

FAITH
DRI>**EN**
ENTREPRENEUR

Active in the
Local Church

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.

Active in the Local Church

BETTER TOGETHER

At the end of the day, missionaries, pastors, and entrepreneurs aren't all that different. We're doers, we're builders, and we are leaders. We want the best for the people around us. But we also want to be the best. It's not just strengths we share—our weaknesses match as well. We need each other.

Yet so often we feel isolated. Or we feel like ships passing in the night. Entrepreneurs are frustrated wondering why their pastor doesn't get them. They don't seem to grasp the importance of their call to create. The holy responsibility they feel to make the world whole and right and just.

At the same time, pastors struggle to understand why the entrepreneurs in their congregations aren't more involved in their programs at church. Sure they're busy building businesses, but service to the church should be a priority, right?

Both are well-intentioned. Both are focused on God's call in their lives. Both are driven to succeed. It's a beautiful mess.

How do we put a stop to this tug-of-war? How do we take full advantage of the opportunities for both? What more could be done by affirming each other's mission?

Faith and work are no longer separated by the jobs we hold or the day of the week. But instead, our lives and love of God are fully intertwined into everything we do no matter what. Each one of us could spark this movement in our local churches and neighborhoods. We could transform the marketplace right outside our front doors.

Here's the thing, though. For that to happen, we need to recognize and embrace the reality that we are a holy priesthood. Each one of us is called to be an ambassador of the Gospel, whether that's in the marketplace, on the mission field, or in a sanctuary.

Let's talk more about being Active in the Local Church



GUIDING SCRIPTURE:

“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.” —1 Peter 2:9

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: We spend so much time within the walls of our offices, plants, warehouses, restaurants, stores, you name it. We should make it a point to get out and interact with our neighbors and neighborhoods. What does it take for us to have influence right where we are? Today, we’re studying the mark of Active in the Local Church. DaySpring will be our spotlight story.</p>	15 mins
Group Discussion	<p>Group Discussion: Chi-Ming, founder of DaySpring, does something truly remarkable with his extended time of leave. He actually doesn’t leave. Instead, he walks around the neighborhood where he offices.</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"> • When was the last time you took a walk at work to become more aware of what’s around you—the people, the shops, the opportunities? • What would it look like to give your pastor a tour of your business, operation, or enterprise? <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	One individual presents information on their business venture.	10 mins

ACTION	FOCUS	ESTIMATED TIME
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One person shares about their business model, stage and scope • Participants ask questions and get to know more 	
Prayer	<p>The group wraps in a time of prayer and encouragement</p> <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 	10 mins

Discussion Questions

Henry challenged business owners and pastors alike to get up and get out. It takes both entrepreneurs and faith leaders coming together for understanding to begin and change to happen. What are you going to make that happen? Here are a few more questions to help your group go even deeper in discussion.

HOW CAN YOU BE THE INVITATION?

It's easy for us to become so jaded and cynical that we often forget that being active in our local church means just that—being active. Take faithful steps towards your faith community.

- **Do you know what God is doing in your community? In churches in your community or in the churches of those who work with you?**
- **What would it look like to take your pastor out to lunch? How might you listen to them and learn how you might work together to pursue the Great Commission? What ways can your strengths complement those of your pastor?**

SPARK A GLOBAL MOVEMENT LOCALLY

Start a Faith Driven Entrepreneur Group at your church. This is a fantastic way to connect people and connect with people who are called to create.

- **What would it take to get a group together? Are you ready to make a bold step to be active in your church? You can find more information on our website: FaithDrivenEntrepreneur.org.**
- **What can you do to be more aware of God at work in the community around you? Then join him in that work.**

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:** Write down a few ways you could be active in your church. What are some ways you can introduce Faith Driven Entrepreneur to your like-minded friends and pastors?
2. **Interact:** This month, take the time to invite your pastor out to lunch. Or invite them to tour your business. Try to get to know them better, understand who they are as people, and what is important to them. Show genuine interest knowing that each person has a story. Endeavor to know their story and, when asked, to share yours.
3. **Consider:** During today's video session, Chi-Ming made the commitment to walk around the neighborhood where he works and interact with the people he met along the way. What would it take for you to do this, too? How could you make it a priority in your day? How might this extend into the neighborhood where you live as well?
4. **Act Differently:** Try your best to work from a place of compassion and empathy this month. Consider how you and your pastor are more alike than you are different. Rally around those similarities rather than allowing differences to divide you.
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