1988/11/in-praise-of-followers>.

A Paradigm Shift in Leadership

Every person at Flō is a steward of their giftings and the company. The goal of the steward is to lead with honour, even when honour has not been extended to us. We honour because all people are to be honoured as they are of infinite value and made in the image of God. We must lead with honour to create a transformational culture of honour. Honour begets honour. When we honour, it stops people from becoming objectified, which is sadly commonplace in business. At Flō, we seek to see people as human beings made in the image of God and loved by God rather than just assets or tools.

The Father's family business must be faithfully stewarded by maturing sons and daughters within the culture of honour. As we grow in sonship, we can lead others differently, knowing each person is uniquely created with special giftings to bring to the world. Given the kingdom's dominion mandate, every person is created to be a leader. The greater the leader, the greater the servant. The greater the servant, the greater the humility. All this enables submission to one another in honour. To submit is to place our desires beneath the desires of another, sacrificial love in action. Remember, the kingdom's mandate is to rule over *the earth*. We are not called to rule over *people*; every man and woman is meant to live submitted to the rulership and authority of Jesus in the kingdom of God. Like Jesus, we walk in authority when we are under authority.

Lowering Expectations, Elevating Relationships: Insights from Kenn Gill

Pastor, founder of The Ripple Centre, and my good friend, Kenn Gill, recently shared the “life word” God gave him in the 1970s that changed everything. He was told, “Heighten your investment in people and lower your expectations.” At first, this confused me. In the context of the marketplace, people are paid based on the expectation of high performance. Healthy relationships require open communication around our needs and expectations for both parties. This requires vulnerability. However, after reflecting on Kenn's word from God, I recognized that most judgment or disappointment I have experienced was based on an expectation I had placed on another that wasn't met. Or it was based on assumptions of them being like me or how I would do something, and they weren't. In addition, I have found that being disappointed or having unmet expectations of someone can open the door to offense, which presents a choice to take the offense or not. Honouring people allows us to separate identity and behaviour and to move in curiosity rather than judgment.

Working from the Heart: Integrating Faith and Excellence in the Workplace

In the workplace (and in life), you will often find yourself sharing common goals or outcomes with others. This is the “what” you are both working towards. While the *what* has been collaboratively established, it's important to let the other person determine “how” the outcome is achieved.

As we believe in and build up and align people around the key objectives, including caring for their hearts and well-being, positive outcomes naturally emerge. We have real faith in them because we hired them for a purpose. The culture of honour must be established first. With Kenn as a model, I have discovered the difference between holding expectations and believing in people with a 1 Corinthians 13:4-7-style love.

Love is large and incredibly patient. Love is gentle and consistently kind to all. It refuses to be jealous when blessing comes to someone else. Love does not brag about one's achievements nor inflate its own importance. Love does not traffic in shame and disrespect, nor selfishly seek its own honour. Love is not easily irritated or quick to take offense. Love joyfully celebrates honesty and finds no delight in what is wrong. Love is a safe place of shelter, for it never stops believing the best for others. Love never takes failure as defeat, for it never gives up.

—1 Corinthians 13:4-7, TPT

God cares more about our hearts and where our focus is than what we produce, although working diligently will produce great fruit—physically and spiritually. What we carry in our hearts has an expression on earth, so it is important to examine our hearts regularly.

Do you carry His heart, priorities, and perspective in your areas of influence?

What is in the way of a breakthrough?

We are designed to work with all our hearts unto the Lord as a form of worship. We honour God with the pursuit of excellence. This is a process of wholehearted engagement, bringing out the extraordinary in people and faithfulness in developing extraordinary stewardship in all that we do.

Put your heart and soul into every activity you do, as though you are doing it for the Lord Himself and not merely for others. For we know that we will receive a reward, an inheritance from the Lord, as we serve the Lord Yahweh, the Anointed One! A disciple will be repaid for what he has learned and followed, for God pays no attention to the titles or prestige of men.

—Colossians 3:23-25, TPT

Excellence is not an elusive future state but an attitude in the here and now. It applies to everything, from the smallest to the largest tasks of the day.

The secret of joy in work is contained in one word —excellence. To know how to do something well is to enjoy it.

—Pearl S. Buck⁴

TALENT AND CULTURE

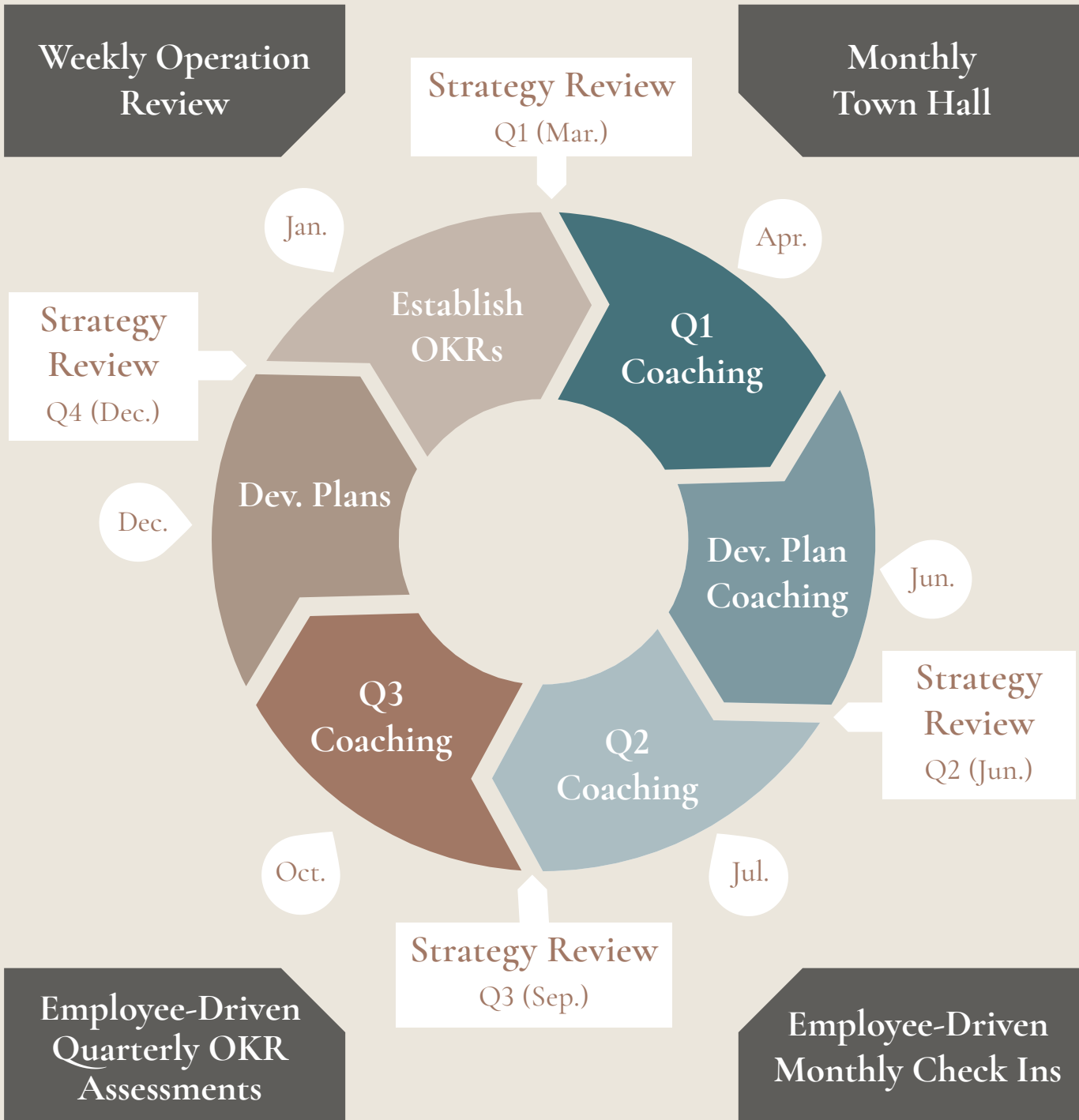
The kingdom of God is made of people and relationships. It is a blessing that we get to do life together, but we must recognize our need for each other first. At Flō, we invest in people because we value people. We believe that treating people with love encourages others to bring their best selves to the workplace because it allows them to flourish.

