

## Series Planner

### 10 Challenges Christian Business Leaders Face — John Beckett

Chairman of R.W. Beckett Corporation, Author of *Loving Monday* and *Mastering Monday*  
 An 11 Session Series, featuring 8 Sessions of video, 2 FCCI BLG Check-In forms  
 and an Application Wrap-up.

<b>Session 1</b>	<b>Introduction and Calling</b> CALLING - Having confidence in your vocational call Length: 31 Minutes
<b>Session 2</b>	<b>Values</b> VALUES - Driving corporate values deep into the organization Length: 12 Minutes
<b>Session 3</b>	<b>Leaders</b> LEADERS - Building strong leaders, and handling their failures Length: 6 Minutes
<b>Session 4</b>	<b>Group Check-In</b>
<b>Session 5</b>	<b>Decisions</b> DECISIONS - Walking in discernment, handling temptation and making wise choices Length: 13 Minutes
<b>Session 6</b>	<b>Family</b> FAMILY - Managing the tension between work demands and family Length: 13 Minutes
<b>Session 7</b>	<b>Culture and Downsizing</b> CULTURE - Creating a work environment friendly to the gospel DOWNSIZING - Guiding the business through a workforce reduction Length: 27 Minutes
<b>Session 8</b>	<b>Group Check-In</b>
<b>Session 9</b>	<b>Difficulties</b> DIFFICULTIES - Persevering through challenges (including spiritual warfare) Length: 22 Minutes
<b>Session 10</b>	<b>Success and Focus</b> SUCCESS - Defining success—beyond the bottom line FOCUS - Staying centered amidst daily pressures Length: 19 Minutes
<b>Session 11</b>	<b>Application and Commitment</b>
<b>Session 12</b>	<b>Group Check-In</b>

## BLG Agenda

The following is the typical P2P agenda for a standard 1.5 hour meeting.

Minutes	Typical Agenda for meeting with Video content
5	Opening Prayer
20	<b>Group Check-In</b> (each individual limited to a few minutes; should be brief and dependent upon how many members are in the group; most groups can allow 3 - 4 minutes each)
25	Video Viewing
30	Group Discussion
10	<b>Administrative Items &amp; Closing Prayer</b> (ask prayer partners to exchange Prayer Cards)

Minutes	Typical Agenda for meeting with Group Check-In
5	Opening Prayer
75	FCCI BLG Check-In Form
10	<b>Administrative Items &amp; Closing Prayer</b> Ask Prayer Partners to exchange Prayer Cards

## SESSION 1

### INTRODUCTION & CALLING - 31 min

#### *Monday's Challenge - 10 Challenges Christian Business Leaders Face*

*In 2008, John Beckett celebrated 47 years of marriage, a great family and a successful family business that he led from a handful of employees to over 700 employees. R.W. Beckett Corporation is now one of the world's largest producers of oil burners and related products.*

### SESSION 1 — BEGINNINGS, FAITH AND WORK TRANSITIONING TO FAITH INTEGRATED INTO WORK

- I John Beckett described how the root issues of the world's most tumultuous recent financial and business events are clearly addressed in the Bible.
  - A) Biblical models for handling greed and debt would have helped avoid most, if not all, of the painful events of 2008.
  - B) All businesses profit from modeling & promoting responsibility, accountability, discipline, prudence, modesty, restraint & integrity — all common themes from the Bible.
  - C) Biblical relevance to contemporary business challenges is cornerstone to Beckett's success.
  
- II Beckett's personal journey
  - A) His Dad started a small business crafting and selling oil burners.
  - B) John graduated from MIT with a degree in aerospace engineering and went to work in missile guidance systems.
  - C) His Dad called him & invited him to come to work in the oil burner business.
  - D) One year later, while driving to work, John's Dad died.
  - E) One month later, fire nearly destroyed the factory; but amazingly, all shipments were fulfilled in the month that followed.
  - F) Shortly afterward, John's daughter was nearly killed when she fell out of the family auto.
  
