

FAITH
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ENTREPRENEUR

In
Partnership

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE



This guide is intended for personal reflection and to help facilitate a meaningful group discussion. Take a moment to watch the video and read over the guide before your group meeting. Be prepared with some personal examples to help encourage discussion. If helpful, before you meet, print out or email a copy of this guide to all those who will attend the meeting.

In Partnership

CONNECTING IN A DETACHED WORLD

Partnership comes in many forms.

We may recognize it first in a group of co-founders. But partnership can also be found among like-minded entrepreneurs who are working to glorify God in the marketplace.

Meaningful relationships are also formed within a small group at your local church or a global CEO group made up of deeply committed believers who feel strapped to the mast with you to accomplish the mission and purposes of God for your venture. And of course, your spouse is a perfect companion to be in close partnership with on this journey of an entrepreneur.

Whether it's sitting with co-founders, standing shoulder to shoulder with other like-minded entrepreneurs, or sharing your inner-most thoughts with a spouse, partnerships help put to death the Lone Wolf mindset of going father alone. We come to recognize the importance of having people by our side who we can trust and turn to for guidance, advice, and encouragement.

How we view our work teams is another form of partnership. Do you see your team as employees or team members just sitting on their hands waiting for your commands? Or are they truly partners—co-authors who have ownership in this vision that God is writing?

How we communicate as a team and partners is changing. What used to be around water coolers, break rooms and in person is now more virtual via instant messaging, Slack, and other online platforms. Teams are global and decentralized, stretching time zones and cultural assumptions. There's no such thing as remote work any more. It's just work. And it can be just as personal and relational.



GUIDING SCRIPTURE:

"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." —Matthew 18:20

ACTION	FOCUS	ESTIMATED TIME
Welcome	<p>QUESTION: What burdens are you carrying? What do you need to put aside today to be present and here to support your growth and contribute meaningfully.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 seconds around the circle • Verbalize what to put aside. • Option to write and put in a basket. 	10 mins
Video Session	<p>INTRODUCTION: When Christ-like motivation drives two or more people leading a business, there are no limits to where the work can go.</p>	15 mins
Group Discussion	<p>When we connect this idea of In Partnership back to Scripture, there's even more reason to work and co-labor with others. We're told that where two or more gather, Christ is with them. Partnership reminds us of Jesus' interest and involvement in our daily lives.</p> <p>Ask each person to share and incorporate any learnings from the video. Here are a few questions to get you started:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are you doing to show genuine interest and involve yourself in people's lives on a daily basis? • Do you know when to engage and go offline with someone? <p>Facilitator asks if any members would like to share an action they are committing to take this month based on the discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group members share any practice they would like to start or discontinue in their personal life of business via Zoom chat or post-it note • Other members agree to pray for and hold them accountable. 	45-60 mins
(Optional) Business Spotlight	<p>One individual presents information on their business venture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One person shares about their business model, stage and scope • Participants ask questions and get to know more 	10 mins
Prayer	The group wraps in a time of prayer and encouragement	10 mins

ACTION	FOCUS	ESTIMATED TIME
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Popcorn prayer—Designate one person to begin the prayer and another person to end the prayer. Then allow space and moments of silence for people to pray as they feel led. • Zoom rooms or small groups for prayer 	

Discussion Questions

When we are in true partnership with others, we link arms with someone who shares a relationship with Christ and who wants to see His name glorified in all things. When that motivation lies behind two or more people leading a business, there are no limits to where the work can go. That's the power of partnership. That's the power of working together with a shared faith toward a common goal. Here are a few more questions to help your group go even deeper in discussion.

CONSTANT COMMUNICATION

Open and honest dialogue are essential to maintaining and nurturing healthy partnerships.

- **What are you doing to be in constant communication with the people you need most on your journey as an entrepreneur? In particular, how are you engaging trusted allies to speak truth into you and your venture?**

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

The list of the things we're expected to stay on top of stretches out as long and wide as the digital world itself. These platforms are needed to be efficient and productive. But it's not possible or healthy to stay engaged in all of it.

- **Have you determined and even written down the rules of engagement for communication within your organization?**

REAL CONNECTION

Practically speaking, we are better together. Partnership helps us keep things in perspective. We're able to edify one another, care for one another, and even challenge one another.

- **What are you doing or what can you do to foster a stronger connection with the people you work with?**

5 Ideas to Explore the Mark Further

There's no limit to the ways you can explore the Marks of a Faith Driven Entrepreneur. What we provide below are five ideas we think might lead each one of us to an even greater understanding of our God-given call to create.

1. **Journal:** Identify all of the different forms of partnership you engage in on a daily basis. Who are those people in your life? More importantly, are you actively interacting with them in meaningful ways?
2. **Interact:** This month, instead of finding ways to accomplish a task or project by yourself, determine how you might bring someone else into the process. Go out of your way to ask for someone's opinion. Invite someone to complete a step. Use it as a way to be in partnership with a like-minded entrepreneur.
3. **Consider:** During today's video session, we are reminded of the digital platforms that we rely on to be efficient and productive. They even allow us to be in constant communication with one another. But it's not possible or healthy to stay engaged in all of it. Define those rules of engagement. **Check out Brian Roland's tips here.**
4. **Act Differently:** Try your best to work from a place of acceptance this month. Consider your motivations when making decisions and try to let love for others be part of your priorities.
5. **Learn From Others:** Visit faithdrivenentrepreneur.org to learn more or join the conversation by listening to our weekly Faith Driven Entrepreneur Podcast.

Entrepreneurs can travel a lonely road. But you're not alone. You're sitting next to a group of like-minded business owners right now. One of the best ways to grow the Faith Driven Movement is to multiply your group.

Is someone in your group ready to raise his or her hand to start a Faith Driven Entrepreneur Group at a local church? Apply at faithdrivenentrepreneur.org/lead-a-group