

Strategic Business Principles We Should Apply to Missions and Ministries

Some feel that business and ministry are entirely separate and never the two should cross. Jesus said 'I must be about my Father's business'. Just because its ministry, doesn't mean we should abandon logic or accountability and common sense. We should always seek to get value for money in our endeavors. Of course we should always be open for God to overrule, but that doesn't excuse dealing with a slack hand. 'The hand of the diligent shall prosper'. How do we do this?

Lord Robert Edmiston was born in India in 1946, the son of a war time fighter pilot, and came to the UK at the age of three and subsequently spent five years in Kenya before returning to the UK in 1962. He started his career as a bank clerk but today owns companies in the property, motor, and finance sectors. He is a father of a grown-up family and has ten grandchildren. He is married to Tracie and together in 1988 they founded CV, an international charity with offices in 22 countries working to support the Christian church in the areas of evangelism and discipleship in both the online and offline space. Lord and Lady Edmiston also sponsor three senior schools. Lord Edmiston, having been a member of the House of Lords, retired in July 2015 to devote more time to his charitable activities.

I. Are Business Principles Relevant in Ministry

- A. Luke 2:49 Jesus said "my Father's business"
- B. Proverbs 10:4 "The hand of the diligent shall prosper"
- C. Proverbs 22:29 "See a man diligent in business, he shall stand before kings"

II. Great Principles

- A. Integrity: Matthew 5:37 "let your yea be yea and your nay, nay"
- B. Keep your word
- C. Honesty
- D. Fairness: Proverbs 11:1 "a false balance is an abomination to the Lord"
- E. Faithfulness: Luke 16:10 "a man faithful in least is also faithful in much" and the opposite also.
- F. Temptation: 1 Corinthians 8:13 Don't cause your brothers to stumble. (Don't place temptation in their way; they may not have your immunity).
- G. Check: Matthew 24:49 The master returns unexpectedly and finds the one he left in charge misbehaving.

H. Observe how they treat others.

I. See things from the opposite point of view Solomon and the baby in 1 Kings 3:25

Suggested Readings:

Proverbs