- III Pressures lead to intimacy with Christ
  - A) Business and family pressures led John to a commitment to Christ, assuring John that he had a personal relationship with God, and was destined to dwell in His presence.
  - B) Initially, there was no convergence in John's faith life and his work life.
  - C) As he grew in his knowledge of Christ, John began to experience a clear sense of Calling to his work.
  - D) With a new and refreshing sense of Calling to his work, John began a passionate pursuit of integrating Biblical principles into every aspect of the business.

- E) At the time of John's presentation, Beckett Corporation employed more than 700 [including two facilities in China], producing more than \$100 million in revenues.
- F) John's abiding conviction is that "seeking God's will and doing it" is the key to Beckett Corporation's success.

#### IV From "under the basket to the top of the candle stand"

- A) In 1995, John shared with the company leadership team that he thought their success was due to simple obedience to the things God showed them to do. He also said that he thought the Lord would have them share with others this profound truth.
- B) Shortly after his leadership team's meeting & their commitment to pray about the last point, ABC News called from "out of the blue" and said they would like to come to Beckett Corporation's facility and document how they were using the Bible to run the business.
- C) After video taping for 16 hours, a 5 minute American Agenda segment was broadcast, with Peggy Wehmeyer interviewing. That segment was the highest rated of any ABC news ever produced.
- D) Following the ABC news exposure, John chronicled his faith and business walk in a book called *Loving Monday* (by 2008, available in 15 languages).
- E) A second book, *Mastering Monday*, follows up with similar themes, and explores more answers from scriptures, including submitting to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Peter Jennings, 1995  
introducing the "American  
Agenda" news segment:

"It seems to us that everywhere you turn in America these days; millions of people are searching for greater meaning in their lives. Tonight we're going to concentrate on the growing tendency of business leaders in America to have their personal faith make an impact in their companies. In other words, they are using the Bible as a guide to business."

#### **Beckett's Conclusions** — 10 Challenges Christian Business Leaders Face:

1. CALLING:..... Having confidence in your vocational call

"One of the greatest hindrances to the Christian's internal peace is the common habit of dividing our lives into two areas—the sacred and the secular. But this state of affairs is wholly unnecessary. We have gotten ourselves on the horns of a dilemma, but the dilemma is not real. It is a creature of misunderstanding. The sacred-secular antithesis has no foundation in the New Testament." — **A.W. Tozer**, *The Pursuit of God*

2. VALUES:..... Driving corporate values deep into the organization
3. LEADERS:..... Building strong leaders, and handling their failures
4. DECISIONS: ..... Walking in discernment, handling temptation and making wise choices
5. FAMILY: ..... Managing the tension between work demands and family
6. CULTURE:..... Creating a work environment friendly to the gospel
7. DOWNSIZING: ..... Guiding the business through a workforce reduction
8. DIFFICULTIES:..... Persevering through challenges (including spiritual warfare)
9. SUCCESS:..... Defining success—beyond the bottom line
10. FOCUS: ..... Staying centered amidst daily pressures

## I CALLING — Having confidence in your vocational call

- A) Are you confident in your call to the workplace?
1. Calling insecurity is associated with: no clear purpose, frustration, burnout and ineffective leadership.
  2. Calling security leads to: purpose, stamina, effectiveness and fulfillment.
- B) Our primary calling as followers of Christ is by Him, to Him and for Him.
- C) Our secondary calling is that everyone, everywhere, and in everything should think, speak, live and act entirely for Him [regardless of vocation or avocation]
- D) We have opportunities and responsibilities to “minister”, no matter what our endeavors. [Hebrews 5:4 and Revelation 1:5-6]

We can therefore properly say as a matter of secondary calling that we are called to homemaking or to the practice of law or to art history.”

— **Os Guinness**, *The Call*

John stops to pray. At the end of his prayer is a great time for the group to pause and pray together.

## PRACTICAL APPLICATION

DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING:

1. Was there one profound thought John shared to which you could strongly relate?

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2. Have you ever investigated the concept of calling, in light of your work?

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3. Do you have a sense of calling to lead your company?

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4. Is there a question related to calling, or the scriptures John visited, that you would like to explore with the group?

