

Dear Future Tentmaker,

We are excited that you have an interest in becoming a Tentmaker.biz member!

The following packet will lay out the expectations of what it means to become a Tentmaker. After prayerful consideration and review of the packet, should you be led by the Lord to become a Tentmaker (and therefore a Tentmaker.biz member), we ask you to sign the Tentmaker.biz Pledge and return it to your Chapter Leader. Once you have turned in your Pledge, you will be provided with a Tentmaker.biz Certificate.

The purpose of this packet is to help you understand what Tentmaker.biz is and equip you to be a Tentmaker, should you choose to be one. It will provide guidelines and inspiration, and it includes the following:

- Introduction to Tentmaker.biz – This details our mission, the definition of a Tentmaker, what we do as an organization, the goal of Tentmaker.biz and what a Tentmaker.biz is NOT.
- Tentmaker.biz Statement of Faith – This gives you the specifics of what we as a ministry believe; this is our foundation.
- Suggested Activities – We created this list to help jump start you on your journey as a Tentmaker. As you begin to use your skills and resources to promote Christ in the workplace, we believe He will give you unique ideas suited to your skill set, personality and business. This list just helps get you started!
- Prayer in Your Business & Workplace Prayer – Incorporating prayer in your life and daily business is the foundation we as a ministry build upon. For some, this can be intimidating. This will help outline what it looks like to incorporate prayer in your workplace. We've also enclosed a simple list of prayers that you can use for inspiration or begin to pray from. Our goal is to help you as much as we can every step of the way!
- Tentmaker.biz Pledge – This lists out who a Tentmaker is and what a Tentmaker does. If you decide to become a Tentmaker, you will sign this and return it to your Chapter Leader as a sign of your commitment to using your workplace as a mission field.

Thank you again for your prayerful consideration in becoming a Tentmaker.biz member! The vision of Tentmaker.biz cannot be fulfilled without passionate, mission-committed business owners like yourself. It is our privilege to be walking this out with you!

Passionate about equipping others,

The Tentmaker.biz Staff



r h e w o r k p l a c e i s o u r m i s s i o n f i e l d

MISSION STATEMENT

MISSION

Tentmaker.biz is a network of Christian business owners who are inspired to use the gifts and talents that God has given us to fulfill the Great Commission. Through bold witnessing and strategic evangelistic efforts, our goal is to impact the business community with the saving message of Jesus Christ. As we mobilize self-reliant professionals nationwide, we are empowering future Tentmakers around the world. The workplace is our mission field.

DEFINITION

A mission-committed business owner empowered to use their skills and resources in response to God's call to proclaim Christ in the workplace.

t h e w o r k p l a c e i s o u r m i s s i o n f i e l d

PLEDGE

PRAYER

Tentmakers seek God through daily prayer. We make it a priority to listen for God's direction in our business and daily affairs.

SERVE

Tentmakers are servants seeking to follow the example of Jesus.

GIVE

Tentmakers look for opportunities to give. We believe in giving, not only financially, but spiritually as well. We are on a mission to bless others.

HONOR

Tentmakers are honest, fair, and show integrity in their beliefs and actions. We treat people with the utmost respect, no matter their circumstances.

PLEDGE

CHARACTER

Tentmakers are doers of the Word. We strive to live what we preach, through openness and transparency, in an effort to reach others.

INTEGRITY

Tentmakers adhere to moral and ethical principles found in the Bible. We desire to treat people as Jesus would.

VISION

Tentmakers are visionaries. They pray and ponder the future regularly.

FAITH

Whatever God has called us to do, it will require faith. We cannot follow Him on our own. It requires faith to be a Tentmaker.

PLEDGE | please sign other side

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X

DATE

X

SIGNATURE

STATEMENT OF FAITH

F

The Bible is the inspired and only infallible authoritative Word of God.

A

There is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

I

Jesus Christ is God incarnate, fully God and fully man, one Person in two .

T

The Holy Spirit comforts, bestows spiritual gifts and indwells the Christian with the ability to live a godly life.

H

Man is made in the image of God and was created to have fellowship with God but became separated through sinful disobedience. But now, "By grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." Ephesians 2:8-9

WORKPLACE PRAYER

P

Lord Jesus, as I enter this business that You have blessed me with, I wish to bring Your presence with me. May I speak Your peace, Your grace, and Your perfect order into the atmosphere of my company.

