

The Father's Business



“And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? **wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?**” (Luke 2:49).

When it comes to leadership there are lots of scriptural titles appropriate for the Lord and indicative of Him as our leader. These include, but are not limited to:

- Captain of Salvation
- Professor of my Faith
- Chief Shepherd
- Mighty God
- Almighty God
- Counselor
- Prince of Peace
- Savior of the World
- Jehovah-Jireh (My Provider)
- Lion of the Tribe of Judah
- Creator of the Universe
- King of Kings
- Lord of Lords
- Master Builder

God is our leader:

“God is with us; he is our leader” (2 Chronicles 13:12, NIV).

“So you see, God is with us. He is our leader” (NLT).

“Now look, God Himself is with us as our head” (NKJV).

“And it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God led them not through the way of the land of the Philistines...But God led the people about, through the way of the wilderness of the Red Sea...” (Exodus 13:17-18).

“But, the Lord liveth, which brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel...” (Jeremiah 23:8).

“Thou ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive...” (Psalms 68:18).

“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God” (Romans 8:14).

But, I’ve never thought of Him as:

- Businessman
- Business-God

Why? Because the term “business” connected to the church turns people off quickly. Some get upset and annoyed when the church is compared to a business.

But, His business:

- Challenges us
- Compels us
- Consumes us

Business is nothing more than what we spend our time, money, and energy doing. Generally speaking, where we spend the majority of our time, money and energy defines the business we are in (Terry Tieman, “Just Busy or Doing your Father’s Business”)

Interestingly, these are the first “red letter” words in the New Testament; the first recorded words of Jesus Christ. It was probably His first visit to Jerusalem since He was an infant. At forty days of age he with there with his mother for her to offer two turtle doves for purification.

Probably significant this statement was made in connection with the Passover.

The number 12:

1. Represents the number of government or the rule of God
2. Is the beginning point, an age of maturity for boys in many cultures
3. Leaders (apostles)
4. Sons of Jacob
5. Major joints in our bodies
6. Judges over Israel

...and so forth.

Whose business are we really doing? What business are we in?

It’s not about us. It’s the Father’s business.

Someone has said there are two important days in life, the day you were born and the day you find out why you were born.

At twelve, Jesus was totally aware of his identity, purpose, mission, and vision.

“For this purpose”

Build His Church	Matthew 16:18
Destroy the works of Satan	1 John 3:8
Give life more abundantly	John 10:10
Seek and save the lost	Luke 19:10
Do the Father’s will	John 4:34; 9:4

There are two great days in the life of a Christian: the day you were born again and the day you found out why you were born again.

“And David said unto Ahimelech, And is there not here under thine hand spear or sword? for I have neither brought my sword nor my weapons with me, ***because the king's business required haste***” (1 Samuel 21:8).

“...Because the king's mission was urgent” (NIV).

Components of the King’s business/Father’s business

- Urgency
- Priority
- Vision
- Purpose
- Commitment (fulltime)
- Discipline

Regret and What to Do about It

Neil Roese in *If Only* makes a profound distinction of two kinds of regret:

- Regret of action.
- Regret of inaction.

Simply put:

- Wish I had not done something (action).
- Wish I had done something (inaction).

Or:

- Wish I hadn’t (action).

- Wish I had (inaction).

Or:

- Things I should not have done (action).
- Things I should have done (inaction).

Whichever, ouch!

- Mistakes made (action).
- Opportunities missed (inaction).

That translates theologically into:

- Sins of commission (action)
- Sins of omission (inaction)

But, there doesn't have to be regret. Flip things around.

Opportunities abound:

- Past opportunities: What might have been?
- Future opportunities: What can be?

Jim Rohn speaks of two types of pain in life:

- Pain of regret.
- Pain of discipline.

Weights:

- Regret weighs tons.
- Discipline weighs ounces.

Choices:

- Pain now (discipline)
- Pain later (regret)

Advice:

- Repent over regrets.
- Throw off the weights.
- See and cease the opportunity.
- Run after it with patience and persistence.
- Look to Jesus. He will help! (Hebrews 12:1-2)

Or:

- Forget the past.
- Make the best of the future (Philippians 3:13).

Live life to God's fullest potential with a determination of no regrets in mind.