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## SESSION 2 -- VALUES | 12 Minutes

### II VALUES — Driving corporate values deep into the organization

- A) Beckett shared a story of a situation where an employee told him of a core value that was violated by the leadership team.
1. Rather than become defensive, Beckett was encouraged that the values training and culture of transparency had led to the employee bringing his concerns to the Senior leader.
  2. Beckett was further encouraged to find that the perceived lapse had resulted from an internal [vigorous] debate among the leadership team on competing concepts of compassion and communication.
- B) Beckett Corporation Enduring Values.
1. Integrity
  2. Excellence
  3. Profound Respect for the Individual
- C) Benefits of Having and Promoting Corporate Values.
1. They define what make organizations distinctive
  2. They are a powerful driver for change
  3. They are a proper constraint
  4. They help shape corporate culture
- D) Making Values Live—“Not enough to have them on the wall, they must be driven into the organization” *Enron’s Core Values were essentially the same as Beckett Corporation’s...*
1. Beckett publishes a Corporate Road Map, including Vision, Mission & Values
  2. Involve employees
  3. Make values visible [Beckett employees added them to email headers]
  4. Provide specific, routine teaching
  5. Drive them deep into day-to-day applications
  6. Purposefully pursue values continuity in acquisitions, mergers, leadership changes, remote locations
- E) How to promote values that pervade the work place:
1. Corporate banners
  2. Name badges with Values displayed prominently on the back
  3. Off site seminars
  4. Board game [employees’ idea]
  5. Discussions between senior leader[s] and cell groups of employees
  6. Skits & videos





## SESSION 3 -- LEADERS | 5 min

### III LEADERS — Building strong leaders, and handling their failures

Google lists 185 million references to leadership & there are roughly 1,500 current books on the subject.

- A) Faith and Leadership are intertwined in God's plan for man—Every time that God has a job to do, he picks individuals to make it happen.
1. From the time of Adam until today, leadership has been central to God's unfolding plan.
  2. "... who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. — Hebrews 11:33
- B) When exceptional leadership is put under the microscope, even the world often comes to conclusions that illustrate Biblical truth.
1. "[Great leaders] first got the right people on the bus (and the wrong people off the bus) and then figured out where to drive it"  
— **Jim Collins**, Good to Great
  2. Think of Gideon ...
- C) Recruiting good leaders is only part of the equation... Leadership development is the balance.
1. Beckett uses various assessments for evaluating employees, including personal interviews on a quarterly basis.
  2. Beckett uses a leadership development matrix to help track where their leaders are, in terms of personal and leadership growth.

"God is continually preparing his heroes, and when the opportunity is right, he puts them into position in an instant. He works so fast, the world wonders where they came from." — **A.B. Simpson**

"God always keeps the revelation of himself bound up with practical situations ...

You and I can never get revelation other than in connection with some necessity."  
— **T. Austin-Sparks**,  
School of Christ



Development Matrix 9-Block Model — Sources: Michael Lombardo and Robert Eichinger, 1995, 2001

"But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness."

— Hebrews 3:13



## Key to Using: Group Check-In

Annual Focus Word:	In your time alone with the Lord, what thought or word do you think the Lord would have you focus upon, in light of His plan for your life?
Annual Scripture Verse:	What scripture do you think the Lord is speaking to this chapter in life?

### CHECK-IN

Reflect back on the past 30 days, then assign a numeric value between 1 & 10 to each of the following areas of focus (1 = worst; 10 = best)

Focus	Score 1-10	Notes:
Business		<p>In light of the scores you placed in the boxes to the left, allow the Lord and/or the group to prompt items you need to fulfill in the next month, either to meet commitments, close out projects, or show the love of Christ.</p> <p>Briefly share your conclusions during the check-in, confirm or modify them, with the group's input, and specifically list below in the Action Plan box.</p>
Family		
Health		
Spiritual		

In the next 30 days, I plan to start: \_\_\_\_\_

In the next 30 days, I plan to stop: \_\_\_\_\_

Optional: Recommend a resource (book, tape, enrichment) \_\_\_\_\_

When you consider your busy schedule, pruning away activities that are less fruitful, adding activities that are in your "sweet spot" can be one of the most high-impact actions you can undertake. Ask the Lord "What is the one thing I could add or subtract from my schedule that would create the most positive impact?"

### MOST CRITICAL ISSUE YOU FACE IN THE NEXT 30-60 DAYS

\_\_\_\_\_ In 1 - 3 concise, specific sentences, describe the greatest challenge you face in the next 30-60 days. The challenge could come from any of the focus areas listed above, or it may bridge multiple areas.

