

Assignment 13

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1. A minister has a wife and 4 children, the salary is low even though he is provided with a Ouse and subsidised pone bill. At one time he resigned from a church because the leadership outvoted him in going in to debt over a matter, he did not wish to be in charge of a church taking such a measure so resigned and took his family to live in an out of season holiday resort for a few months. During that time he had to cash in a life insurance bond to help provide for his family until he was assigned to another church. Even on a ministerial salary with other provisions things were still tight.

Jesus said in Matthew that He will provide. There was provision in the life insurance bond.

As a minister members of the church regularly left food gifts at their house, probably usually back yard produce and homemade jams etc.

When the daughters were teenagers, they had after school jobs at the local super market and probably got staff discounts on the groceries.

The children had happy memories of the period of unemployment, more time with their father and walks along the beach.

2. There was a road rage victim on a quiet country road whose car had been left undriveable and he was pretty badly beaten up himself.

An off duty policeman gong home from his shift slowed down, looked and spend up and left, keen to get home and go out with his mates.

A pastor on his way to visit one of his congregations in hospital likewise slowed down and then drove on, he had a busy day of pastoral visits ahead.

An Indian Muslim driver saw him and had compassion. He gave the victim first aid and called and paid for a tow truck to take his car away and then took him to hospital. Then he went to the police to report the incident. The next day he visited him in hospital to see how he was.

3. This is a dilemma I face as a sales rep, like anyone I want to be good at my job but being good at it is directly linked to higher earnings. It is in many other people's interest that I am successful as their livelihoods depend on me, and the other reps, bringing in the sales.

3.1 In this situation Timothy was a young pastor dealing with all sorts of false teachings and those who wanted the Gospel plus worldly pleasures/impurities.

3.2 This river could be stepped across. The situations Timothy had to deal with are still here today, false teaching, worldly ambition and Gospel plus.

3.3 Theological principles. Contentment with basic necessities only. Don't let your spiritual walk be disrupted by the pursuit of wealth. Such pursuit will take over your mind and kill you spiritually.

3.4.a) We should pursue God and keep our beliefs pure, not to allow false doctrine to lead us astray and not to pursue worldly ambition. Jesus said you can not serve God and mammon.

b) Big corporations today are all profit driven acting like they are under pressure to maximise returns to shareholders. Woolworths has been hauled before Senate committees for misleading advertising, fake price drops, where the price is quietly bumped up a few weeks beforehand so they can loudly say how generous they are by dropping a certain price. In Adelaide Woolworths also set up a petrol station in the western suburbs right next to a small family owned petrol station deliberately to put them out of business and "steal" their customer base.

Some corporations will employ as few staff as possible and pay them too little for them to care about their jobs which means good workers will be attracted and accepted elsewhere, meaning poor service but that does not matter, the profits are good.

c) I visited a corporately owned ski resort in Michigan, USA, known as one of the top resorts in the Mid West and had a long-established good name, but they seemed to try to maximise profits by reducing the wages bill. The bad experience started before I got there when I could not purchase an online lift ticket with an Australian credit card. I had to phone the office and was kept in a queue listening to music, and probably being told how important my call was to them, running up and international phone bill as I was using my Australian mobile phone. Eventually I left a number for them to call me back on which they did about 3 hours later. When I got there there were no signs to the car park, I had to get out and find someone to ask directions. Inside I went to the customer service desk, but there was no human being behind it, just computer screens and mice, there were some other counters and the only one with a human being behind it had a very long queue. Later when there was

an actual human being behind the customer service desk I asked for a ski area map, most resorts print lots of paper ones to give out. They could not give me one and told me to download one on to my phone.

All communication with management had to be done by scanning a QR code and filling in an online form including to report lost property

A number of ski slopes were closed, I could not see a reason, there was plenty of snow on them and means to produce artificial snow, perhaps they did not employ enough staff to run the lifts and patrol the slopes.

Reading on line reviews there were lots of complaints the accommodation was expensive and of poor standard, renovations were overdue.

If they had a few more staff and put a bit more money in to the place, I might be inclined to go back but it was not my favourite day skiing on that trip when it could have been, they are relying on their reputation and creaming off the profits.

I see 2 types of business being run, some run a business to make a living, others run a business to make a killing!