

Curriculum



Business Foundations

Called to Create
Who Owns What?
Don't Worship Work
Excellence Matters
Willful or Faithful
God's Sufficiency
Meaningful Work
Transforming Work

A sample study from the *Business Foundations* volume begins on the following page.

**LEARN: Overview**

Biblical Business Training (“BBT”) equips people to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ and empowers leaders in a small-group Bible study setting to apply Biblical principles at work. Our mission is [Faith for Work](#) – and our vision is [Leadership for Life!](#)

To find out more, visit www.B-B-T.org.

**Curriculum: The BBT 1-2-3™ Format**

BBT curriculum is rooted in Scripture and applicable the day you study it. The *BBT 1-2-3™* format enables the group to have a consistent Biblical basis for discussion.



Agenda – Introduces applicable Biblical principles



Group Leader Guide – Facilitates discussion and allows for shared leadership



Recap – Encourages community and application

**LIVE: Sample Business Foundations**

In this 8-part series, thanks to a partnership with [Faith Driven Entrepreneur](#), you will explore ways to live by faith, especially in the workplace.

1. Called to Create
2. Who Owns What?
3. Don't Worship Work
4. Excellence Matters
5. Willful or Faithful
6. God's Sufficiency
7. Meaningful Work
8. Transforming Work

**LEAD: Start a small-group Bible study**

Start leading today! [Learn more.](#)



PRAYERS



LEARN

Willful or Faithful

Imagine completing hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of work, only to learn that you will never be paid because your main customer was arrested for drug smuggling. That is what happened to Steve. For more on Steve's story, [watch here](#). He had a responsibility to pay his suppliers, employees, and support his own family, yet the money he was owed would never come. He didn't know what to do. His lawyers and accountants told him it would be impossible to dig out of the massive debt. However, rather than relying on his own willfulness and strength in this difficult time, he turned to his faith. Because of his faith in God, he approached the dilemma differently. According to the word of God, the faithful repay their debts ([Psalm 37:21](#)). It took him almost seven years, but he paid off all the debtors he owed with interest. Would you call that success?

We are all working towards success but we each define it differently. For you, is it a certain amount of money in the bank, exponential growth, social status, or something else? What if success was about being faithful more times than we are willful in all the roles we have in God's kingdom? It is certainly easier to think we can handle the issues and rely on our own strength when life gets hard. But, what would it mean or look like to be faithful instead?

God Rewards the Faithful

Today, Steve's success in the cabinet-making business supports more than 300 employees. He doesn't apologize for the success in growth and the bottom line. This achievement allows him to pay suppliers, dealers, employees and others so they, in turn, can take care of their families and customers. Success for Steve is faithfulness to God over willfulness to self, and being a conduit of God's grace to others.



LIVE

Discussion questions: Read the text and scriptures below, and prepare to answer the questions.

1. Read [1 Samuel 13:5-14](#). Have you ever felt pressed to take matters into your own hands? What was the outcome? What did you learn?
2. Read [Judges 7:2-8](#). Talk about a time you waited on God to reveal the next right step. What was the outcome? What did you learn?
3. Read [Psalm 127:1-2](#). How can you know you are being faithful to God's will?

Application Question: Where are you more willful than faithful in your daily life?



PRAYERS

Prayer Requests & Closing Prayer



PRAYERS

Opening Prayer & Prayer Requests



LEARN

Before you begin, read the AGENDA LEARN introduction together and review the APPLICATION QUESTION from the previous meeting's RECAP.



LIVE

Discussion Questions: Have someone read each Bible verse aloud and then ask the corresponding question. Be sure everyone has enough time to find the Scripture before the verse is read.

- 1) Read [1 Samuel 13:5-14](#). Have you ever felt pressed to take matters into your own hands? What was the outcome? What did you learn?



When you rely on your own strength, rather than God's, you are showing your willfulness rather than your faithfulness.



A sacrifice before battle was customary of the time but per God's law it was meant to be done by a priest. So, when Saul offered the sacrifice himself, he not only failed to follow Samuel's instructions (see [1 Samuel 10:8](#)), but he disobeyed God. When we find ourselves under pressure, we often rush to judgment, trusting ourselves, making mistakes, and then justifying them with excuses. This kind of pride and disobedience can lead to harsh consequences. Eventually, Saul lost his crown because of his willfulness.

Notes:

- 2) Read [Judges 7:2-8](#). Talk about a time you waited on God to reveal the next right step. What was the outcome? What did you learn?



God always gets the victory.



Gideon was afraid but faithful. He obediently waited and carried out all that God asked, even when it didn't make sense. God reduced Gideon's army from being outnumbered 13 to 1 down to being outnumbered 450 to 1. Surely this is not a successful military decision. Yet, Gideon and those soldiers who remained were courageous, continued to walk confidently by faith, and carried out a victory over the Midianite army.



For additional discussion you might ask, "When have you boasted about your self-sufficiency over God's provision?"

Notes:

3) Read [Psalm 127:1-2](#). How can you know you are being faithful to God's will?



When you work faithfully for God, you can enjoy peaceful rest.



A builder can only grind for so long. A guard can only protect for so long. We can only work for so long. We are limited, God is not. When we listen to ourselves and rely on our own strength rather than on God's, we feel restless. The good news is the battle has already been won through Jesus. It's time to hand over those crushing burdens you feel and trust that God is standing in the gap.

Notes:

Application Question: Where are you more willful than faithful in your daily life?



PRAYERS

Prayer Requests & Closing Prayer



LEAD

Ask Yourself: Am I allowing myself and others space to respond in faithfulness?



PRAYERS

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ROADMAP

This [BBT](#) volume of curriculum can be used in conjunction with [Faith Driven Entrepreneur's Foundation Course](#) as you explore ways to live by faith, especially in the workplace.



LEARN

Saul and his men acted out of fear and selfishness rather than in obedience to God. Gideon waited on God's timing and confidently carried out His will. Solomon reveals that unless God is involved, all efforts are in vain.

Scripture References for this study: [Psalm 37:21](#), [1 Samuel 13:5-14](#), [1 Samuel 10:8](#), [Judges 7:2-8](#) and [Psalm 127:1-2](#)



LIVE

- Self-sufficiency
- Self-doubt
- Self-reliance

Application Question: Where are you more willful than faithful in your daily life?



LEAD

Ask Yourself: Am I allowing myself and others space to respond in faithfulness?