DESIRED RESULT [perfect outcome] \_\_\_\_\_ Describe a "future perfect" outcome, if you could craft an ideal result.

\_\_\_\_\_ Share with the group what you would like them to bring to the table.

What would you like from the group: Counsel Prayer Referral Resource?

### ACTION PLAN (Report your progress to the Group at the next meeting):

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Record any To-Do's for which you desire accountability from the group in the next month.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Be prepared to account for your actions.

## FCCI BLG Check - In

Annual Focus Word: _____
Annual Scripture Verse: _____
_____

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Rate Your Last 30 Days: Scale of 1-10 (1 = worst; 10 = best)

Focus	Score 1-10	Notes:
Business		
Family		
Health		
Spiritual		

In the next 30 days, I plan to start: \_\_\_\_\_

In the next 30 days, I plan to stop: \_\_\_\_\_

Optional: Recommend a resource (book, tape or other) used in the past 30 days for personal or business enrichment \_\_\_\_\_

**MOST CRITICAL ISSUE YOU FACE IN THE NEXT 30 - 60 DAYS:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

DESIRED RESULT [perfect outcome]:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What would you like from the group:    Counsel    Prayer    Referral    Resource?

**ACTION PLAN (Report your progress to the Group at the next meeting):**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

## FCCI SESSION 5 -- DECISIONS | 13 min

*Beckett begins with a true case study where adherence to personal and corporate values [and Federal law] cost Dean Borgman's company, Sikorsky, a \$200 million dollar contract. Since then, the integrity of the company has been enhanced and probably led to more business.*

### IV DECISIONS—Walking in discernment, handling temptation and making wise choices

#### A) Three Commitments Guide Our Choices.

1. Commitment to Purpose
2. Commitment to Core Values
3. Commitment to Key Relationships [the Lord first, family, friends, co-workers]

#### B) Trials are moments when commitments are challenged AND they are critical mile markers on the pathways to maturity.

1. Success in a trial of faith leads to patience, perseverance and maturity.
2. James 1:2-4 “ My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.”

#### C) Temptation – its inception.

1. Trial of Faith
  - a. Drawn away “But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.” [much like dead game that is being dragged away]
  - b. Enticed — “Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.” [much like a fish looking at a lure]
  - c. No matter how strong the temptation, God always provides a way out [1 Corinthians 10:13]
  - d. Predetermined value-driven outcomes can help drive us successfully through temptation.

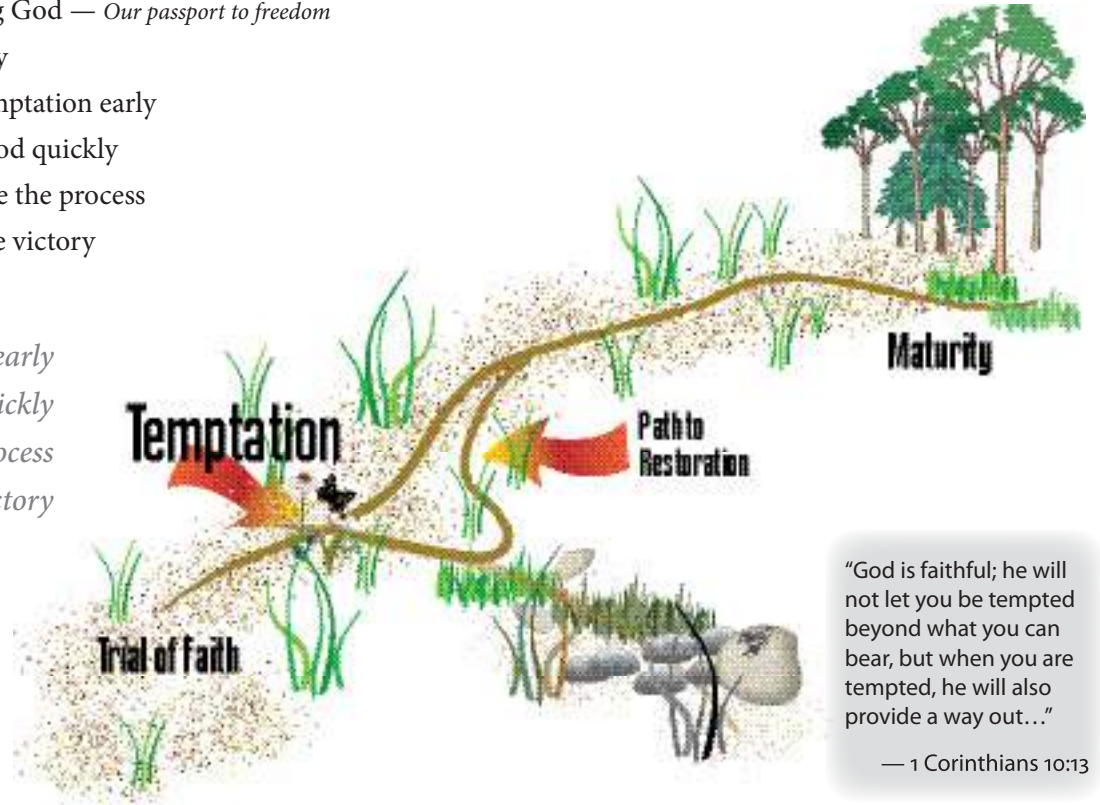
God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear, but when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out..”

