

FAITH  
**DRI**>**EN**  
ENTREPRENEUR

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Ministry  
In Deed

(BONUS)

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

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*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.*

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# Ministry In Deed

## MY TEAMMATE IS EXPERIENCING EXTRAORDINARY PAIN

It's good for us to focus our attention on the good. To push for results that are constantly up and to the right. We need to be concerned about ROI. Mountaintops matter. But our responsibilities as a Faith Driven Entrepreneur go well beyond just providing financial security for our employees.

We're called to pursue real and meaningful relationships with people. And this includes the mess of life beyond eight to five.

What does it look like for us to be with our employees and their families in the valleys as well as the peaks? These are the moments when emotions run high and productivity understandably runs low. Still, people will remember these moments and they will leave a lasting impression. What can you do as a Faith Driven Entrepreneur to ensure that these times of tragedy will be met with the love of Jesus? A love that is unconditional and non-judgemental?

The first line of 1 Corinthians 13:8 is such a direct and simple reminder for us all: "Love never fails."

Love never fails. Period.

Times like these are when our faith will be tested. Both as the person going through something and the person who is trying to be of support. Questions will be asked. Doubt will emerge. Despair will set in.

What can you do to make sure that you are offering peace rather than adding stress? How will you love well?

It begins with just being there for someone. No agenda. No expectations. No pressure to have all the answers. Simply be attentive and accessible. Our only responsibility is to love.

Let's talk more about caring for our teammates who are experiencing pain.



**GUIDING SCRIPTURE:**

*“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no account of wrongs. Love takes no pleasure in evil, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.” —1 Corinthians 13:4-8*

ACTION	FOCUS	ESTIMATED TIME
<b>Welcome</b>	<p><b>QUESTION:</b> 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"> <li>• 30 seconds around the circle</li> <li>• Verbalize what to put aside.</li> <li>• Option to write and put in a basket.</li> </ul>	10 mins
<b>Video Session</b>	<p><b>INTRODUCTION:</b> Jackie worked as the fleet manager of Interstate Batteries for over 30 years. When he received life-altering news, he saw the culture of the company impact his life in a way that he never imagined. How might you and your company rally around those who are experiencing extraordinary pain?</p>	15 mins
<b>Group Discussion</b>	<p><b>Group Discussion:</b> 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"> <li>• <b>Where are you at in your journey of creating a company?</b></li> <li>• <b>What interest do you have, if any, in scaling your business?</b></li> </ul> <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"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Other members agree to pray for and hold them accountable..</li> </ul>	45-60 mins
<b>(Optional) Business Spotlight</b>	<p>One individual presents information on their business venture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One person shares about their business model, stage and scope</li> <li>• Participants ask questions and get to know more</li> </ul>	10 mins
<b>Prayer</b>	The group wraps in a time of prayer and encouragement	10 mins

ACTION	FOCUS	ESTIMATED TIME
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Zoom rooms or small groups for prayer</li> </ul>	

## Discussion Questions

Faith Driven Entrepreneurs believe that God has placed us in the marketplace to be salt and light through our actions. We look to love our employees and the broader communities in which we do business in a way that is exemplary and distinctive. Still, the discipline of Ministry in Deed comes by way of practice and intentionality. Here are a few more questions to help your group go even deeper in discussion.

### *ARE YOU WILLING TO BE INTERRUPTED?*

At the end of the day, we have a business to run. And with that comes a host of responsibilities and obligations. Still, we need to remember that our primary purpose as a Faith Driven Entrepreneur lies beyond the P&L statement. It resides with the people we employ and work with day after day.

- **Do you find it difficult to tear yourself away from the operations of your business in order to focus on the needs of the people you work with?**
- **What can you do to make people the priority?**
- **How can you embrace interruption as a prompting from God rather than a nuisance?**

### *LOVE NEVER FAILS*

The Apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 13:8 that love never fails. No qualifiers. No exceptions. Just a statement.

- **What would it take for you to institute this kind of approach in your business?**
- **What kind of initiatives or programs could you implement with this in mind?**
- **Is it possible to love your employees with no agenda or expectation in a way that is beneficial to your company as well?**

## 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 your thoughts about our call to love the way we read about in 1 Corinthians 13. Is this even possible? Better yet, is this only possible when we release everything to God and rely on his guidance and understanding rather than our own?
2. **Interact:** This month, research ways other entrepreneurs and companies are supporting their employees in meaningful ways. Consider your own context and what programs or benefits might be beneficial to the people you employ.
3. **Consider:** During today's video session, Jackie worked as the fleet manager of Interstate Batteries for over 30 years. When he received life-altering news, he saw the culture of the company impact his life in a way that he never imagined. How might this play out in your own company?
4. **Act Differently:** Spend time loving people simply because they are made in the image of God. Push past their political affiliations, social views, and religious beliefs. What do you notice when you focus on the value of a person?
5. **Learn From Others:** Visit [faithdrivenentrepreneur.org](http://faithdrivenentrepreneur.org) to learn more or join the conversation by listening to our weekly Faith Driven Entrepreneur Podcast.

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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](http://faithdrivenentrepreneur.org/lead-a-group)**