This core belief led to creating a talent and culture strategy with the help of my good friend and kingdom strategist, Glem Dias, and his associates. To maintain consistency and build maturity, we implemented an annual activation calendar, which includes facilitated quarterly strategic reviews, quarterly coaching sessions, monthly town halls, weekly operational reviews, and continuous two-way performance feedback, with intentional quarterly employee driven coaching or check-ins to assess OKRs. Employees take on the responsibility for their career and personal development.

In addition, we have a talent and culture roadmap to enable the vision and strategy of Flō. This includes leadership development, accelerated development plans with action learning projects, talent calibration, defining pivotal roles with succession planning, and an internal CEO advisory panel. Part of the strategy includes something we call “Leadership Profiles,” which are descriptions of leading performance indicators that demonstrate our culture in action and the character of a leader. Leadership development is key to creating a kingdom ecosystem. The values of the kingdom are ultimately what everyone on our team wants, both believers and non-believers, as they bring life for all to flourish.

ACTIVATION CYCLE

Strategy, Operations, and Talent



Positioned for Kingdom Impact: Expressing God's Love Through Business

When we seek first His kingdom, we align with heaven and the will of God for people. Love will say what needs to be said. Sometimes, this includes difficult conversations. Kindness will provide honest, hard feedback and hold people accountable. Loving people first is the key. Because this is our priority, Flō offers and pays for inner-heart healing for everyone on the team to assist in their journey to wholeheartedness. We are also implementing prayer support for anyone who desires prayer ministry. This enables people to serve their employer (and employers to serve their employees) wholeheartedly.⁵ It can also empower them to process their pasts, disagree with lies, and believe the truth. Healed, whole hearts are free to love God wholeheartedly.⁶ As people are faithful with little, more will be given, and if they mismanage what they are given, they will be given less to manage or steward.⁷ As people thrive, the company thrives.

Kingdom Leadership Blueprint: What Makes People Extraordinary

As disciplers, we get to multiply by mentoring and developing people as leaders. We honour people by seeing and understanding their unique designs and gifts. We want to discover God's design (giftings and calling), which is the place where they do well, are most creative, and most satisfied. God created us to have His life flow through us by honouring His design and His ways. This moves people from "wanting to be seen" to instead look for opportunities where they will thrive. The antithesis of belonging is conformity, as it requires one to alter their identity, whereas our desire is for people to authentically embrace who and how God made them. We must position people where they will shine – the right person in the right place with role clarity. This will directly relate what they do with the outcomes of the company, so they know that what they do matters. Said another way, they understand how they directly impact the business from the chair they occupy. They don't have to try to be something they are not. This also involves providing honest and direct feedback, even when it is hard. As a leadership team, we aim to maximize our strengths and combine our giftings and talents, working in harmony around common goals.

Unlocking Potential: Equipping Individuals for Collective Impact

Flō has progressed to a new form of outcome-based goals called OKRs (objectives and key results).⁸ This new collaborative goal-setting process leads to greater focus, empowerment, ownership, alignment, consistency, and agility as we progress towards our key strategic objectives as measured by our key results. We understand that to accelerate growth, we must set stretch goals and continue to identify bigger problems to develop innovative solutions to create more value, naturally leading to increased revenues and profitability. We are implementing employee-driven monthly check-ins where they lead the meetings and real-time OKR assessments of progress.

Leaders demonstrate honour by serving, equipping, and empowering others, not lording over people. As kingdom citizens who honour the ways of the kingdom, we are called to equip and grow people capable of self-government. More accurately, we provide the conditions and opportunities for growth and our people do the growing. Freedom comes with discipline, self-control, and the responsibility to do what is right through character development. Leaders are meant to help people discover where they thrive.

Unveiling Excellence: Nurturing God's Design in Individuals

Leaders understand that purpose or calling is cultivated as people are empowered to use their giftings and skills to make a meaningful difference. With this in mind, the Flō leadership team worked with Donna Tadych from Wisdom's Way to initiate a new process of utilizing assessments using DISC®, 360 Evaluations, Myers Briggs Type Indicator®, Working Genius, the 5 Love Languages®, the 5 Apology Languages™, leaderPOP™, the Team Dimensions Profile, and finally, the redemptive giftings, to begin to understand the design of God within our team. We want to harness the strengths of our whole team by loving and honouring each member individually to maximize influence and impact together as we advance His kingdom.

Practically, we have created a spreadsheet for each team member with the top two attributes of each assessment to narrow the information and make it readily actionable. In addition to helping us understand and stretch each person in their role, we also use this spreadsheet for everyday activities. For example, suppose there is an issue requiring an apology. In that case, we can glance at the sheet and know their top two apology languages to guide the discussion and ensure reconciliation is effective. If we want to know how to support or show appreciation for someone, we can see their top two love languages. If we are holding an innovation meeting, we can look at the top two working genius and team profiles to ensure we have the right people in the room to brainstorm effectively.

Discovering Redemptive Gifts: Unveiling God's Design

The Romans 12 redemptive gifts consist of seven God-given gifts to be used in our personal callings. These gifts manifest themselves in a natural tendency to be an (a) exhorter, (b) ruler/leader, (c) teacher, (d) giver, (e) servant, (f) prophet, and (g) mercy-giver. We use the book *Designed for Fulfillment* by Charles R. Wales, Jr., for our redemptive gifts assessment and utilize the checklists in the book. The results have been incredibly accurate and insightful in understanding how God designed us.

Jesus had all seven gifts in perfect measure. We have a primary gift that motivates everything we do, plus secondary gifts. Together, these gifts are our God-given design, hard-wired into our souls and given at birth. Though we can grow in our gifts as we become more like Christ, we are also called to rely on the gifts of others. Working for the kingdom is the epitome of teamwork!

*For what makes a distinction between you and someone else? And what do you have that grace has not given you?
And if you received it as a gift, why do you boast as though there is something special about you?
—1 Corinthians 4:7, TPT*

At Flō, starting with the senior team, we have begun using the redemptive gifts results as the umbrella or context for which all the other test results are filtered. Essentially, our goal is to build a multidimensional identity model of each person to help us as leaders and disciples to best steward those entrusted to us. This aids us in building people the way God made them and helps us proactively understand our differences so that we can see them as an advantage. Understanding and valuing one another encourages honour and interdependence. It allows people to be authentic. These God-given redemptive gifts are different from the nine gifts of the Holy Spirit listed in 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 and the gifts of Jesus to the church in Ephesians 4:11-12. No matter how you apply them, your redemptive gifts and abilities are simply how God made you. Those who are inexperienced in their giftings need to experience success through practice.⁹ Experience is the harvest of life, and every harvest is the result of a sowing.

Strengthening Relationships for Kingdom Flourishing

People long to be known, accepted, valued, and loved. Only God meets this need perfectly, which provides our ultimate sense of belonging. However, we can continually grow in these areas so people around us feel seen, heard, and valued. These exercises and assessments not only honour the person because we care and recognize their makeup but also help remove competition and comparison. Because competition is removed, a culture of celebration is established. Fear destroys connection and love casts out fear. Loving people brings freedom, and freedom allows people to be real and connect.

In God's kingdom, trust fuels strong relationships, and the kingdom flourishes through these close ties. When we have quality connections, we can have real relationships. When we have real relationships, we can more easily be curious, listen, and seek to understand. In this place, assumptions and judgments are reduced, trust is strengthened, and people feel safe. As leaders, we start by extending trust to our people and then work to gain their trust. As we grow in character, the bonds of trust increase. When trust is present, we can all be more open and vulnerable. Vulnerability results in trust, so a reinforcing foundation is built. The greater the trust, the greater the ability to engage in healthy conflict (including speaking the truth with honest feedback), and healthy conflict results in greater commitment and trust as we are being authentic with one another. Orphans find it hard to trust. Sons and daughters trust because they know the Father unconditionally loves and accepts them! When we trust God, it enables us to yield to God and extend trust to others. God honours our choice to trust Him by showering us with His grace.

