

UNCONVENTIONAL

L

Love God

E

Excellence

A

Appreciate
Others

D

Driven by
Purpose

I

Integrity

N

No
Bondage

G

Generous

Appreciate Others, *Business Leader Edition*

The logo for Unconventional Business Network features a square with rounded corners, divided diagonally from the top-left to the bottom-right. The upper-left portion is yellow, and the lower-right portion is blue.

UNCONVENTIONAL BUSINESS NETWORK

UBN exists to cultivate a vibrant network of Biblically principled small business leaders who are united by a vision of one million connected business leaders modeling Biblical principles in the workplace. We journey together to:

- ▣ change lives
- ▣ transform workplaces
- ▣ impact communities

for God's glory.

Learn more about UBN at UnconventionalBusiness.org

A is for Appreciate Others



Business leaders who appreciate others support their colleagues in using their gifts, talents and skills. They inspire their employers, colleagues, employees, competitors, suppliers and customers to do their best. They are thorough in whatever tasks are before them, and they consistently treat colleagues and employees on their team fairly. Overall, they appropriately prioritize relationships and results.

“Do to others as you would have them do to you.” – Luke 6:31

Journal your initial thoughts here: _____

What follows are insights and Scripture references for each of the five practices included in the LEADING Assessment that relate to **Appreciate Others**. Each brief discussion is designed to affirm practices you already have in place, while revealing areas that you may want to begin or improve. Space is also provided to document your thoughts after reading each section, titled “Reflection and Application.”

Let’s now consider these practices:

- I encourage and support my colleagues and employees in using their gifts, talents and skills.
- I inspire my employers, colleagues, employees, competitors, suppliers and customers to do their best.
- I am thorough in whatever tasks are before me.
- I consistently treat colleagues and employees on my team fairly.
- I appropriately prioritize relationships and results.



Business leaders support their colleagues in using their gifts, talents and skills.

Although Moses didn't realize it, his background in Pharaoh's home and as a humble shepherd were just the skills God used to accomplish the task at hand. Know your people well enough to understand their skills and talents, then encourage them in those, leveraging them to reach your departmental goals.

Reflection & Application _____

Appreciating others means inspiring employers, colleagues, employees, competitors, suppliers and customers to do their best.

Most people say they are in business to serve the customer, but the customer is not the only one we are to serve. Jesus taught that we are to serve our neighbor, and his definition of a neighbor includes everyone around us. Customers, suppliers, employees, bosses, board of directors, prospects, creditors and anyone else that we stumble across.

Reflection & Application _____

One way to appreciate others is to be thorough in all tasks.

When you realize you have a problem to solve or task to finish, do not make the mistake of charging into it so fast that you end up with a bigger problem for yourself and others. Begin by making a thorough assessment of the situation and making wise choices.

Philippians 4:6 advises “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”

Wisely, *Proverbs 21:5* states, “The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.”

Finally, integrating prayer is vital. Ask God to bring you wisdom and direction.

Reflection & Application _____

Consistently treating colleagues and employees on your team fairly is another way to show appreciation.

Your team will flounder without motivated employees. Performance discussions are essential for open communication between employees and leaders. Formalizing a process for performance reviews can be time well spent and help your team members better understand and drive towards your definition of success for their role.

Reflection & Application _____

Business leaders show appreciation by prioritizing relationships over results.

The greatest resource God gives us as leaders are the people under our care. In many businesses, this is the most overlooked and underused resource. Many tend to value financial results much more than the people whose lives their decisions affect.

Take time to consider your core team, praying for each one and asking the Lord to give you insight. Intentionally set aside time to talk with them about their lives and their work—and listen. People are appreciated when we spend time and give them our undivided attention.

Reflection & Application _____

Closing Remarks

God desires you to cherish those people who He has entrusted to your care. As much as it is within your power, you want those who work for and with you to have a pleasing experience.

Horst Schulze, co-founder of the Ritz-Carlton Hotel chain, speaks about God’s commandment to love others as yourself when it comes to appreciating employees. First, he “selects” the right employees, he doesn’t hire them. Then, he connects them to a purpose by casting his vision and inviting them to join in. Horst believes all people want to be a part of something bigger. By continuously casting the company’s vision, and inviting his employees on board, he has created one of the most successful hotel empires in the world today.

Ready for the next step?

You are not alone in your desire to incorporate your faith with your work. There are other business leaders just like you, around the corner and around the globe, on the same faith + work journey. Bringing your faith into your workplace can be risky. You fear rejection and criticism or the risk of losing something you feel is important—profits, that job promotion, or key employees—because God’s way of doing business does not always match with conventional business practices.

ENTER COMMUNITY.

God’s Word encourages us to continue to meet regularly to spur each other on towards good works. Because of this, UBN established itself as a leader in faith + work events, resources and leadership communities that connect faithforward small businesses—all designed to encourage, inspire and strengthen you as you bring your faith into your workplace. Please take advantage of the community and resource links provided below.

Next steps

Virtual Events: Network Connects

We invite you to register for a free upcoming virtual event in which small business leaders from around the globe gather and learn from prominent faith + work leaders.

Register Today 

Leadership Communities

Ready to dive right in? Please visit our website with the links below. Both in-person and virtual groups are forming now. (*Member fees apply.*)

Forums are designed for business leaders, regardless of role.

Learn more at UnconventionalBusiness.org/Forums

Roundtables are designed for small business owners, CEOs and partners.

Learn more at UnconventionalBusiness.org/Roundtables

Workday Devotional: Integrity Moments

If you haven’t already subscribed to Integrity Moments, our 60 second workday devotional, we encourage you to sign up today for your [complimentary subscription](#).