— 1 Corinthians 10:13

D) Trial of Faith

1. Trusting God — *Our passport to freedom*
2. Maturity
3. Spot temptation early
4. Trust God quickly
5. Embrace the process
6. Gain the victory

*Spot temptation early*  
*Trust God quickly*  
*Embrace the process*  
*Gain the victory*



**PRACTICAL APPLICATION**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Beckett follows the topic on “Leaders” with “Decisions.” How are you bringing your leaders along in their ability to properly frame decisions?

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NOTES & PRAYER ITEMS

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## FCCI SESSION 6 -- FAMILY | 13 min

*Family stresses are universal, spanning all cultures and countries.*

### V FAMILY—Managing the tension between work demands and family

#### A) Keys to Work/Family Balance

1. Time—first priority
  - a. Time spent with family must be spent well
  - b. Strategic planning and resource management would make family time more valuable and effective
2. Three Rails-All must be present; in balance
  - a. Love
  - b. Discipline
  - c. Fun
3. Secure Marriage—Most important thing that we can model
4. Boundaries—Kids cry out for limits in very different ways; but they need it
5. Prayer—Last; but certainly most vital

## PRACTICAL APPLICATION

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. One perspective is that life's greatest accomplishments are most often achieved in states of imbalance. Beckett mentions: "the myth of living a balanced life." How does that thought strike you?

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2. Have you ever dealt with guilt over "imbalance", even though your schedule was filled with good things? Discuss

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## FCCI SESSION 7

### CULTURE & DOWNSIZING | 27 min

#### VI CULTURE — Creating a work environment friendly to the gospel

- A) Our model for a perfect workplace is in heaven. The closer we can get to that model, the more we will draw others to Christ.
- B) Foundations for Corporate Culture
  1. What we support and reward. Hebrews 8:5
    - a. Beckett's video featured interviews from numerous employees who have been significantly impacted by their workplace, where "Profound respect for the individual" leads to expressions of love and care.
    - b. Symbols profoundly impact how people value their workplaces. Great care is taken to make Beckett companies attractive, with symbols of warmth & beauty. Giving care to the workplace's appearance communicates care to the employees and enhances the value they place in their work.
    - c. Statuary are used as non-religious symbols that uphold values [example: bust of Lincoln and a dual meaning statue of a flame, connecting all to the industry & some to the symbolism of the Holy Spirit]
  2. How we approach problems/challenges
    - a. Times of challenge offer more opportunities to either tear down or reinforce culture.
    - b. Every organization has a prevailing culture. Like water, unattended, it will tend to go to its lowest level. A corporate culture that honors God, must be intentionally shaped and carefully guarded. In the testing, the culture will continually be redefined and strengthened. Like a muscle, it must be exercised and used if it is going to have definition and be functional.

"[High priests] serve at a sanctuary that is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven..."

