

GODLINESS WILL MAKE YOU PROFITABLE

1 Timothy 4:8 (NASB) says that "godliness is profitable for all things." As a businessman, I have learned that when you pursue something that does not bring profit you will waste 2 important yet limited resources - time and money. So I have been disciplining myself to only pursue projects that are profitable. How do I know if they will be? I actually try them out in a small but scalable manner. If they do not work on a preset period in spite of all my efforts, I kill the project. This way, I limit my losses. On the other hand, if the project goes well, then I scale up on my efforts and investment.

If godliness will bring profit into our lives, we should understand what it means so that we can pursue it properly. However, I have found that being godly is often interchanged with the idea of being religious. Are they the same or different? In order to answer this, I studied the original Greek words for both of them. To be godly (eusebeia) means to devoutly do what is appropriate for God. To be religious (deisidaimonia), on the other hand, is to conduct yourself according to the god you believe in or the religious order you belong to.

To be godly is to know God and to do what He wants. On the other hand, to be religious is knowing what your religion teaches and to live out these principles. I feel you can conduct your business in a godly manner but not necessarily in a religious way. Because your company may not be part of your religious order and the people in your business may be part of another religion. We do not have to be in the same religion in order to be godly as long as we agree to do what God, the one who created the world and the one who owns it, wants us to do.

1 Corinthians 6:12 says, "Everything is permissible, but not all things are beneficial." So do not do anything that will waste your time and money. Therefore, spend time knowing God because He alone has the power to bless and curse you. And then decide to conduct your business and live your lives according to His ways, and you will profit in all things!