Your capacity to lead is directly proportional to your capacity to trust God.¹⁰ When we think of how much God trusts us with His kingdom on earth, His people, His creation, the Gospel, our family, our work, and our businesses, it gives us reason to pause in gratitude. Like the biblical

concept of loving God, because He loved us first, we can trust God because He entrusted us with certain responsibilities, specifically the dominion of the earth.¹¹ God is good and infinitely faithful!

Cultivating Growth: The Flōurish Approach to Personal Development

To help build a strong foundation for our coaching conversations and peer accountability, we created “Leadership Profiles.” Because of the culture we have established, people are hungry to receive feedback as it is unto growth. We also have an annual employee engagement survey, allowing us to baseline our improvement across various categories. The results are shared each year along with our past results to see growth and progress. We also have “Grow with Flō,” a regular personal development series. Our current theme is personal finance, and we have made one-on-one financial coaching available to everyone to get their financial house in order. We are also exploring strategies to accelerate the elimination of employee personal debt by partnering with those eager and willing to take responsibility in the process.

We are gradually creating a kingdom culture and community at Flō for both the believers and non-believers to taste and see that the Lord is good. We understand that labour is worship, so we work unto the Lord and practice living in constant awareness of God. We know that only love transforms by the power of the Holy Spirit, so we made agape (sacrificial love; a choice, not a feeling) our foundational value, as work is meant to produce love in serving, blessing, and advancing His kingdom. Love always releases life! All the while, we actively avoid religious language when we articulate our value system, which is our vision for who we will become through the development and transformation of our mindsets, as seen in the Leadership Profiles graphic on the following page.

Leadership Vision

Expression

AGAPE IN ACTION

A servant who establishes a foundation of trust, honour, and family

HONOUR HEARTSET

- Prioritizes and invests in meaningful connections
- Enables others to flourish in their uniqueness
- Honours others by listening, empathizing, and having compassion for their journey
- Puts the interest of others above their own
- Pursues unity through honour and shared purpose
- Demonstrates servant leadership; is humble, kind, and generous, especially when it's hard
- Sees and believes the best in others
- Looks for opportunities to bless, have fun, and celebrate

BUILDS FOR THE FUTURE

A strategic multiplier who leads through influencing, empowering, and inspiring others with a compelling vision

GROWTH MINDSET

- Leaders making leaders
- Aligns goals and tasks to steward our vision, strategy and succession
- Provides input to the strategic direction
- Self-led with clear accountabilities and takes action on personal development
- Applies creativity to their responsibilities
- Participates in defining problems to create opportunities
- Understands strength in interdependence
- Curious to uncover tomorrow's problems to drive growth through innovation

DELIGHTS OUR CLIENTS

An empathizing "solutionary" who thinks from the outside in

CLIENT-CENTRIC MINDSET

- Honours relationships
- Is curious to understand the needs of others and seeks to define the root problem
- Prioritizes solving customer challenges in collaboration
- Seeks win-win opportunities in all interactions
- Believes there is always a better way
- Delights in excellence in delivering outstanding client experiences
- Creatively adapts
- Relentless focus on value creation within our ecosystem

LEADS WITH CHARACTER

An authentic leader, living from a heart of integrity, honour and peace

LEVEL 5 LEADER MINDSET

- Earns respect and builds trust by maintaining a high say/do ratio
- Values transparency, vulnerability, and wholeheartedness
- Intentional with communication
- Confronts issues, holds oneself and others accountable
- Honest about challenges and opportunities
- Champions hope
- Builds strong interdependent relationships, committed to one another's success
- Grows in self-awareness of one's strengths and weaknesses

RESOLUTE

A tenacious yet humble leader with an attitude of gratitude in all things

OUTCOME DRIVEN MINDSET

- Diligent and disciplined in the day-to-day challenges
- Hungers to deliver on goals, even in adversity
- Takes ownership and trusts in the power of our team
- Sees problems as opportunities and learns from failures
- Adaptively perseveres until the desired outcome is achieved
- Is proactive to communicate and resolve challenges
- Focuses on the positive, even when it's hard
- Is comfortable being uncomfortable

PRAYING IN KINGDOM CULTURE

Until 2020, I had a team of prophetic intercessors whose sole job was to pray for Flō.¹ However, we did not practice corporate prayer. Then, in 2020, we began to incorporate prayer within Flō following a process called “Transforming Your Business,” which was introduced to me when I met Chester and Betsy Kylstra, founders of Restoring the Foundations ministry. The process is designed to restore the foundations of the business so His kingdom can come to *earth as it is in heaven*. It includes removing the rights of the enemy related to the business, addressing generational issues (past and present founders and leaders), cleansing the land, identifying ungodly beliefs, and addressing hurts, areas of unforgiveness, and wounds. This paves the way for deliverance and the displacement of powers and principalities with an open heaven. We use apology language to aid in relational repair and ongoing reconciliation. Afterward, as a company, we must continue to occupy what God has given us, which involves maintaining an open heaven. (You could consider all this inner healing and spiritual cleansing for a business.) Like the Israelites, God brings us into the promised land, but there are enemies to overthrow by the power of His Spirit.² God has formed and prepared us to occupy the land amid future attacks and continue to expand His kingdom.

Because we don't focus our attention on what is seen but on what is unseen.

For what is seen is temporary, but the unseen realm is eternal.

– 2 Corinthians 4:18, TPT

Now, we have set apart times of corporate prayer and fellowship for those who want to come. We also have key roles for prayer intercessors, whose job is to pray, discern, and prophecy as directed by the Lord. We pray for our families, marriages, customers, employees, businesses, or any other area as the Holy Spirit directs.

When we first began our prayer time was mainly focused on ourselves and Flō. However, as we have matured, our prayer assignments have greatly broadened to come alongside and strengthen many, specifically others in the marketplace. Opportunities to build up other companies and industries through encouragement and edification (but also financial and wisdom sharing) are a two-way blessing! As we pray, a healthy atmosphere is established that benefits everyone. The Lord continues to bring people in need of prayer from outside the company to receive prayer from our team, which has been a massive blessing to all involved.

We honour our apostolic and prophetic foundation with Jesus as the chief cornerstone (and master builder) to build kingdom structures. In addition, we introduce others from outside the company gifted by grace in the five-fold ministry to build up and equip the team so they can do the same for others.³ There are many marketplace prophets who have visions and dreams and see ideas and solutions to bring into the world. We typically have worship music playing and have a “24/7 house of prayer” in the main office space that is open to the community. We are mainly a remote work environment, so the office is more of a meeting hub for some.

A few employees from various departments meet every morning online for prayer. On Wednesdays, we invite employees and the prayer teams to pray together. The cross-pollination of this greatly diverse group results in accelerated growth for all. This process has grown to include ongoing inner-heart healing made available to employees and facilitated restoration conversations⁴ as required with the goal of heart-to-heart connection. Everything is a process that can sometimes be messy and requires hard work. However, we have discovered blessings in the process, as heart issues must be revealed so they can be healed.

The only clean stable is an empty stable. So if you want the work of an ox and to enjoy an abundant harvest, you'll have a mess or two to clean up!

– Proverbs 14:4, TPT

Remember, there is no exact recipe for what a kingdom company should look like. God will have a unique expression of His kingdom coming in and through your job, business, or whatever sphere of influence the Lord has called you to. As disciples, we learn and then apply kingdom principles over and over and grow in understanding and purpose in our callings.

¹ These were paid intercessors because we honour their calling and time with no sacred/secular divide.

² Joshua 21:44.

³ This includes the grace gifts of apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers, and evangelists as listed in Ephesians 4:11.

⁴ Facilitated by Wisdom's Way.

Kingdom Impact: Redefining Success in the Workplace

I believe that one of the next great moves of God is going to be through the believers in the workplace.

—Billy Graham¹²

Every company has a redemptive purpose and the opportunity to be a spiritual entity and influence the world. Flō is blessed to be a blessing in the marketplace and connect with people the traditional church typically has a more challenging time connecting with. We get to glorify God wherever we are planted. In 1 Peter 4:10, we are exhorted to use our gifts to serve one another. As we function and serve with our gifts, talents, and acquired skills, we are engaging in ministry with the marketplace as our mission field.