— Hebrews 8:5

"I would love to get the workplace as close to the Garden as possible, knowing we can't. But I shouldn't stop trying." — Dennis Bakke, Harvard Business Review

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#### VII DOWNSIZING

##### Guiding the business through a workforce reduction

- A) In 70 years of operations, Beckett Corporation had never experienced layoffs, until recently.
  1. Downsizing can be for judgment, or it can be preparation for bearing more fruit.
- B) On such uncharted territory, the prevailing question was: "How do we handle this in a way that will honor God and is consistent with our values?"
  1. Prayer
  2. They sought outside input
  3. An announcement was made to those employees who were laid off, then immediately afterwards, the remaining employees were briefed, receiving consistent communications

4. A press release was immediately offered, stating the facts
5. Briefing materials were prepared in advance with other job options in the area
6. Their job descriptions and special training were provided in the packet, along with letters of recommendation
7. Professionally trained experts met on site with those affected
8. Off-site meetings were set up for additional training in job search
9. Direct follow ups were done with all
10. About 6 months later, Beckett was able to call back employees. Most were still available and returned.

C) Beckett's process

1. Conviction
2. Communication
3. Compassion

## PRACTICAL APPLICATION

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Describe any struggles, victories, or perhaps failures you may have experienced in culture building.

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2. Beckett states that times of great challenge offer great opportunities to either tear down or reinforce culture. Do you agree?

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3. In Beckett's presentation, Culture is followed [topically] by Downsizing. Do you feel R.W. Beckett's approach is effective in reinforcing a Christ friendly culture?

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4. What takeaways would you like to import into your company?

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## NOTES & PRAYER ITEMS

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## FCCI BLG CHECK-IN | SESSION 8

**Annual Focus Word:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Scripture Verse:** \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Rate Your Last 30 Days: Scale of 1-10 (1 = worst; 10 = best)

Focus	Score 1-10	Notes:
Business		
Family		
Health		
Spiritual		

In the next 30 days, I plan to start: \_\_\_\_\_

In the next 30 days, I plan to stop: \_\_\_\_\_

Optional: Recommend a resource (book, tape or other) used in the past 30 days for personal or business enrichment \_\_\_\_\_

**MOST CRITICAL ISSUE YOU FACE IN THE NEXT 30 - 60 DAYS:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

DESIRED RESULT [perfect outcome]:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What would you like from the group: Counsel Prayer Referral Resource?

**ACTION PLAN (Report your progress to the Group at the next meeting):**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_



## FCCI SESSION 9 -- DIFFICULTIES | 22 min

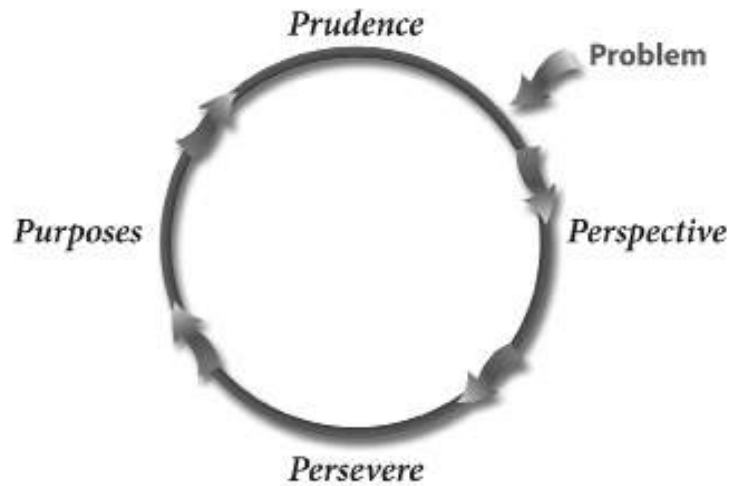
### VIII DIFFICULTIES — Persevering through challenges (including spiritual warfare) How should we function in times of trouble?

