

FAITH
DRI>**EN**
ENTREPRENEUR

Ministry
In Deed

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.

Ministry In Deed

WELCOMING THE STRANGER AMONG US

Here's the thing, we live in a time when our jobs are filling up at least 40 hours of our week. For those of us who are trying to start or build a business, the hours spent hustling are more likely much more than that. With that as our backdrop, here's the opportunity before us.

God has placed Faith Driven Entrepreneurs in the marketplace to be salt and light through our actions. We look to love on our employees and the broader communities in which we do business in a way that is exemplary and distinctive.

By no means are we perfect at it. And we can certainly be more thoughtful about what this looks like and how we can live out our calling in a more authentic way. And yet, the fact remains that we're in the marketplace for the majority of our days. Opportunities to share the Gospel through our actions are walking all around us.

This Mark of a Faith Driven Entrepreneur is known as Ministry In Deed. And that will be our focus this month.

What does it mean for us to acknowledge that we need to be active members of our local community as leaders and encourage our employees to do the same? Even more than that, what greater responsibility do we have to care for those who are living on the fringes?

We can have the posture of our love into action, with no strings attached. Our responsibility is to simply love people, to provide for one another. God will provide the rest.



GUIDING SCRIPTURE:

"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

—Matthew 5:14-16

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

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: Faith Driven Entrepreneurs believe that God has placed us in the marketplace to be salt and light through our actions. We look to love on our employees and the broader communities in which we do business in a way that is exemplary and distinctive. Today, we're studying the mark of Ministry In Deed. Feast World Kitchen will be our spotlight story.</p>	15 mins
Group Discussion	<p>What does it look like for us as business owners to actively participate in the lives of our employees and the vitality of our communities? How was this done by Feast World Kitchen? How might you adopt a similar approach that isn't simply an add-on program?</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 typically motivates you to work hard and create more? • What does it look like for your motivation at work to be to love others as Christ loves us? <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	<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

In this session, Henry focuses on the fact that our business as a Christian entrepreneur or creative is not just about ourselves and our families—our business is an act of love toward our neighbors. Therefore we should work with integrity and excellence, providing quality work. Here are a few more questions to help your group go even deeper in discussion.

LOVING YOUR CUSTOMERS

Think about the type of customers you have based on your business. Think about their needs and why they're buying from you.

- **What are some practical steps you could make to improve your product or service so that it further reflects your heart for your customers?**
- **What can you change in order to welcome the stranger, unleash the bonds of workers in your industry, and show kindness to the poor?**

LOVING YOUR EMPLOYEES

Your employees are the heartbeat of the business. They work hard and spend most of their time in the workplace.

- **What could it mean for you to ensure your employees are cared for holistically, not just as a worker in your company?**
- **Throughout Isaiah 58, the prophet tells the people that God does not want their sacrifice of fasting etc while they were oppressing the people. He wants them to unleash the workers...how does this impact you in the ways you support and care for your employees?**

LOVING YOUR INVESTORS

Your investors are just as interested in your success as you are because they want a return on their investment.

- **What are some practical ways you can keep yourself accountable to working hard for the sake of your investors?**

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:** What does it mean for you to acknowledge that you need to be an active member of your local community as a leader? How might you encourage your employees to do the same? Does your motivation for being actively involved come from a selfish need to be seen or does it come from a divine desire to glorify God?
2. **Interact:** Ministry in Deed ranges from how we provide for our employees' financial, physical, and spiritual wellbeing to how we meet the specific needs of the neighborhoods where we work and live.
3. **Consider:** As leaders, we need to realize that we cast a long shadow. With our employees and within our communities. And just what do our employees see from us? What examples are we setting with our choices and actions?
4. **Act Differently:** In what ways do our companies reflect a commitment to loving like Jesus calls us to? Are we serving together in our communities with projects championed by our workers? Do we offer benefits packages that are at, or better, than those in our industries? What creative structures are we putting into place that support our employees and help them love their own families well?
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