It is tempting to look at size, money, and significance as key indicators of success. However, as a kingdom company, we are unlearning the ways of the world and embracing the ways of the kingdom. The kingdom starts small and increases gradually as deep foundations are the key to long-term strength and growth. For a couple of years, it looked like very little was happening, but the roots were developing before the new growth could be seen above the surface. We were going deep with the Lord, building the foundations, before going high. Unless the Lord builds the house, we labor in vain.

Part of my passion is to live out and demonstrate the heart of God in kingdom business to the world so that others can see what is possible. God makes the rules, and only He decides what success looks like. When we are obedient to the call of God and stay in our lanes, individually and corporately, the need to compare or compete (which comes from a place of scarcity) is replaced with freedom and gratitude because we are living and working from a place of abundance. There is great distinction here, as we are in the world but not of the world.¹³

A New Success: Joy in the Lord

We recently welcomed Chad as the new president of Flo. He is a godly man deeply rooted in the principles of the kingdom. As we crafted his 90-day plan and discussed our markers of success, a prompting came to me from the Holy Spirit: joy. Understanding that joy is an essential indicator of God's presence and His kingdom, I shared this insight with the team and everyone enthusiastically embraced it.

That evening, during our time of prayer in the office prayer room, our worship leader began prophesying over Chad, and another voice echoed with the joyful declaration of “Glad Chad!” repeated joyfully. Laughter and joy filled the room, serving as a beautiful confirmation from heaven that joy is a measure of success in the kingdom.

Balancing Empowerment and Accountability: A Kingdom Company's Approach

Accountability and results (the fruits of our labour) are, however, still important. There is a natural tension between empowerment and accountability. Being responsible to one another, discipline, and natural consequences are necessary to set people up for success, to mature, and to flourish by God's design. The goal of what needs to be done can be agreed upon with delegated authority and creative autonomy regarding how it is accomplished. We set targets and goals built within the context of strategy, but we must always seek His kingdom first. Remember, it's impossible to have both God and money rule over your life according to Matthew 6:24-26. You must choose whom you serve. We have chosen to make money our servant and God our master.

The path to success with God is simply being obedient and faithful with whatever God entrusts to us (including our callings) and leaving the outcomes to Him. In this process, God will entrust true riches, the riches of heaven, leading to abundant life and fruitfulness. We provide faithfulness, and God provides fruitfulness.

Multiplying Blessings: The Fruit of Kingdom-centered Investments

With generosity as a key kingdom principle, much of our profits have been seeded into wonderful ministries and organizations, which have yielded much fruit for the kingdom! In fact, new organizations have been birthed through Flō. We are seeing a broad impact far beyond our industry. We now operate directly and indirectly in all seven spheres of society (family, religion, business, education, government, media, and arts/entertainment) to bring redemptive solutions to the world's problems. A redemptive solution is a transformational approach that addresses the root cause rather than symptoms, resulting in restoration, healing, and reconciliation. Flō has become a channel for the kingdom to flow from M46 Ministries (family, media in the form of TV, podcast, social media, books, etc.) to Bee Me Kidz (which works directly with families, schools, and the Canadian government). We seek to wisely steward profits as we sow through generous giving, reinvestment, and investment, and to employees through profit-sharing.

From Renters to Owners: The Journey of Stewardship in God's Kingdom

In addition to our profit-sharing program that targets a percentage of our profits to our employees, we are investigating employee-shareholder programs. I am the stockholder (the owner who issues the shares), and the employees are the shareholders with individual units of ownership. As stewards, the purpose is to mature in faithfulness and position. This parallels the kingdom journey, from orphans to sons and daughters, from renters to owners, from slaves to stewards to co-heirs with

Christ, and from citizens to ambassadors, being about our Father's business. From working for a blessing to receiving an inheritance. Another way to say it is that God is the owner and gives us the right of possession or delegated authority. God rules, but He chose to reign on earth through His people. Kingdom expansion happens through sons and daughters who can gain entrance as heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ and reproduce themselves in others.¹⁴

As we journey with Christ, we mature into the fullness as sons and daughters of the King of the kingdom of God. We cannot reproduce what we are not, and we cannot lead people where we have not gone. As such, spiritual fathering can only go as far as you have become a son to the Father. One of the greatest kingdom investments is a father's investment in sons and daughters, as this is how the kingdom of God is expanded: through heirs. Sons become fathers who produce sons, which is an investment that will keep on paying long after you leave the earth. This is kingdom business and the culture of the kingdom *on earth as it is in heaven*. Hierarchy exists in kingdom organizational design as a structure to provide clarity and order unto fruitfulness. Remember, just like Jesus, the greatest position in the kingdom is to be a faithful servant to all, as the least will be the greatest.¹⁵

Leadership is the capacity to influence others through inspiration motivated by a passion, generated by a vision, produced by a conviction, ignited by a purpose.
—Myles Munroe¹⁶

Manifesting the Kingdom: Glorifying God through Personal and Corporate Transformation

I have discovered that my personal journey of growth, maturity, sonship, and healing impacts not only my family, but also Flō. God is using me in ways I never could have dreamed. The more I am being transformed, the more it instigates transformation in others. My heart is to be a faithful servant in my life and with Flō to be yielded, open, and prepared for God to use the company to advance His kingdom. At the end of the day, all that matters is that I do my part to show the marketplace and the world a better way, which is God's way.

And so that we would know that we are his true children, God released the Spirit of Sonship into our hearts—moving us to cry out intimately, “My Father! My true Father!” Now we’re no longer living like slaves under the law, but we enjoy being God’s very own sons and daughters! And because we’re his, we can access everything our Father has—for we are heirs because of what God has done!
—Galatians 4:6-7, TPT

My heart is for my life and Flō to glorify God. Peace and prosperity are manifestations of the kingdom of God on earth. As such, the following verse has been an anchor for me for years. I want my life and business to be like this description of Jerusalem, and I long for the world to be in awe of the goodness of God and His kingdom on earth:

Jerusalem will be to Me a name of joy, praise and glory before all the nations of the earth which will hear of all the good that I do for it, and they shall fear and tremble because of all the good and all the peace (prosperity, security, stability) that I provide for it.
—Jeremiah 33:9, AMP

God is also bringing new people to Flo for kingdom purpose, which we could not be more grateful and excited.

As I mentioned, we recently hired Chad as our president. We had been in conversation with Chad for some time, unsure of what role he might take as there were no apparent openings. When we invited him to our prayer meeting for the second time, just before he arrived, I distinctly heard God's voice saying, "Welcome to Flo." At the meeting's start, I acknowledged this as an unusual way to begin but shared what I heard, saying, "Chad, welcome to Flo!" Surprisingly, Chantal from our prayer team affirmed she had received the same message. This is a testament to how God orchestrates events in the kingdom.

HOW TO BUILD A KINGDOM ECOSYSTEM

There is much to ponder as we transition from thinking of the world to thinking of the kingdom of God as we cast our nets to the other side of the boat. Let's consider the following questions as we explore new ways of thinking in the marketplace to build a kingdom ecosystem.

- Are we seeing people as Jesus sees them, or are we seeing them through the eyes of harsh, flawed human judgment?
- What if we truly believed everyone is of infinite value? How would this change the way we operate in the marketplace?
- What if we were to help people discover their purpose (or kingdom assignment) through discovering and helping them grow in their gifts and talents?
- What if everyone used effectiveness evaluations rather than performance evaluations? Effectiveness evaluations are kingdom reviews that provide opportunities for growth rather than the fear of punishment.
- What if issues and problems with people were first met with prayer and intercession? Assuming the right person is in the proper role, what if the consequence of ineffectiveness was targeted investment in training and growth?
- What if reassignment into their area of giftedness was an option?
- What if people could live fearlessly within the safety of His family business?
- What if people were all valued enough so that decisions were made through consensus (general or directional agreement, all fully committed to the decision), and consensus was reached through stewarded dialogue by calling on the wisdom of the team?
- What if sonship or character formation were the highest qualifications of leadership?
- What if we were to embrace God as our source and provider, no longer bound by fear, scarcity, or competition, but on adding value by freely giving and blessing others, and knowing it is God who will bring the increase or harvest as we seek first His kingdom?
- What if the Beatitudes attributes were looked upon as strengths?
- What if the company was known for its love?