- A) Practice biblical Prudence, a great way to help us avoid future difficulties
1. “Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.”  
— Matthew 7:24
  2. Prudence can help us avoid problems. It must be applied to all aspects of life, including:
    - a. Personal Health
    - b. Finances — including how we save and use debt
    - c. Stewardship of time —our days are numbered
    - d. Commitments — should not be taken lightly, including “I’ll pray for you”
- B) Reach for biblical Perspective [this requires giving pause]
1. “Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.”  
— Hebrews 12:26-27
    - a. The words “once more” indicate the removing of what can be shaken — that is created things — so that what cannot be shaken may remain.
    - b. Paraphrased: “I am going to shake everything that can be shaken, so that what cannot be shaken might remain.”
  2. How do you reach for perspective?
    - a. Beckett discovered a customer’s new product introduction, essentially, a knock-off of Beckett Corp’s best selling product. The customer would soon become a competitor, potentially leading to layoffs at Beckett.
    - b. Not sure how to proceed, Beckett prayed & came to think the Lord was directing him to persevere & let His plan play out. “Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord” were the actual words that came to John Beckett.
- C) Persevere
1. Hebrews 4 speaks of rest; but references follow referring to an intense race.
  2. “So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. You need to persevere... Hebrews 10:35-36
  3. “Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.” Heb 12:1
  4. “It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man.” Ps 118:8

#### TIP:

Consider carrying a “commitment card” for commitments that you tend to make on the fly.

- D) Seek to understand God's Purposes in the circumstances
1. In Beckett's case study, his customer agreed to a meeting with Beckett leadership.
  2. In the 11<sup>th</sup> hour, just before the meeting, Beckett again felt that he had heard from the Lord with a potential solution.
  3. Beckett paid the customer for the R&D on their own product, kept the customer's business, and built a stronger relationship with them.
  4. John Beckett referred to another Biblical servant leader's amazing perspective on incredibly painful circumstances resulting from his brothers actions. Near the end of dealing with his brothers, Joseph said: "You plotted evil against me, but God turned it into good, in order to preserve the lives of many people who are alive today because of what happened." (Gen 50:20 GNB) Joseph understood God's Purpose in his circumstance



**PRACTICAL APPLICATION**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Prudence is a word that is out of fashion, though much appreciated, even by non-Christians. What are your thoughts on the process leading to Prudence illustrated by Beckett's presentation?

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2. What are you personally doing to develop Prudence?

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3. What are you doing to help your employees develop Prudence?

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# FCCI SESSION 10 SUCCESS & FOCUS - 19 min

## IX SUCCESS — Defining success, beyond the bottom line

- A) China, in its vision to become the world’s leader in every arena, is placing an enormous pressure on performance as the ultimate measure of success, as are many of the Asian Rim countries.
  - 1. “One notch higher in the Communist Party” was the old definition of success.
  - 2. Now success is defined as financial success
  - 3. Looking forward 25 years to define success should lead to different conclusions
- B) The bank account, profitability numbers, or company size can’t be the ultimate determinate of success
- C) What constitutes success has led many to pursue various approaches to a Balanced Score Card
- D) “Well done, good and faithful servant!” Matt 25:21

### RECOMMENDATION:

Stop the presentation for discussion on Success. Although this video segment is short, Beckett presents some great thoughts on Success and Focus. You may find it fruitful to have two discussion sessions in one meeting, first on Success, later on Focus.

Scripture says...

“A man is tested by the praise he receives.”

“Talent is God given, be humble. Fame is man given, be grateful. Conceit is self-given, be careful.”

— John Wooden

## PRACTICAL APPLICATION

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. How do you define success today?

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- 2. Looking forward 25 years, how do you think you will define it?

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- 3. Have you ever explored the concept of success with your employees?

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## NOTES & PRAYER ITEMS

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## X FOCUS—Staying centered amidst daily pressures

