

An Economic Development Prayer for Business Professionals

Scripture Reading:

Psalm 104:24-34, Genesis 41:47-57

Reflections of the Heart:

“Business is a critical enabler of inclusive economic growth and job creation which is key to unlocking human potential and poverty reduction.” ~ Paul Polman, Chairman, World Business Council for Sustainable Development and CEO of Unilever

ONE Prayer:

Gracious Father, we thank You for providing a way for business professionals to survive and thrive through economic development. Thank You for taking care of them and supplying all of their needs from Your glorious riches in Christ Jesus. Thank You for having plans for business owners, board directors, chief executive officers, senior executives and managers, plans for good and not for disaster, to give them a future and a hope. You are a great God and a great King above all gods. You hold in Your hands the depths of the earth and the mightiest mountains. The sea belongs to You, for You made it. Your hands also formed the dry land. We worship and bow down. We kneel before You, our maker, for You are our God. We are the people You watch over, the flock under Your care. We listen to Your voice today!

Almighty Father, we decree economic development and success among business professionals. We confess that they will be wise and understand Your ways. They will prove it by living honorable lives, doing good works that come from wisdom. By faith, we declare that they do not have a spirit of fear and timidity, but power, love and self-discipline. They will work to ensure that there is a mighty flood of justice and an endless river of righteous living within economic development systems. We expect their efforts to improve the well-being of individuals and families through equal pay for equal work, open and inclusive hiring practices, access to quality jobs at all levels and an adequate distribution of wealth. We declare that they will not get tired of doing what is good, for at the right time, if they don't give up, they will reap a harvest of blessing. They will never be lazy, but work hard and serve enthusiastically.

Holy Spirit, help business professionals to see that the decisions they make and the interests they pursue individually and collectively contribute to the economic health of their communities and the global marketplace. Touch their hearts to be on one accord, merciful and loving in their efforts to build and sustain ethical and successful businesses, create and retain jobs, improve living conditions and champion peace and prosperity. Remind them to honor the Lord with their wealth, and to give generously to projects that esteem people of diverse ages, genders, ethnicities, abilities and social and financial status. In turn, show them ways in which they can support stronger economies and improve the quality of life in their communities.

Holy Spirit, reveal how I can pray for and support economic development in Business:

Righteous Father, forgive business professionals for all acts of sinfulness. Forgive those who have not been diligent in seeking Your leadership and guidance. Forgive those who do not trust in You nor Your wisdom but rely on their own limited human understanding. Forgive business professionals who have taken Your provisions and resources for granted and have compromised Your Word in order to profit. Forgive those who have not treated their employees, suppliers, contractors and customers fairly. Forgive those who do not invest back into the communities from which they prosper. Lord, forgive me for ***(list any sins that you have committed)***. Holy Spirit, remind business professionals of those they need to forgive and help them to forgive. ***(Take a moment and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal names or faces of people that you may need to forgive. As He reveals them to you, say, "I forgive name of person(s)." Now, trust the Lord to heal any wounds in your soul caused by unforgiveness.)***

Holy Spirit, help business professionals not to yield to temptation but deliver them from the evil one.

Omnipotent God, how great are Your riches and wisdom and knowledge! You are the God who does great things too marvelous to understand. It is You who performs countless miracles. We praise You, Lord! Let everyone on earth bless Your Holy Name forever and ever! Everything comes from You and exists by Your power and is intended for Your glory. All glory to You forever. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture References for the Written Text: Philippians 4:19, Jeremiah 29:11, Psalm 95:3-7, Proverbs 4:7, James 3:13, II Timothy 1:7, Amos 5:24, Galatians 6:9-10, Romans 12:11, Matthew 6:13, Romans 11:33a, Job 5:9, Psalm 145:21, Romans 11:36

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