

DAVE ANDERSON'S

# How to Run Your Business **BY THE BOOK**



## *Opening Thoughts:*

*If Satan cannot succeed at discouraging us with our own failures, he will often try to discourage us with the victories of those who oppose God. There is a time to be a "watchman on the wall" and to cry out warning alarms because of the attacks of the enemy. However, if this is our single focus, we will tend to be anxious because of the "progress" that the enemies of the Lord are making. Scripture specifically tells us, "Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb" (Psalm 37:1-2).*

## This Month's Feature:

# Develop Your Daily Spiritual Disciplines!

(NOTE: Highlighted links in each section may be opened by placing the cursor over the link and pressing Ctrl + click)

**D**eveloping spiritually, like any other worthwhile endeavor, requires discipline. What you do, and when you do it, is your choice. That you develop a plan to engraft God's Word into your soul is not an option if you yearn to grow in your walk with Christ, and conform your life to His. There are numerous study tools available to help you with your journey. I'm going to share some of my personal preferences as recommendations and for the sake of example.

**1. Early morning works best.** I find that if I don't connect with God before I'm in the world's fray, and in the workplace trenches, it may not get done at all. For too long I'd try to squeeze in some Bible study or prayer time in the evening, but I never remained diligent within that framework. There were too many distractions and activities that squeezed God out. The best way for me to ensure that this doesn't happen is to schedule God in and work the rest of the day around time with Him, rather than trying to fit Him into the rest of the day.

**2. Follow IBLP's Daily Success Plan.** This is a one-year course where you will study the 49 commands of Christ with a daily email lesson from Bill Gothard's Institute of Basic Life Principles. You'll tackle one command per week, and each daily email will discuss its meaning and how to practically apply the command to all aspects of your life. I've gone through this course for several years now, and it has greatly enriched my life.

**3. Use a One-year Bible tool.** I have the Living Christian software downloaded on my computer, and each day I will read a Bible passage along with insightful commentary by Bible teacher and author Larry Richards. If you follow the daily doses of prescribed reading, you will traverse through the entire Bible in one year's time. There is also a journaling section as part of the software where you can record your spiritual insights, prayer requests and answers, struggles, what you're learning, applying, and how you're growing.

*"We are too Christian really to enjoy sinning, and too fond of sinning really to enjoy Christianity. Most of us know perfectly well what we ought to do; our trouble is that we do not want to do it."*

*~ Peter Marshall*

October 2011

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**4. Prayer time.** Praying before, during, and/or after your study time will open up vital channels for God to speak to you, and for you to make your petitions known to Him.

There are times when I fall behind in one aspect or another of these disciplines for a day or two, and you may find yourself in the same situation. Don't stress out or beat yourself up. Instead, just realize that this is going to happen and get caught up as quickly as you can.

What I've offered you in this section is merely a sampling of how you may wish to structure some time with God each day to grow in knowledge of Him and His word. I used personal examples, only because I can speak credibly concerning them, and not because I believe they are for everybody. My study time takes a minimum of 45 minutes, and often runs up past 90 minutes when I decide to dig deeply into an area of immediate need.

If you would like to learn more about the resources I've mentioned, visit [iblp.org](http://iblp.org), and [livingchristian.net](http://livingchristian.net).

**Enjoy your journey!**

## A Dose of Inspiration: Don't Give Up on Your Dreams!

Oftentimes as children, we have dreams for the future, dreams of being ball players and actresses, super heroes and firemen. But most of the time, they end up just being wishful thinking. As we get older, we grow out of them. It's good to play and have dreams as children, but when we grow up, we have to know the difference between a God-given dream and a wish. I remember when I was a little boy, I dreamed of playing basketball for the Houston Rockets. That was definitely a fantasy! Beyond our wishes though, we all have dreams placed inside of us by the Creator of the universe. In fact, the Latin word for "desire" means "from the Father." One way to tell if a dream is really from God is that the desire won't go away. You may have had it for years, but you still can't let it go. In fact, you may have tried to let it go, but it won't let go of you.

Today, I encourage you to search your heart and allow those God-given dreams to surface. He placed those

desires inside of you for a purpose, and He's going to use them to direct you into the destiny He has in store for you!

*From Joel and Victoria Osteen's Daily Email Devotional*

## The **BOOK** History & Trivia:

Who was the first of Jesus' twelve primary disciples to be martyred for his faith:

1. Andrew
2. John
3. Peter
4. James the brother of John
5. James the son of Alphaeus



ANSWER: 4

## By THE BOOK Lifestyle: Don't Jump!

[Romans 6: 1-14](#) speaks extensively to the fact that sin need no longer master us. Donald Grey Barnhouse used to say about this passage, "When the old captain shouts, just don't jump!"

Dr. Barnhouse was a master at finding illustrations to make the most complex concepts simple and clear. We surely need that gift to help us with Romans 6. What's all this about "the body of sin" being "rendered powerless"? And "death no longer having mastery" over us? How do we explain "count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God"?

Barnhouse would say we're like the crew of a ship at sea. We took orders from our captain, body of sin. But then one day while we were still at sea, that captain was replaced, and authority passed to a new captain, God. So body of sin was rendered powerless, with no right of mastery over us at all. God is the only One we have to obey.

The trouble is, the old captain is still on board the ship, and even though he has no authority, he keeps on shouting orders. Because we're so familiar with his voice, we all

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too often find ourselves jumping to obey him. What we have to do, Barnhouse said, is to “count yourselves dead” to the old captain’s orders, and just don’t jump to obey his commands.

In our personal and business lives we may not know the righteous thing to do in a given situation. But we almost always know the wrong thing to do. When you recognize that beckoning from your former captain, you must disobey the order, and tell sin to go jump instead.

*From Larry Richard's 365 Day Devotional Day 277*

## PARTING SHOT:

*Those who shout the loudest for tolerance use words like “bigot” and “hate speech” as a weapon to silence criticism of their sinful lifestyles. However, morality is not bigotry, and truth is neither hate speech nor an opinion.*

*~ Dave Anderson*

### Book Dave!

To book Dave to speak to your business or church group contact [Rhonda@learntolead.com](mailto:Rhonda@learntolead.com) for details.



*Dave Anderson*

### Upcoming Workshops:

Our annual Strategy Summit is scheduled for Dallas November 9-11. [Click here](#) for all the details.

[Click here](#) to review the agenda for our **brand new** *Up Your Business Leadership Workshop 2.0* coming to Atlanta January 18-19! Don't miss this chance to start 2012 with an unparalleled focus and plan!

### Loot for Lives is Off and Running:

Thanks to those who have helped launch our *Loot for Lives* campaign to raise funds for an orphanage to save baby girls from infanticide in Chennai, India. We've already liquidated several donated items and have raised thousands of dollars for this cause!

Grow your team with a one-year subscription to Dave Anderson's monthly *Leading at the Next Level* newsletter for \$99 per year. Site license permits the reproduction of this newsletter at the client's physical location.

818-735-9503 or visit [www.LearnToLead.com](http://www.LearnToLead.com)

The Dave Anderson Corporation, P.O. Box 2338, Agoura Hills, CA 91376  
[dave@learntolead.com](mailto:dave@learntolead.com) • Phone 818-735-9503 • Fax 818-735-9544

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