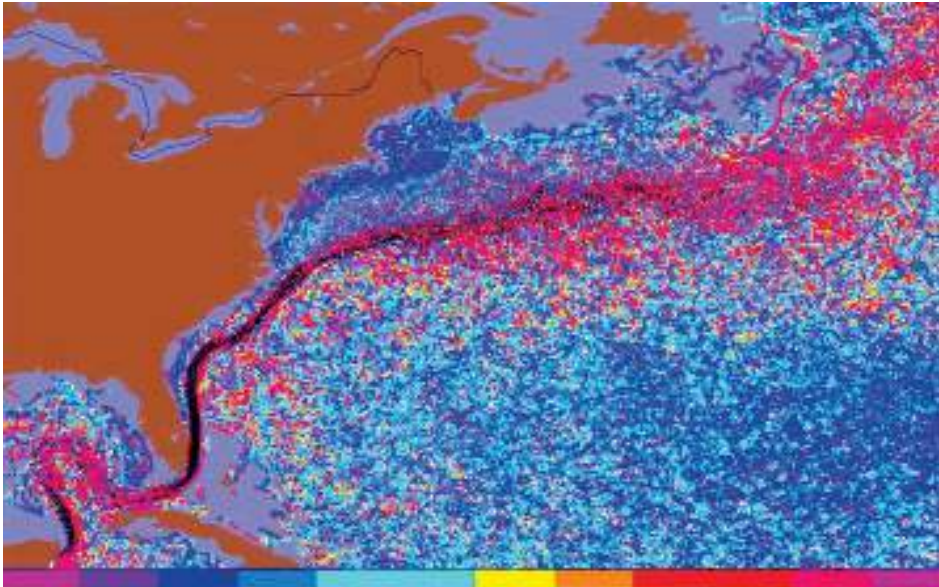
### A) Reading the Scriptures daily

1. John 15 “Abide in me, and I in you...
2. Jude and 1 John “Dwell in His love...” like living in your family room
3. Psalm 63:7 “In the shadow of His wings, I rejoice...” The Lord longs for fellowship with us

### B) Praying, especially early in the morning

1. Bill Bright’s recommendation: “start the day and end it on your knees”
2. 30 day challenge, start each day with the following:
  - a. Express your love for the Lord: heart, mind, soul and strength — center on God
  - b. Express your desire to love others as yourself — center on others and opportunity [irritating interruptions can be transformed into Divine appointments to minister]
  - c. Commit to live surrendered — focus on the privilege we have to serve God in every endeavor
3. The heat of the battle can lead us to default to our own ways, requiring us to constantly re-center.

Appropriately, the central verse of the Bible Psalm 118:8 “It is better to trust in the Lord than to trust in man.”



The image above represents the Gulf Stream, in terms of tracking water particle velocity

*“The Gulf Stream is in the ocean and yet it is not a part of it. Believers are in the world and yet they must not be absorbed by it.” — Billy Graham*

*Though Scotland is on the same latitude as Siberia, palm trees grow on some of the Scottish coastal islands. Though it makes a journey for thousands of miles, it continues to bring warmth and life.*



## PRACTICAL APPLICATION

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Focus requires creating a limited field of view so that the important things move front and center. We can only focus on an item or two at once. What time are you currently taking to focus on what is important?

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2. *“Be still and know that I am God...” Psalm 46:10a* What methods do you use to ‘re-center’, as Beckett describes.

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3. The Billy Graham Association’s illustration of the Gulf Stream is a compelling notion. What is the one thing you would like your company’s culture to be known for that would distinguish it from non-Christian owned companies --- one thing that might point non-Christians to Christ and encourage Christians to minister?

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## NOTES & PRAYER ITEMS

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## APPLICATION & COMMITMENT: SESSION 11

### *10 Challenges Christian Business Leaders Face*

Participant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

The main Biblical Truth/Principle I learned from this Beckett teaching is:

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I intend to apply this Truth/Principle in my business by:

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With the help of the Holy Spirit, I will begin applying this Truth immediately. I ask and expect my group to hold me accountable for this, and to check with me periodically to determine if I am doing so. Please ask me:

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## FCCI BLG CHECK-IN | Session 12

**Annual Focus Word:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Scripture Verse:** \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Rate Your Last 30 Days: Scale of 1-10 (1 = worst; 10 = best)

Focus	Score 1-10	Notes:
Business		
Family		
Health		
Spiritual		

In the next 30 days, I plan to start: \_\_\_\_\_

In the next 30 days, I plan to stop: \_\_\_\_\_

Optional: Recommend a resource (book, tape or other) used in the past 30 days for personal or business enrichment \_\_\_\_\_

**MOST CRITICAL ISSUE YOU FACE IN THE NEXT 30 - 60 DAYS:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

DESIRED RESULT [perfect outcome]:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What would you like from the group: Counsel Prayer Referral Resource?

**ACTION PLAN (Report your progress to the Group at the next meeting):**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_