- What if businesses were relationally “aligned” with an apostle for counsel, covering, insight, wisdom, and prayer, exemplifying an integrated relational model rather than a hierarchical one?¹
- What if the leader with the grace gift of an apostle (the office) or those operating in the apostolic (sent ones, builders of the kingdom) were meant to be largely unseen, relational first, lift others up, create the culture and atmosphere for people to flourish, create alignment, ensure a plumb-line of the faith, serve and empower others, and build a solid foundation for the success of others for an ongoing legacy? We must never forget that only Jesus belongs on the throne. Jesus made Himself of no reputation (no desire for fame or recognition) and humbled Himself as a servant. We can’t look up to any human leader in a way that displaces Jesus from His rightful place as Lord. In the kingdom, there is no “celebrity.” We must be cautious when fame and fortune distract from the Gospel, for God pays no attention to the titles or prestige of man.
- What does a heavenly corporate structure look like in the marketplace with the right balance of structure, hierarchy, and authority when modeling heaven?

These questions (and others like them) will definitely stir up a clash of kingdoms!



Change your mindset: Live and lead in a kingdom way.



Adopt a new lifestyle: Remove strongholds and display kingdom principles.



Experience the power of the Holy Spirit: Be open to more of the Holy Spirit’s influence.



Advance the kingdom of God: The kingdom advances in the expression of love, kindness, justice, and righteousness.

¹ This is directed towards Christian leaders and is a much larger topic to be discussed.

Bringing Heaven to Earth: Manifesting the Kingdom in the Marketplace

Like Jesus, we are about our Father's business! We know that we are all called to succeed in family and business as we place things in their proper order: (1) God, (2) family, (3) business, and (4) everything else. We get to be Jesus in the marketplace to build His kingdom together, knowing Jesus is the master builder. People are God's top priority. We are meant to blur the boundaries between heaven and earth in the marketplace by receiving His unshakable kingdom and then releasing heaven on earth. What we have been given, various types of gifts, resources, and favour, is for others. This sacrificial or selfless lifestyle advances His kingdom and creates human flourishing. We are meant to bring the power of the Gospel into the marketplace with the salvation, freedom, healing, restoration, and transformation described in Isaiah 61. This is the power of the gospel of the kingdom of God.

Live in the kingdom of God in such a way that provokes questions for which the Gospel is the answer.¹⁷

Changed people change things. Transformed people transform things. The kingdom works everywhere and changes everything!

*Many of the assessments described in this chapter are available at [M46ministries.com](https://m46ministries.com) on the "Extras" page.

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THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE OF BUSINESS

Business is an opportunity to glorify God, create value, foster innovation, and contribute to the common good, aligning with principles of honesty, fairness, and ethical conduct. In the kingdom of God, work is worship and business is a platform to expand His kingdom by expressing love, integrity, and service to others, reflecting the character of God in every transaction and interaction.

Father, we ask for the grace to steward our marketplace callings and glorify You in all we do!

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you through *The Kingdom Principle of Business*? How can you apply this to your life?

How does having access to a limitless kingdom impact how you approach the marketplace?

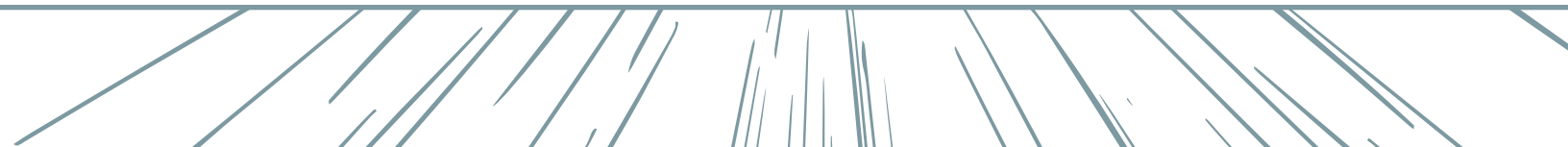
Reflect on the “How to Build a Kingdom Ecosystem” questions in this chapter. Which question(s) stands out most and why?

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION *(continued)*

If you are an employee (versus employer), how can you integrate this kingdom key into your work?

What sphere of influence(s) has God placed you in? How can you implement this kingdom key into your life?

Notes

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

The Kingdom Principle of Leadership

“The leaders who are served are the most important in your eyes, but in the kingdom, it is the servants who lead. Am I not here with you as one who serves? Because you have stood with me through all my trials and ordeals, I am promising you the kingdom that the Father has promised me.”

—Luke 22:27-29, TPT

Although the Kingdom Principle of Business chapter already highlights many aspects of kingdom leadership, I wanted to introduce leadership from a distinct angle.

Answering the Call to Kingdom Leadership

At Flō, we are on a path to grow in kingdom leadership. Jesus exemplifies kingdom leadership. We cannot lead unless we have first learned to follow, which develops humility and character. We are in the process of finding a balance between structure, hierarchy, roles of authority, and “round table” operations as the maturity process unfolds, built upon the foundation of love and honour. Implementing objectives and key results (OKRs) are very helpful in this area.¹

Leadership is essential in every aspect of our lives, extending beyond the marketplace into our families and societal roles God has placed us in. Within His kingdom, we are designed to lead and reign in life as modeled by Jesus. This call to expand His kingdom necessitates a leadership approach that transforms our immediate surroundings and has a broader impact on society.

Level 5 Aspirations: Something Unexpected

In one of the most profound books ever written on business, *Good to Great*, author Jim Collins defines a leadership development journey as culminating in “Level 5 Leadership.” Characteristics of Level 5 Leadership include:

1. A personal sense of humility
2. A deep personal understanding of one's strengths and weaknesses
3. A laser-like focus on the organization's purpose
4. A passionate commitment to continuous learning
5. A relentless determination to do what is right, not what is easy²

This culmination, as defined by Collins, represents the absolute best of global leadership, complete with executive skill sets and character development often based on biblical values and principles. However, many world-class companies struggle with greed, fear, and control, which are embedded in their mindsets and systems.

In 2018, friend and award-winning Leadership and Talent strategist Glem Dias and I started envisioning the transformation of Flō into a kingdom-class company (going beyond what is

considered “world-class”). We initiated this journey by examining the best practices in the corporate world. Then we began implementing strategic tools, systems, and resources focusing on developing leaders founded in biblical values and principles with a passion for excellence. Though we continue to grow and mature towards greater levels of leadership, we believe it is possible to transcend even these rarely achieved, world-class leadership limits when empowered by the Holy Spirit.

“For the natural realm only gives birth to things that are natural, but the spiritual realm gives birth to supernatural life!”

—John 3:6, TPT

Surprisingly, amidst our journey, something else began to unfold that was not built by mere human endeavour, something far beyond structures, systems, tools, and principles. God was doing a new thing powered by His Spirit. Fueled by surrender, hunger, and prayer, God was taking us on a journey of spiritual maturity. We were enlightened to our union with Jesus, with new levels of intimacy and deepening revelations of the kingdom of God. As a result, we continue to experience a spiritual awakening. *As in Heaven* is a spiritual fruit of this journey.

A Spiritual Journey to Kingdom 5 Leadership (K5)

For the Lord God is one, and so are we, for we share in one faith, one baptism, and one Father. And he is the perfect Father who leads us all, works through us all, and lives in us all!

—Ephesians 4:5-6, TPT

Initially, we perceived a shift from world-class to kingdom-class leadership, aiming to identify three distinct levels of growth beyond the levels of world-class Level 5 Leadership. We began using the term Kingdom 5 (K5) to highlight the shift from Level 5. Now, it's evident to me that kingdom-class leadership is an entirely new dimension of leadership that is cultivated alongside world-class leadership development, frameworks, and excellence systems.

I was flooded with such incredible grace, like a river overflowing its banks, until I was full of faith and love for Jesus, the Anointed One!

—1 Timothy 1:14, TPT

K5: The Leadership of Jesus

Kingdom-class leadership transcends prescriptive methods, emerging from a state of being. “Being” is led by the Spirit and founded in identity, where our actions and decisions flow naturally from our character and relationship with God rather than from external guidelines or strategies. Prayer teams (including executives), not just executive teams, spearheaded this transformation, guiding us towards a unity that embodies God's love and wisdom, essential for world transformation.

