

Strategically, What is our Relationship with God?

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The purpose of this document is to define our relationship with God strategically.

Over the years I have built Strategic Business Models to help people understand important “big picture” relationships and power. I have also built Strategic Bible Models to help people understand the Bible and faith. Because God controls all power and created us for his purpose, those two models are ruled by the same relationships, Business Relationships. Business relationships are defined by the Owner’s Purpose.

Owner’s Strategic Purpose

Strategically, a business is an Owner’s Purpose. That purpose has: Customers; Suppliers; Markets; Products (Services); Processes; Facilities (Locations, Activities, Rules, and Events); History (Confidence); and Motivation (Plans, People, and Organization). Authority relationships are an important element of these roles in the owner’s purpose, both expert and command authority. Expert authority serves as suppliers or facilitators, and customers supply the command authority. Before time began every person was designed for a unique purpose.

Strategic Relationships Define

In shorthand, a business is someone doing something for someone else with the help of others. Everyone on that team must know the big picture. Strategic relationships define what is being done and why. So the whole team can help the owner serve his customer, they define the owner’s purpose from the owner, customer, supplier and facilitator viewpoints, Strategic relationships define: who, what, where, and why. Tactical relationships define how, and Budget relationships define when. Strategic plans define processes without sequencing them. Therefore, strategic plans are focused on understanding what you are doing, with not much focus on how or when you are doing it.

The Lord’s Unfinished Business

Our relationship with God changes when we accept him into our heart and enter into his kingdom. I wrote this document for people who have made that all important step. So, it is a strategic look at our relationships with God as members of the Church, the Body of Christ. Not much has been written about the second half of the Gospel, the bread of life, or what we do after we are saved, so I see a need for a model of our relationships with the Lord in his unfinished business.

The Genesis of our Strategy

In the Bible, the book of Genesis outlines what we are doing and why we are doing it. The rest of the Bible puts flesh on that outline. Plus, our personal relationships (our personal word from God) continue to add flesh to that outline as the bread of life.

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But, even in our personal relationships, I find it interesting how much emphasis is placed on the strategic (what, where and why) relationships over the tactical (how) and the budget (when) relationships. If we do it right, how and when seem to be God's responsibility, either the gifts we have been given or the sequencing of those gifts. For example: our spirit is a lamp that we use to open our heart, and we are commanded to pray (even to beseech or beg) for what God has put on our heart. Because he takes care of the networking and scheduling, we pray for the objects and objectives. In other words, we pray strategically. We pray for the relationships God puts on our heart. Because he designed each of us with the gifts we need, when we examine our hearts we find our desires are objective and unique, rather than subjective (in relation to other people). True humility is the realization that those unique gifts are his. Everyone has their unique measure of faith. I believe the purpose of this document is to define the business relationships God uses to help us understand and give them, and to remind us of the common rules for those relationships. These relationships help me understand and separate my responsibility from God's responsibility, and in so doing they help me enter into his joy.

The Strategic Relationships of the Body

God controls all authority, and at the same time God serves us in our business with him and others. Common courtesy (common court rules) show us how to relate to both command and expert authority. For expert authority to serve, command authority must respect expertise. A strategic business model will clarify these relationships so we can take advantage of God's control of all authority, measure and live by faith, and in the end make every word we speak the word of God.

Your Authority and Your Servant

Your purpose is your potential expert authority. It is your strength, but it is not very useful until you know your weakness. In other words, you were designed to function in a body with help from others to cover your weakness. Your weakness is the help from others you need for your gift to be useful. In the process of identifying and developing that team, God is our facilitating servant. We own the process, and if we respect his expert authority he is always there to help us build our team.

Your Faith and Your Commander

Your purpose is your measure of faith. The Church lives by faith, and your faith is your personal word from God that you are called to give the Church. In other words, that purpose is your calling, and God has given you the gifts you need for that calling. When a man and woman marry, the woman is submitting her calling to the man's calling so the two can be one. Like organs in a body, that calling is designed to serve other callings in the Body. If you accept it, that calling is your business, your strategic purpose. Since God controls all authority, respect for that fact will open up your communication with God through your authority. So, when you think of the team you have assembled for your calling, always include your

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customer(s). If you respect God's control of authority, you can communicate with him through the authority of your customers and suppliers.

Faith Measurements Define Strategic Relationships

Strategic relationships measure authority. They define our business with other people, and the roles in that business define expert and command authority. These roles are measurements of our faith. Every person has a unique measure of faith. The Body of Christ is a team of faith measurement. We serve our customer and are served by our suppliers. Some suppliers serve directly, their gifts being consumed in a customer's business process, while other suppliers serve indirectly, facilitating business activities. When faith is respected, both types of suppliers provide the word of the Lord's expert authority. So, when God communicates with us through expert and command authority we relate to God through other people. In changing our heart, God also serves as our supplier, a facilitator (one who is not consumed in the process). Court rules tell us how a commander must respect a facilitator for his expertise to be received. Since God controls all authority, court rules or courtesy is common.

Summary: Strategic Relationships with God

The purpose of this document has been to define our relationship with God strategically. Over the years I have built Strategic Business Models to help people understand important "big picture" relationships and power. I have also built Strategic Bible Models to help people understand the Bible and faith. Because God controls all power and created us for his purpose, those two models are ruled by the same relationships, Business Relationships. Business relationships are defined by the Owner's Purpose. Strategic understanding facilitates communication with God. Plus, with faith measurement we have the potential for every word being the word of God. Whether we communicate with God directly or through other people, strategic relationships define the court rules or courtesy for that communication.