R

I acknowledge Your Lordship over all that will be spoken today, over every thought, accomplishment, and decision.

A

Lord Jesus, I thank You for the gifts and skills You have deposited in me. I do not take them lightly, but commit to using them responsibly and with excellence.

Y

Give me a fresh supply of grace and wisdom upon which to draw as I do my best to run Your business today. Bless my creativity, my ideas and my energy so that even the smallest task may bring You honor.

E

Lord, when I need to make a decision, whether big or small, please guide me; when I'm weary and needing refreshment, please energize me.

R

Lord, when I'm burned out, infuse me with the life of Your Holy Spirit.

WORKPLACE PRAYER

C

May the work I do, and the way I do it, bring hope, light and courage to all whom I come into contact with today.

O

I thank you Lord, because I know that even in this day's most stressful moments, You are here and I can rest in You.

N

Thank you for favor with customers, clients, employees and anyone else with whom I will interact today.

F

Thank You for giving me new opportunities to use my business as a mission field.

E

Thank You, Lord, for meeting all our financial needs as well as the needs of every employee You have allowed me to have here.

S

Thank you for protecting my family and the families represented here today while at the workplace.

S

In the name of Jesus. Amen.

PRAYER IN YOUR BUSINESS

PRAYER AS BUSINESS OWNERS

As Christian business owners we commit our lives and businesses to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We use prayer as the foundation for all we do. Our model is Christ who, as True God and True Man, prayed often for his disciples (Luke 5:16); even praying all night before calling the twelve disciples to follow him. (Luke 6:12-13) In John 17 we find a whole chapter recording the Lord praying for all of us. It is in that spirit and example that we build our Tentmaker.biz Prayer Ministry.

PRAYER IN THE BIBLE

We have examples in the Old and New Testaments of God-fearing men and women who devoted their businesses and households (family and employees) to the Lord. They were prayer warriors and used their wealth to help the orphan, the widow and the poor; and God blessed them.

Here are a few examples:

PRAYER BY JESUS

Luke 5:16, Luke 6:12, Luke 11:1-13, Luke 18:1-8, Luke 22:39-46; Mark 11:24-26; John 17

BIBLICAL LEADERS

Genesis 6:9, Genesis 12:4-5, Genesis 13:1-2, Genesis 26:12-14; Acts 9:36, 39; Acts 10:1-4, Acts 18:2-4

PRAYER IN YOUR BUSINESS

HOW DO I USE PRAYER IN MY BUSINESS?

Open your business with prayer daily. Giving the first fruits of your business day to the Lord in prayer will honor God and allow Him to work in your business daily. A sample Workplace Prayer can be found under RESOURCES on the Tentmaker.biz website.

Pray with and for your employees; consider inviting them to join you in your prayer time.

Pray with and for your customers / clients / vendors.

Pray with and for your fellow Tentmakers.

Pray for the Tentmaker.biz chapter and national leadership teams.

How do I physically pray for my customers?

Listen for needs they share in the course of your business dealings and conversations. If one arises, be bold and lift their prayer need up on the spot.

Don't worry about what to say. Prayers do not have to be long, or use certain words. If led to, you can touch them on the back or shoulder as you begin to pray, which can be a bonding experience. You can use the Scripture Reference Booklet and go to the Table of Contents for scriptures to pray as a guide. See RESOURCES on the Tentmaker.biz website.

If no need is obvious, ask if they have any prayer requests.

Follow-up is an important part of praying for someone. Once you've prayed for them, gather their contact information. You can send them a handwritten, hand addressed "I Prayed for You" card in the mail. Following up later with someone you prayed for will allow them to see your true heart for their needs. It is a good idea to set a reminder in your follow-up system (day planner, phone calendar, etc).

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

NOW THAT I AM A TENTMAKER, WHAT SHOULD I BE DOING?

You may be asking the question, “Now that I am a Tentmaker, what should I be doing?” Following are some suggested activities to help launch your ministry. It is important to engage in these during your first month in order to build momentum.

Display your Tentmaker.biz Certificate in your office for others to see. As people see it, it will provide opportunities to share about the ministry and how you are using your business as a mission field.

Order a set of customized “We Prayed for You” cards printed with your logo. These will be provided for FREE (as long as we can continue to be a blessing). They will be provided in a pack of 20 including envelopes; you will need to provide the stamps.

