

Jesus, My Senior Partner and CEO

(Lk 5:1-11)

[Buck Knives declaration]--- Jesus Christ is the Senior Partner and their products should reflect His integrity.

Honoring Jesus Christ to be your Senior Partner and CEO in your workplace! Does it work???

Jesus, my Senior Partner and CEO (Luke 5:1-11)

I] People's perception of Jesus (v.1-3)

1. Jesus only cares about "spiritual things"
2. Jesus only good at woodwork and teaching
3. Jesus only have authority in the spiritual realm

II] Who Jesus really is (v.4)

1. He cares about people's livelihood
2. He is the greatest fisherman
3. He is the Master of All: He is the Master Expert of our expertise

III] The night before and after (v.5-11)

1. Labor in vain (v.5a)
2. Full of fish (v.6)
3. Benefiting his partners of another boat (v.7)
4. Experiencing God and self (v.8)
5. Glorifying God (v.9)
6. Becoming fisher of men (v.10-11)

IV] The turning point (v.5b)

"Because you say so, I will let down the nets." Peter trusted Jesus to be His Senior Partner/CEO. Will you trust Jesus and follow His instructions in your professional life, use His principles in your workplace?

[Chick-Fil-A] --- With some 1,300 units in 37 states, Chick-fil-A Inc. is the United States second largest fast-food chain specializing in chicken, based on sales. It is founded on Biblical principle. What is the difference between a Christian business and business founded on Christian principles? They don't sell Christian books or any Christian products. But they run the business by Christian principles. Their purpose is not evangelizing their customers. But they use the business to be a testimony to glorify God.

- The fundamental belief: The founder, Truett Cathy, believes very strongly that you can be successful in business using biblical principles.
- Realignment: Cathy's son, Dan, by then a leading company executive, asked the committee members three questions: "Why are we in business?" "Why are we here?" "Why are we alive?" The committee members all agreed, "in the important role Jesus Christ played in our lives, but none of us liked the idea of parading around our religious faith. We sought, then to create a statement of our corporate purpose --- not to press our beliefs onto others, but rather to influence others in our organization by

the example we set in our lifestyle and by the way we treat people.” As a result of these discussions, they came up with the company’s twofold purpose --- we want “to glorify God by being a faithful steward of all that’s entrusted to us and to be a positive influence on all who come in contact with Chick-fil-A”.

- Acting out the philosophy in practical ways:
 - Dedication dinner to dedicate new stores to God
 - Truett Cathy set the example: involves in a church, teach youth Sunday school class for 60 years, support 12 foster homes, etc
 - Voluntary devotion time on every Monday morning
 - Have a prayer list goes around
 - Close on Sundays
 - Setting priority: show testimony in how they act, in how they serve the customer and the quality of the product. The “quality of the people” is on the top, the attitude is truly important.
 - Second-mile services: Clean bath room is first-mile service. Second-mile service is helping someone to the care when it’s raining, carrying a tray for a mom who has two little ones with her, picking up waste paper while people are having a conversation at their table, etc. They want to do those things they don’t have to.

It will work if you are convicted that “Because you say so, I will let down the nets.”

Into the third year of M&M--- Being Christlike servant-leaders at work

In this year, we will first look at some relevant Biblical principles that will guide us through the whitewater of business world. Second, we will look at specific cases/issues that most of us will face in work. For examples:

- What is success
- Relating to bosses, subordinates and colleagues
- Basic business ethics
- Anxiety and job security
- Hiring and firing
- Morality before the law: civil and spiritual
- Midlife crisis
- Temptations at work
- Retirement
- Workplace politics, gossip

Discussion

1. What are some of the common struggles/challenges that we, as Christians, face in workplace?
2. What are the reasons why some Christians find it difficult to live out biblical principles in their workplace?
3. What advantages may come if you have Jesus as your Senior Partner or CEO at work? What shall we do?
4. What struggles do you personally have that you want to recommend M&M Big Group to address?