This is all new, and we are still learning; however, we've outlined these areas or aspects of heavenly leadership, recognizing that growth can occur in each area throughout our journey. As spiritual growth in the kingdom is more about “being” rather than “achieving,” we will refer to these as areas or aspects of leadership rather than levels. Each area of growth champions or facilitates various aspects of the Ephesians 4:11-13 grace gifts of the five-fold ministry (pastor, teacher, apostle, prophet, and evangelist, with evangelism being a common expression among them all). This journey includes three forms of leadership: redemptive leadership, transformational leadership, and Kingdom 5 or K5 Leadership, which encompasses all the areas.

What's required to embark on the path to kingdom-class leadership?

Remarkably, it begins with a simple and heartfelt “yes” to God!

Our “yes” is rooted in the Lordship of Jesus! We are called to be conduits of heaven, making the invisible kingdom visible. In the process, we've shifted from focusing on "performance indicators" to emphasizing "leadership expression" in our kingdom-class leadership approach. This change underlines a transition from merely *what we do* to *who we are*, shaped by our connection with Jesus. Practically, this means being Spirit-led with our actions naturally flowing from our core identity, values, and beliefs.

K5 Leadership is the culmination of all other forms of kingdom leadership, marked by significant growth in the revelation of sonship. These leaders embody spiritually mature fathers and mothers in the marketplace. They have embraced an inside-out process, demonstrated strong character, and exemplified the principles, values, and ethics of the kingdom of God, which they impart to those they serve and disciple.

Every K5 Leader embraces the call of a CSO (Chief Spiritual Officer) to uphold the kingdom's DNA in the areas they lead. I have described how God has practically positioned me in this role; however, this aspect of K5 Leadership will be an authentic expression of each leader depending on their unique positioning, design, redemptive giftings, calling, purpose, etc.

A K5 Leader operates with a profound understanding and alignment with the kingdom's principles and integrates them into their daily life. They embrace the process of inner-heart healing unto wholeheartedness and place enormous value on relationships and authentic connections. A K5 Leader lives by bold faith, expecting to go beyond what is reasonably possible because of their belief in God, who makes all things possible. Like Jesus, they function from a position of alignment with God's will, timing, and placement within these areas:

- Their unique giftings (unique abilities and design to fulfill their calling)
- Their calling (God-given assignment or vocation)
- Their purpose (the reason for existence, giving life meaning)
- Maturity in their redemptive gifting (tied to purpose) — dependent on and empowered by the Holy Spirit

K5 | THE LEADERSHIP OF JESUS

The Spiritual Journey of Kingdom-class Leadership

Leadership Strength

Expressions of Leadership

REDEMPTIVE LEADER

Champions hope-filled possibilities and change, nurtures renewal, reconciliation, unity, and wholeness for broken people, relationships, situations, and organizations, embodying the redemptive power of the gospel of the kingdom. They embody and promise a restoration mindset unto wholeheartedness and unity. Embraces and champions the roles of pastor and teacher.

- ◊ Trust-building
- ◊ Compassion and mercy
- ◊ Peacemaker
- ◊ Healing and restoration
- ◊ Active listening
- ◊ Conflict resolution
- ◊ Internal transformation
- ◊ Wholehearted loving

TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADER

Catalyzes growth and innovation, shaping and empowering future leaders to create godly transformation in individuals, organizations, and communities, aligned with God's will and the transformative power of the gospel of the kingdom. They live out and inspire a high-impact stewardship mindset. They are carriers of shalom that brings chaos into order. Embraces and champions the roles of the prophetic and apostolic.

- ◊ Influences visionary change
- ◊ Servanthood
- ◊ Inspires stewardship and continuous growth
- ◊ Fosters self-governance
- ◊ Holy Spirit-inspired innovation
- ◊ Outward transformation as the fruit of internal transformation

KINGDOM 5 (K5) LEADER

Leads from their life union with Jesus and as a son or daughter, spiritual fathers and mothers, embodying their heirship in God's kingdom. This Spirit-led servant embraces kingdom principles and operates in divine love, heavenly wisdom, and authority, on earth as it is in heaven, demonstrating the gospel of the kingdom through the invincible power of God's love. They demonstrate an agape heartset. They live from sabbath rest where doing flows from being. Rules and reigns as son or daughter, a king and priest.

- ◊ Childlike trust and confidence in God
- ◊ Radiating joy in constant celebration
- ◊ Heavenly minded seeing God in everything
- ◊ Catalytic in lives and destinies
- ◊ Divine partnership and alignment with heaven
- ◊ Exercise kingdom authority as kingdom ambassadors
- ◊ Kingdom generosity
- ◊ Followership, servanthood, and sacrifice
- ◊ Bold faith expressing itself through love – practically followed by signs, wonders, and miracles
- ◊ Kingdom influence and expansion

And consider the example that Jesus, the Anointed One, has set before us. Let his mindset become your motivation. He existed in the form of God, yet he gave no thought to seizing equality with God as his supreme prize. Instead he emptied himself of his outward glory by reducing himself to the form of a lowly servant. He became human! He humbled himself and became vulnerable, choosing to be revealed as a man and was obedient. He was a perfect example, even in his death—a criminal’s death by crucifixion! Because of that obedience, God exalted him and multiplied his greatness! He has now been given the greatest of all names!

—Philippians 2:5-9 TPT

In the gospel of the kingdom of God, following Jesus calls us to surrender all that we were never meant to be, enabling us to dedicate our lives in service to others. Leadership is love and Jesus shows us that love expresses itself in selfless service and self-giving. True leadership is not about dominance or power. It’s about humility, compassion, and the willingness to lay down one’s life for others. It is in serving others with love and selflessness that true leadership is demonstrated, revealing the very nature of God Himself.

In Scripture, self-emptying, self-giving love is the essence of God’s nature, a tangible display of His divinity. Jesus lived out this truth by doing only what He saw the Father doing, emptying Himself to serve humanity and reveal the love of God. Therefore, to be like Yahweh, our Heavenly Father, is to be a servant, serving with joy. Denying oneself allows us to fulfill our purpose and become who we are meant to be. The highest calling is shown by Jesus washing feet. Following Jesus means embracing this downward path of humility and selflessness. To be like God is to be a servant with Jesus as the perfect representation of the invisible God. Surrendering our lives leads to true fulfillment.

Embracing the path of self-emptying, self-giving love exemplified by Jesus is the essence of divine living on earth as it is in heaven. As we follow His example of servanthood and sacrificial love, we discover our true purpose and identity. Denying ourselves and surrendering to His ways leads to the highest fulfillment and the truest expression of our humanity, mingled with divinity in Christ. As the way up is down, it is in losing ourselves that we truly find ourselves and experience the abundant life God intended for us. Therefore, let us embrace the way of Jesus, for in Him, we find the ultimate expression of God’s love and the path to our highest calling. In His kingdom, true power, leadership, and greatness are redefined through acts of love and selflessness.¹

¹ Matthew 10:39; 16:24-25; 20:28, Mark 10:45, John 5:19, 13:4-17; 15:13, Romans 8, Philippians 2:5-8, Colossians 1:15.

Heavenly Leadership: The K5 Path to Kingdom Impact

Divine alignment enables K5 Leaders to lead with clarity, wisdom, and effectiveness, partnering and co-creating with God and others to advance the kingdom for the glory of God. A K5 Leader honours God, is selfless, motivated by love, and operates in the authority and anointing of God. In our Heavenly Father's family business, leadership is rooted in servitude from the bottom up, not power from the top down. The K5 Leader seeks alignment with heavenly principles to achieve heaven-to-earth outcomes, embodying the servant leadership model Jesus demonstrated. From this place, the K5 Leader demonstrates and reveals the heart of our Heavenly Father to the world.

A K5 Leader lives in constant awareness of their union with Jesus. From this place of oneness, their actions naturally lead to fruitfulness, recognizing that all fruitfulness comes from God, and apart from Him, they can do nothing. For a K5 Leader, work is worship and comes from a place of rest as they are Spirit-led, operating out of the overflow of the Holy Spirit. They understand that everything is made by God and for God, and that everything finds completion in Him. A K5 Leader embraces the abundance of the kingdom, free from the scarcity or poverty mindset (fear leading to greed, resulting in hoarding and competition), and becomes an open conduit of heaven's resources.