Send out your first prayer card encouraging a customer or employee. Keeping it simple, you may consider sending one to a member of your family first, i.e., wife, son, daughter, etc...

Download the Tentmaker.biz App for your mobile device. You will be provided a link on the Tentmaker.biz website to do this.

Make plans to attend a monthly Tentmaker.biz meeting in your area. Putting it in your schedule well in advance will help you to avoid a scheduling conflict.

Visit a fellow Tentmaker to encourage and lift up in prayer. As we encourage, we become encouraged.

Implement a time of prayer at your workplace. This could be just you or your entire staff. You can refer to the Workplace Prayer sheet.

Share the Tentmaker.biz link with another business owner.

Pass along the Are You a Tentmaker? Card to potential Tentmakers. You can get these at your local Tentmaker.biz chapter meeting.

Invite another business owner to a Tentmaker.biz meeting or luncheon. Please ensure that you invite ONLY business owners, as they are the ones who can go back to their business and affect change to use their business as a mission field.

Place a prayer box in a visible location and provide cards for customers and vendors to leave their prayer request on. Let them know you will be lifting up their requests in prayer. Provide them with a 3x5 card to fill out their contact information and prayer request so you can send them a prayer card and follow up with them.

INTRODUCTION

THE MISSION OF TENTMAKER.BIZ

The Tentmaker.biz ministry is a network of Christian business owners who are being empowered to use the gifts and talents that God has given them to fulfill the Great Commission. They seek to operate a successful and profitable business with excellence while keeping their eyes and hearts open to the spiritual needs of their employees and customers. When opportunities arise, Tentmakers will be ready to meet these needs through the name and the ministry of Jesus Christ. Prayer and intercession on behalf of the needy is the primary method of support that Tentmakers can give. Follow-up prayer and hand-written encouragement cards will also be employed to share the love of Jesus.

WHAT IS A TENTMAKER?

A Tentmaker is a mission-committed business owner empowered to use their skills and resources in response to God's call to proclaim Christ in the workplace.

As Tentmakers, we are Christians who realize we are filled with the presence of God and heed the call to take His presence into the marketplace. Jesus himself demonstrated this principle as He most often ministered among the people, rather than in the synagogue. In the same way, Acts 17:17 speaks of Paul's places of ministry, "So he was reasoning in the synagogue with the Jews and the God-fearing Gentiles and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be present."

Tentmakers desire to be ministers in the marketplace where they live and work among the people and are sensitive to those who need a touch from Jesus. Tentmakers use their workplace to bring the glory of God through the simple act of caring for people's needs, using prayer to connect the person in need to the only source of true healing, and that is Jesus Christ.

WHAT DOES THE TENTMAKER.BIZ MINISTRY DO?

The Tentmaker.biz ministry works to envision, empower, equip and encourage business men and women across the nation to put Christ back into His rightful position. The result will be changing the way people do business for generations to come. The ministry was founded to assist the Christian person in establishing God as the owner of their business and them as the stewards.

GOALS

THE PRIMARY GOAL OF TENTMAKER.BIZ IS FOURFOLD

ENVISION: To show Tentmakers how their businesses can be a Holy calling to ministry.

EMPOWER: Through luncheons and other meetings, Tentmakers gather with other Tentmakers to learn how prayer can empower them to use their business to bring the love of Jesus to their customers and employees. With this empowering, they will be enabled or permitted to share Christ freely with those in need.

EQUIP: Tentmakers has created useful tools to equip business owners to succeed in reaching out in their workplace - Prayer Guides, Prayer Cards, Website and Connections to other business men and women.

ENCOURAGE: As Tentmakers gather at their meetings, they will encourage each other with testimony stories of how God is moving throughout businesses. They will share strategies and build each other up with courage to be bold and reach out with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

TENTMAKER.BIZ IS NOT

A church or aligned with any denomination;

A doctrine or promoter of one for argument, but rather is an organization that shares the kindness of Jesus with people in need;

Business-oriented or a “networking” group to present one’s product or services;

A for-profit or a non-profit organization - there will be no dues, fees or offering collected; no money is to be exchanged whatsoever.

The meetings of Tentmaker.biz are to be a safe place of fellowship and encouragement for the mission-committed business owner where they can be equipped, empowered, and encouraged to use their business, skills and resources in response to God’s call to proclaim Jesus Christ in the workplace.