

## All quotes are from Michelle Myers unless otherwise noted.

(Somer)

1. What if your husband is not on the same page/level spiritually (like is a believer, but doesn't necessarily use it as a filter to direct his life/words/choices) and it influences the way you want to direct your home and business. For instance, as I try to let the Lord be the CEO of my business, but husband has thoughts as to where he thinks it should go. Also, he is not the spiritual leader in our home. I know prayer is the "right" answer, but is there other Biblical direction for how to approach this?

- Address the elephant in the room right away.
- Biblically run businesses will look entirely different than secularly run businesses.
- You will be counter cultural in everything but especially growth.
- Pray specifically and pray in front of him.

(Michelle)

2. How do you know when it's appropriate to monetize your calling? Or could you just talk more about calling v purpose v vocation. As someone business minded, my mind goes there first when I think of a new idea.

- There is a difference between a business, marketplace ministry, and charities.
- Return on investment happens slower when it's a ministry.
- Purify your motives for why you're there - not attempt to monetize at the beginning.
- Wait, serve, behind the scenes and then let the need drive how you take it further into steps for monetization.
- What has God called all believers to do?
- You having a place of service where you are making disciples and providing the needs of others.
- Before going to a business strategy, go back to Biblical basics.
- Is it necessary to have any income attached to it?
- Don't allow yourself to move to the speed of your ambition.
- Allow the needs of others and what God has called you to do as a whole drive you.
- Ask yourself hard questions, have accountability in your life.
- Take faithful, small, obedient steps in the direction where God is taking you, not the direction of the opportunity or money.
- When you go against the current, He will blow your mind in what He can do.
- If you will show up and do the work, He has promised that he will care for all your needs.

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(Somer)

**3. Tips for helping team members become more independent without being too overbearing?**

- It is hard for me to see unreached potential.
- Make sure in the future, you hire independent workers.
- Not all self starters are for every leader.
- There are leaders who thrive on micro-managing.
- If you have the opportunity to hire, you need to find out what kind of leader you are and then what kind of team member you need.
- Recruit the people who will thrive under your leadership style.
- "I think you're capable of more..."

Somer ask... (Michelle)

**4. I'm a Family Nurse Practitioner and work in an internal medicine/family practice taking care of patients of all ages with any variety of diseases.**

Patients will tell me all kinds of crazy things about their lifestyles, that of course I don't agree with from a Biblical worldview perspective, but of course they aren't believers, so i can't expect them to live like me. BUT I feel like I want to say SOMETHING. I want them to know that Jesus loves them and that God created them with purpose and a plan. I just feel like I should say something to these people and not just smile and nod when they share things about themselves that show that they are lost and confused.

I feel so burdened that some of these patients can literally die in a car wreck on their way home and I was potentially the last Christian they interacted with who could share true hope and peace with them.

- Know your work situation, there are some places that prohibit you saying anything religious.
- Lead in with "when I go through things like this... I don't know how I would go through it without God."
- God is the keeper of their soul.
- Pray daily for Him to show you what to do, allow you to see them in another setting.
- Trust that He will use
- Trust that God will do what only He can do.

(Somer)

**5. Advice for young professionals starting God honoring careers?**

- Honor God first.
- Purpose: the what
- Calling: the how
- We get purpose and calling confused.

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- If we remember that our purpose is to love God, love others + go and make disciples, then we will be able to honor God in whatever we do.
- Calling is secondary to purpose.
- Calling is the vehicle that you use to work out the purpose in your life.
- Your purpose will never change.
- Simple commandments (not easy)

(Michelle)

6. I'm an entrepreneur who God called to slow down the running and building of businesses to be all in at home and to homeschool my kids. I want to do what He has asked me to do but sometimes I feel like I am losing myself in this new role. How do I walk in obedience and not let the noise all around me, my ego, or my personal desires interfere?

- What are the things that you loved that you can still do to use those gifts?
- Find ways to use your gifts.
- If your identity was getting wrapped up in what you do vs. what Jesus has done, then maybe this season is about building something else - firm foundation for your life that no business can be.
- Surrender this every single day.
- Whenever those feelings take over (ego, desires), lay it at Jesus' feet again.
- What you're called to do will not always be what you feel like doing.
- He might be preparing you and using you for a season that you never imagined.
- Be excited that you don't know what He's doing.

