

PREPARING FOR YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Someone recently asked me how he can start a business of his own. He said he used to be an OFW but now he and his wife work for major corporations in the country. They related how they tried to go into business last year by investing in a poultry farm. The owner would assign a chicken house in his farm to different investors, but would continue to operate the farm himself then would split the profit with the investors 50/50. The chicken house assigned to them did well for 2 cycles but after that, the whole farm got infected by a virus. When they finally cashed in their investments, they said they barely broke even.

So I asked them, "What did you learn about growing chicken and what abilities did you develop from that experience?" Practically nothing, they admitted, because it was the owner who managed and ran the operations. So I told them that business is not just about making money. More importantly, it is about growing your abilities so that God can give you the opportunity you need. You begin by first getting involved in a small business so that you can learn the ropes slowly.

However both of them said they cannot afford to leave their jobs to start a business. It is too risky! And I agreed. So I told them that the best way to prepare for a business is to study everything they can learn from their present employment. They should not be content with just doing a good job. They must learn everything they can about it -- from sales to accounting, logistics, etc. They must also treat the company as their own and strive to make it succeed because this is the measure that they are ready for a business of their own. In Luke 16:12 Jesus said, "And if you have not been faithful in the use of that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own?"

Most people believe that business is about growing money because they believe,

"Money begets money!" This is not true. Without proper abilities, money will not grow and you may in fact even lose it.