

GoBusiness200 | Lesson 1

The Foundations of Economics and Family Management

BY DENNIS PEACOCKE



Lesson Summary:

This lesson focuses on the critical relationship between economics and the family unit through which God desires to minister to and bless the nations.

MAIN LESSON IDEAS:

- *Taking anything to a point of excellence is a process.*
- *God is building a spiritual family which He expects us to mirror and model.*
- *The family unit is the leverage point of societies and nations.*

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I. Welcome to the School of Business Leadership!

- A. Why are we doing this school?
1. All aspects of culture belong to King Jesus; economics is at the center of all of them.
 2. Christians must recapture the marketplace for God's Kingdom as a centering point for evangelism, applied Christian ethics, and job and capital creation.
 3. It will take studied, transformed believers to do this. This school is about personal and corporate biblical transformation.
- B. What are origins and history of the school?
1. The birthing/visionary stage began in the late 1970s. The School of Strategic Living was launched in 1990 followed by the School of Business Leadership followed in 1996.
- C. What is its scope and sequence of topics?
1. The economic-business field is vast. In GoBusiness200 (year two), we focus on foundational principles of economic leadership.
 2. The GoBusiness200 course is divided into five sections on the following topics:
 - a. Section 1: *The Foundations of Marketplace Ministry* (Lessons 1-5)
 - b. Section 2: *Establishing Our Spiritual Foundations for Building* (Lessons 6-9)
 - c. Section 3: *The Keys to Successful Business Life* (Lessons 10-14)
 - d. Section 4: *Solving Problems God's Way* (Lessons 15-18)
 - e. Section 5: *Managing and Mentoring People with Destiny* (Lessons 19-24)
 3. Once you complete GoBusiness200, we invite you to continue your study of marketplace ministry through our Graduate Modules—advanced courses available exclusively to alumni which provide specific areas of focus that further build upon the framework of GoBusiness100 and 200.
- D. Why is mentoring so crucial to your success in the school?
1. Jesus displayed, lived out, and commanded believers to follow the methodology of one-on-one interactive instruction called "discipleship."
 2. In the initial 1996 US course, we focused on the self-teaching model. Few were able to make the necessary paradigm shifts. In Europe, we focused on the facilitator-learner model, and it worked well.
 3. "Pharaoh" has spent years programming your business mind and culture.
 - a. We're looking for future mentors who can multiply God's move in the marketplace through this school and our global network.
 - b. You will not be reprogrammed to see things in a biblical way quickly or easily in all areas.

II. The family unit is the foundation of all successful units of a nation.

- A. God the Father is a family man and is building a spiritual family.
 - 1. God should be our model in all things (ethics, thinking, practice, building).
 - 2. Adam and Eve’s dominion of the earth began in the institution of family.
 - 3. As the “father of the faith” (Romans 4:16), Abraham was called to build his ministry out of successful family life (Genesis 18:18).
 - 4. The Greek word for economics, *oikos*, literally means “household management.”
 - 5. Eldership in the New Testament comes out of successful family life (1 Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9).
 - 6. To begin to change your business, start at home.
- B. The School of Business Leadership is committed to helping you in your journey of transforming your mind (Romans 12:2), serving with a heart towards God and a will to glorify God.
 - 1. Transforming any organization is about transforming the people in it, beginning with the leadership.
 - 2. Our curriculum contains numerous major building principles and related applications including **39 Principles of Transformation** (Note: These 39 principles will be presented out of order in the context of the lesson outlines. Please refer to your **GoBusiness Appendix** for the ordered list.).
 - 3. The GoBusiness200 teachings are centered around three major presuppositions:
 - a. The root-fruit reality (foundations are everything)
 - b. The axiom-corollary taxology (know the principle; multiple uses become obvious)
 - c. The cause-symptom analysis (deal with causes not symptoms)
- C. In this course, as in all instructional experiences, you will be making choices concerning the level at which you want to play.
 - 1. Let us make some observations about this critical subject:
 - a. God plays everybody who is in shape and plays them at their level of competency.
 - b. High-level change requires high-level, trained players.
 - c. High-level players have moved from the “A-side” of play (self-oriented foundations and motivations) to the “B-side” of play (a choice to use my life and gifts to serve Christ, others, and help change whole systems and nations).
 - 2. To play on the “B-side,” you must deal with Christ in this course on three levels:
 - a. Will my participation in this course interrupt my current agenda?
 - b. Will investing in these studies help me (bless me)?
 - c. Will the application of these teachings and principles change me?
- D. We will close the GoBusiness200 course with the teaching, “God’s Green Light.”
 - 1. It wouldn’t hurt to listen to this teaching for the first time now.
 - 2. You will be living in this “green light” phenomenon as you go through the course this next year.
 - 3. You will discover that walking in truth and transformation is a process, indeed! Stay the course—you’ll make it!

III. The family unit is the leverage point of society.

- A. The family unit is the basic building block of society; if families are healthy, so is the culture; if they are sick or unstable, so is the culture.
 - 1. The family unit is where the marketplace gets its trained people. Our foundations are first laid at home relationally, e.g., how we relate to authority, our work ethic, communication skills, team work, stewardship (managing our room, clothes, toys, allowance, chores, etc.).
 - 2. Academic institutions may train us technically, but our hearts, souls, and vision are trained at home and, hopefully, in our local churches.
 - 3. Unresolved family problems cause havoc and inefficiencies at work; the worst ones are passed on to the penal institutions.
- B. The family unit either models generational transfer of resources across generations or their selfish consumption.
 - 1. A nation's business ethics, savings-consumption rates, dividend policies, senior management goals, etc., are all affected in a major way by the related concepts of family generational transfer or the lack thereof.
 - 2. We are committed to taking the concepts of Malachi 4:4-6 into the marketplace and teaching/training Christian leaders how to affect economic generational transfer. We are after strategic leaders with "cathedral vision" for their families, churches, businesses, and nations. We want you to help fulfill Acts 13:36.
- C. Among other things, biblical economics is about correctly evaluating and using relational leverage points within an organization.
 - 1. Correctly managing leverage points—the executive function's primary envisioning responsibility.
 - a. Do the people living in the leverage points carry the vision?
 - b. Do the people living in the leverage points measure "success" against the vision?
 - c. Are the people living in the leverage points looking for and beginning the process of developing new leaders within the organization?
 - d. Are the people living in the leverage points bonding people relationally to the vision first and themselves second?
 - e. The leverage points are where life is transmitted or leaked.
 - 2. We welcome you to the School of Business Leadership.
 - a. As you change, so will your family, then your business ministry.
 - b. The saying is true: "No pain, no gain." Pay the price; don't get fooled into believing you see too much too soon. Ask God to make you a nation changer—one mentoring leverage point at a time!
 - c. God bless you. I'm excited you're here!

5. What concepts did you learn in this lesson?