(Somer)

7. Somer, you spoke in your last class about how you were studying progressive Christianity and I think you mentioned post modernism in the church (can't remember exactly how you said it) and I wanted to hear more about your thoughts on where our churches and young believers are most vulnerable when it comes to those things, and what book it is that you're reading?

- Where we are most vulnerable, we don't know how to evangelize the lost because we haven't taken time to understand the lost.
- Think about the influence in non-believers' lives.
- Earn the right to speak into people's lives.
- If evangelism is important to you it will be more about listening than talking.
- See people as possible and as people, not projects.
- Compassion and tolerance are two different things.
- The world makes us think that tolerance can take the place of compassion.
- When our churches have compassion at the root, we can love people well and we can disagree with them but they know we love them first.

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(Michelle)

8. When my kids are old enough to start recognizing the brokenness of the world and sin creeping into lives of people we are in community with -- I want to protect their innocence, but I also want to stand for truth. How do you navigate these hard conversations and topics in your home?

- This is not an innocent world, their innocence will be lost no matter what you do to try to protect it.
- You cannot childproof the world. You have to world proof your child.
- It starts when they are young.
- The full Holy Spirit lives inside your children if they have accepted Jesus.
- There is no Holy Spirit jr.
- Approach conversations carefully. Know when (time of day) you can talk to your kids and they will be honest.
- Address the sin issue. Pray for the sinner.
- If you don't have the hard conversations with them that point back to truth and love, they will have that conversation with someone else.
- They will get their worldview from somewhere.

(Somer)

9. Hi Somer!!!

I am kind of like you in that I'm an introvert who doesn't really require a ton of social interaction or friends. But there are times, I'm sure for all of us, when we just need someone to talk to or to vent to. My husband and I are in ministry and even before that I have always been everyone's "strong" friend. The one who can stay calm and listen, and the one who everyone brings their heavy stuff too. But the problem is, sometimes I resent that because I have nobody to go to. As I get older I am noticing that a lot of my friendships are one sided, what should I do?

What do you do if you're the friend that is always the one that has to reach out. I am not trying to be whiny about it but part of me wants to just give up and stop pursuing the other person because it feels one sided? I know God wouldn't want that but how do I nip this before I start getting bitter about it (might already be a little bit)?

- It is an honor to be the first person on someone's call list when they are going through a hard time - they trust you, — do not miss that!
- I think there are seasons where the Lord calls us to be lonelier than others - you might be neglecting going to Him on your own behalf.
- Make sure it's not the Lord wanting you to be alone or you putting too much pressure on people.
- Don't stop pursuing.

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(Michelle)

10. Does your team do yearly goals? After going through the Biz tracker, it seems like goals are made every new quarter, but I'm curious about how to incorporate yearly goals, or whether yearly goals even are that important (especially nowadays, lets be honest)

- Don't force them just because a year in a measurement in time.
- Rethink goals.
- Do you have something that you're aiming at?
- You are much better having a direction that you're going in something specific.

(Somer)

11. Perhaps this is an elementary question, but it's been on my mind a lot! In regards to prayer, the Trinity kind of throws me off. In church culture, we talk a lot about getting to know Jesus, being a friend of Jesus, talking with Jesus, crying out to Jesus. But in scripture, when Jesus teaches about prayer, he prays to the Father. So...when I pray, do I pray to Jesus (God the Son) or God the Father?

- <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/you-asked-can-i-pray-to-jesus/>
- Trinity: God the Father, God the Son (Jesus), Holy Spirit
- <https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/does-it-matter-which-person-of-the-trinity-we-pray-to>
- Understand the roles of the trinity.

(Michelle)

12. I'm really, really trying not to get frustrated by the dip in social media engagement. I know I'm not the only one, so I realize it's the platform changing - not me or my message. But tips for those of us who need a social media presence for our job but are seeing less and less of a return on our time there?

- Social media has changed.
- You have to change how you use it.
- If you are constantly changing what you're sharing and the ROI is going down, the problem may not just be that the social media platform has changed, it's that instead of sharing purposeful content, you're trying to please the algorithm.
- If social media frustrates you, it's probably too important to you.
- Customer service channel - be available in DMs
- If it's not working, stop trying to please the algorithm.
- Trust that the right people will find it.