

Rooted

Biblical Business Academy's Flagship Course

O: Open to wise counsel

Foundational Verse: *Proverbs 15:22* – “Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.”

Just like last week's training, this one will focus on what it does AND doesn't mean to be open to wise counsel. I know that openness and vulnerability can be difficult for some and in some ways, protecting yourself can be a good thing... we're going to look at when that goes all the way wrong so that we can work on continuing to get it right.

Q. Before we dive into the content, ask yourself (and also feel free to share if you'd like to!) what's your instant reaction when you think about being open to counsel from others?

The Idol of Independence

With '#girlboss' and 'independent woman' being the anthems and message of recent times, it can be easy to see the woman who 'has and does it all' idolised. While of course, there's nothing wrong with some wonder women spirit now and again (hello, *Proverbs 31!*), it can cause us to almost idolise 'going it alone' and view asking for help as a sign of weakness.

Just like Rome, our businesses weren't (or won't be!) built in a day, which means asking for support and guidance is just going to be a part of the deal, especially if you're looking to scale. (More on this in our key text later.)

Q. List every area of your business where you've sought support to date (coaching, programs, tech support etc) and list every area you're planning on investing in/asking for in the future where you know you need further support & haven't yet asked.

As a business owner, you're naturally independent and capable which might lead you to leave yourself until last when it comes to receiving support and help favouring the desire to support and help others first

Q. Do you find it just as easy to receive as you do to give?

Luke 6:38: “...give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”

Galatians 6:2: “Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.”

Being able to give and pour out in and of ourselves but not to receive that same gift from others can actually be hypocritical!

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Going back to our foundational verse Proverbs 15:22, it's important to note that while we're advised to seek wise counsel, the Bible is of course clear about who we *shouldn't* seek support from (those who go against God & practice a different kind of spirituality etc.)

In fact, when describing Godlessness in the last days in 2 Timothy 3:6-7, Paul states:

"For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth."

Protect yourself

It's also important to note that since not everyone is an Entrepreneur and won't have that same drive you do, not everyone will understand where you're coming from in what you're doing and *may* (even without realising it!) drag your ideas down or 'burst your bubble'. It's therefore important to protect yourself and be wise about who you share with.

Q. How do you typically discern who to speak to and when regarding the support you need in your business?

In order to explore what wise counsel done RIGHT looks like, we're diving into Exodus 18.

Q. How easy do you find it to accept correction? (vs 17 & vs 24)

Q. Does your business have any 'blind spots' or areas of potential weakness you're not seeing (either consciously or subconsciously)? (vs 18)

Q. Are there opportunities for you to 'share the load' anywhere? (vs 21)