Living in meekness (living below their means, strength under control) and simplicity (detached from materialism and the distractions of this world), K5 Leaders are freed from the worldly shackles of business, power, status, possessions, time, and money, operating in true freedom and in service to others. This stage of leadership marks the end of toil and the beginning of true dominion, as they rule and reign in life in alignment with God's will from a place of rest, manifesting hope, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. Jesus describes it beautifully in John 12:25-26, TPT:

“The person who loves his life and pampers himself will miss true life! But the one who detaches his life from this world and abandons himself to me, will find true life and enjoy it forever! If you want to be my disciple, follow me and you will go where I am going. And if you truly follow me as my disciple, the Father will shower his favor upon your life.”

The original call of the King of the kingdom was, **"Come, follow me."**³ A K5 Leader and all kingdom leaders first follow Jesus, understanding that leadership flows from followership and submission. This means that the essence of K5 Leadership is rooted in the deep, personal discipleship and imitation of Christ's example, embodying His teachings and actions in every aspect of leadership because they know that in Him, they breathe and live and have their being.

Cruciform Leadership: Embracing the Pathway to the Kingdom

“And since we are his true children, we qualify to share all his treasures, for indeed, we are heirs of God himself. And since we are joined to Christ, we also

inherit all that he is and all that he has. We will experience being co-glorified with him provided that we accept his sufferings as our own.”

—Romans 8:17, TPT

Untethered from worldly concerns and trappings, K5 Leaders become heavenly leaders, journeying through the cross and embracing a crucified lifestyle of self-sacrifice and humility as the pathway to the kingdom. Marked by sacrifice, followership, servanthood, generosity, and prayer, they receive from God and overflow with blessings to others. A K5 Leader does not shy away from problems or people in need but brings the kingdom's power through signs, wonders, and miracles while also being the hands and feet of Jesus in tangible ways. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, the K5 Leader manifests the peace, provision, and joy of heaven to every person and sphere they encounter.

By embodying the values of the kingdom, K5 Leaders create environments of flourishing and empowerment where individuals and communities thrive spiritually, emotionally, and economically. Their visionary leadership inspires innovation, collaboration, and sustainable growth, fostering a culture of excellence and purpose-driven impact. Jesus emptied Himself of power and embraced servitude. The K5 Leader will look more and more like Jesus, living above circumstances, embodying humility, and serving others with a heart full of grace and love, regardless of life's trials. The K5 Leader is anchored in the sovereignty of God, His goodness, and the fear of the Lord. As Jesus's life is dispensed into this leader, their life is dispensed into the world.

Rising Together: Envisioning K5 Leadership in the Body of Christ

My old identity has been co-crucified with Christ and no longer lives. And now the essence of this new life is no longer mine, for the Anointed One lives his life through me—we live in union as one! My new life is empowered by the faith of the Son of God who loves me so much that he gave himself for me, dispensing his life into mine!

—Galatians 2:20, TPT

Ultimately, K5 Leadership glorifies God by advancing His kingdom agenda on earth, ushering in a new era of hope, restoration, and fulfillment of God's redemptive purposes. A K5 Leader is a sold-out son or daughter in the kingdom. It is not only for the so-called “elite” few. Each and every one of us can mature into a K5 leader wherever God has positioned us.

Why is K5 available to every believer? It's because, through our new life in Jesus, every believer is in life union with Jesus, sharing in a life of oneness.

K5 Leadership is for the entire body of Christ in every sphere of society, with each member of His body uniquely coming together to reflect the fullness of Christ on the earth, ruling and reigning in life as kings and priests. **Jesus is the ultimate K5 Leader, making K5 the leadership of Jesus.** He is our King, brother, and friend. As He is, so are we on the earth, and we will do even greater things because of the Holy Spirit within us. We are all called to kingdom-class leadership!

He raised us up with Christ the exalted One, and we ascended with him into the glorious perfection and authority of the heavenly realm, for we are now co-seated as one with Christ!

—Ephesians 2:6, TPT

Never doubt God's mighty power to work in you and accomplish all this. He will achieve infinitely more than your greatest request, your most unbelievable dream, and exceed your wildest imagination! He will outdo them all, for his miraculous power constantly energizes you.

—Ephesians 3:20, TPT

Hunger In the Marketplace

In March 2024, Glem Dias and I used Flō's journey as a case study to present "Building a Kingdom Company" at a kingdom business conference named "EPIC – At Work," a board I had recently joined. After we presented the journey of Flō and a very brief vision for K5 Leadership, a businessman named Kevin jumped up and said, "I want this. I need this. I commit to becoming a K5 Leader! Glem, would you pray for God to release this anointing?" Someone then asked, "Who else would like to commit to K5?" and most of the room stood up to receive prayer and impartation. It was a powerful move of the Holy Spirit to launch the conference! It was even clearer at that moment: people are hungry for the kingdom.

Here is Kevin's statement given to us the following day:

Within five minutes into "Building a Kingdom Company," I was convicted that I was allowing the logistics of an expanding company to distract me from spending face time with the King of the kingdom. Instead of operating in peace, I found myself consumed by stress. Rather than attending to the needs of people's souls, I was barking orders at them. By the end of the session, I made a solemn commitment before God. I resolved to entrust our companies to trustworthy leaders whom God had already provided, so that I could implement His blueprint and become a true K5 Leader. My priority became hungering for God above all else and measuring our companies' success by the spiritual transformation of our people. I pledged to step up as one of the kings under the King of the kingdom, leading with spiritual confidence and authority to extend God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

—Kevin White

Shortly after the conference, an employee from Kevin's company contacted me to discuss his personal development. During our conversation, he excitedly highlighted the significant transformation in Kevin's leadership, reflecting his deep commitment to growth and change.

The Kingdom Principles of Leadership

As Satan is totally defeated, requiring him to work through lies and deception, our agreement is necessary to open the door which empowers a disempowered foe. A mind full of truth, the mind

of Christ, allows us to see Satan rightly, see God rightly, and see ourselves rightly, as those who are made from heaven, infinitely valuable, loved, and victorious. Living in the truth, our very lives become a living expression, a manifestation of worship, and the domain of the King! The kingdom of God is sovereign!

Within each of us resides the fullness of King Jesus, unlocking the realm of endless possibilities where it is not *we* who live but Christ living through our surrendered lives as we relinquish control. We embody His presence on earth for God to reign through us and expand His kingdom.

Jesus demonstrated this realm of love through His ministry. This ministry was marked by signs, wonders, and miracles, fueled by the fullness of the seven spirits of God, the redemptive gifts, and the solution to every need, demonstrating the transformative power of the five-fold ministry and the unlimited power, authority, and provision of heaven released on earth.⁴ As His joyful kingdom comes and His sovereign plan unfolds, powers and principalities of darkness are displaced.

It is unfathomable that God would allow Himself to endure crucifixion, the most monstrous and humiliating torture known, reserved for the lowest. Yet, the cross exemplifies that even in the most seemingly powerless and gruesome circumstances, the greatest demonstration of power can be unleashed. As the Beatitudes teach, the first shall be the last and the last shall be first, revealing divine wisdom in the midst of apparent weakness. Blessed are those who are pure as they shall see God and see Him in others. Knowing His power is made perfect in our weakness, how does this change your perception on kingdom leadership?

Just as Kevin and those at the conference stood to answer their call to becoming K5 Leaders, we invite you to join us on the same journey! By embracing this journey of spiritual growth, you not only enhance your own leadership capabilities but also contribute to a broader mission of societal revival and reformation *on earth as it is in heaven*.

Your crucifixion with Christ has severed the tie to this life, and now your true life is hidden away in God in Christ.

And as Christ himself is seen for who he really is, who you really are will also be revealed, for you are now one with him in his glory! ... He is the divine portrait, the true likeness of the invisible God, and the firstborn heir of all creation. For in him was created the universe of things, both in the heavenly realm and on the earth, all that is seen and all that is unseen.

—Colossians 3:3-4 and 15-17, TPT

1. John Doerr, *Measure What Matters: How Google, Bono, and the Gates Foundation Rock the World with OKRs*, (Portfolio: 2018).

2. Christine Kininmonth, “Good to Great: The Key Traits of Jim Collins Level 5 Leadership,” *Growth Faculty Learn*, accessed October 14, 2023, <https://www.thegrowthfaculty.com/blog/levelfiveleadership>.

3. Matthew 4:19, NIV.

4. Revelation 1:4, 3:1, 4:5, 5:6.

THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE OF LEADERSHIP

The kingdom of God is the foundation of K5 Leaders, emphasizing a Spirit-led life of encountering God that transcends all leadership models. Love, the pinnacle of spiritual maturity, is the bedrock of K5 Leaders, servant leaders who blend spiritual growth and stewardship. Through their leadership and heavenly positioning in Christ, they release the transformative power of the gospel of the kingdom of God, aligning the church and broader society with the principles and power of heaven. The K5 Leader brings about renewal and reformation *on earth as it is in heaven*.

Father, will You empower us through the Holy Spirit to become kingdom leaders who lead with love and in service to others as we steward all You have entrusted to us?

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you through *The Kingdom Principle of Leadership*?
How can you apply this to your life?

Where are you called to lead?

Are you able to envision yourself as a K5 Leader? Why or why not?

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION *(continued)*

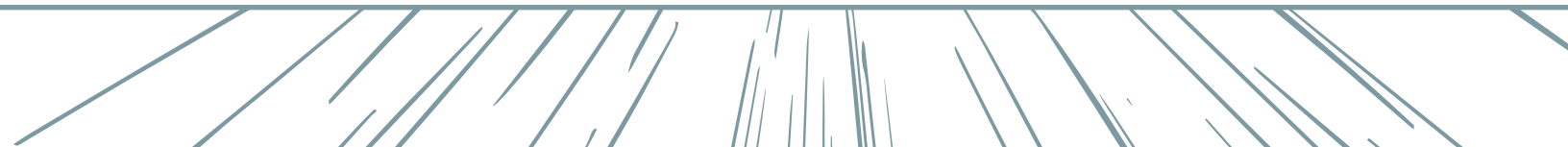
How does inner-heart healing and faith contribute to K5 Leadership?

In what ways do K5 Leaders honour God and operate in love?

How does maintaining awareness of union with Jesus impact K5 Leadership?

What is the overall impact and significance of K5 Leadership?

Understanding that Yahweh, our Heavenly Father, embodies servanthood as part of His divine nature, how does this reshape your understanding of our role and responsibilities as His followers?



ENDORSEMENTS

“Read Bryan's story and let your faith arise for Heaven to visit your own part of Earth in ways that will astound you.”

— **Ed Silvos** , *Transform Our World*

“Bryan Elliott has written a “Kingdom masterpiece.”

— **Derek Schneider**, *History Makers Society, History Makers Academy*

“...What a treasure chest of revelation. Bryan and the team are truly demonstrating creative stewardship.”

— **Chester and Betsy Kylstra**, *Founders of Restoring The Foundations International, RTF Healing House Network, Transforming Your Business*

AS IN HEAVEN

Index

The Kingdom Principles of Wealth and Business is excerpted from Bryan Elliott's book, ***As in Heaven: Life in God's Kingdom NOW***.

As ambassadors of the kingdom and sons and daughters of God, we are called to proclaim Jesus's name throughout every aspect of our lives: in our families, workplaces, neighborhoods, and in our comings and goings each day. By doing so, we bring heaven to earth, establishing God's kingdom *NOW*. *As in Heaven* teaches readers how to apply kingdom principles for practical solutions to life's greatest challenges. The following index contains the main topics *As In Heaven* covers.

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- Level 5 Aspirations: Something Unexpected
- A Spiritual Journey to Kingdom 5 Leadership (K5)
- K5: The Leadership of Jesus
- Heavenly Leadership: The K5 Path to Kingdom Impact

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- Rising Together: Envisioning K5 Leadership in the Body of Christ
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- The Kingdom Principles of Leadership

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- The Transformative Power of Thankfulness: Illuminating the Path to Joy
- Overflowing with Gratitude: Strengthening Our Bond with God and Others
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About the Author



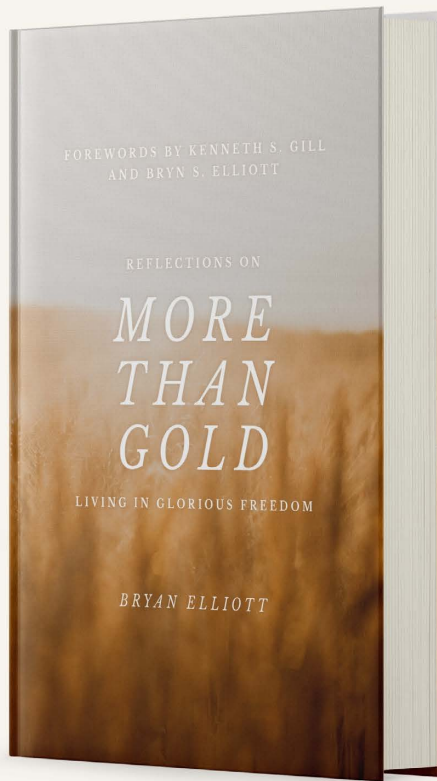
Bryan is an entrepreneur, engineer, author, speaker, and philanthropist. He is the co-founder and CEO of Flō Energy Solutions, and holds multiple technology patents. Bryan is also the co-founder and chairman of Bee Me Kidz, co-founder and president of M46 Ministries, board member of Transform Our World Canada, board member of EPIC at Work, and serves in various advisory roles.

He is the author of *More Than Gold* and *As in Heaven*, with more projects underway. His adventurous side is highlighted by cycling across Canada, bungee jumping 364 feet off Victoria Falls Bridge in Africa, and skydiving, reflecting his dynamic life approach.

"LIVING FOR ETERNITY NOW IS THE BEST LIFE ON EARTH!" —Bryan Elliott

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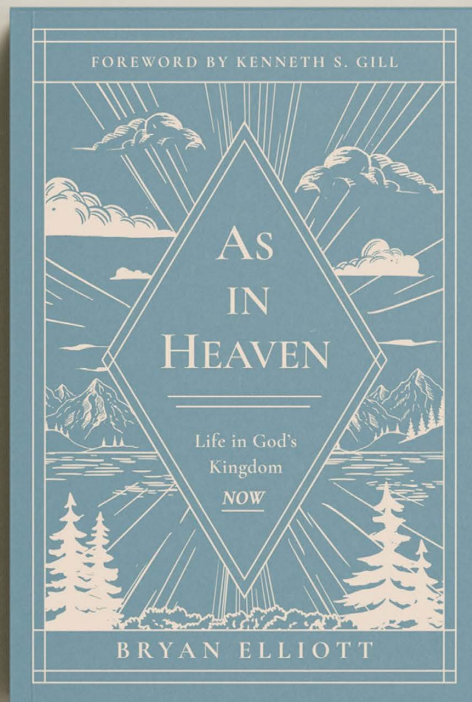
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- 8 • When Forgiveness Feels Impossible
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- 13 • Hope, Holding on, and Heaven's Perspective

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DYING TO LIVE

Experiencing
God's Redemptive
Power in the Midst
of Tragedy

Bryn S. Elliott

Dying to Live is the captivating true story of Bryn Elliott, whose life was marked by trauma, abuse, addiction, rape, rebellion, and the tragic murder of her older sister, Abbe. Once hopeless, alone, and wishing for death, Bryn candidly shares her journey of overcoming the enemy to experience a life transformed by the Savior.

Today, Bryn's testimony declares God's love to a generation marked by depression, addiction, and a total loss of identity. Her story shines light on the darkness and gives hope to the weary. For those who have struggled with addiction, abuse, and severe personal loss, Bryn's experience gives purpose to their pain.

This two-part book invites readers into the most vulnerable parts of a daughter's journey to freedom, and then offers practical insight, wisdom, tools, and encouragement toward an intimate relationship with Jesus. A surrendered life might not always be easy, but it will always be worth it.

"THIS BOOK IS A PROFOUND, EVEN SACRED MASTERPIECE. IT HAS LEFT ME BREATHLESS WITH WONDER AND AWE IN CELEBRATION OF THE GOODNESS OF GOD'S OUTRAGEOUS LOVE."

-MICHELE OKIMURA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EXPLICIT MOVEMENT

