

Trusting God While Growing a Small Business: A Journey of Faith and Growth



John Scroggins

For many small business owners, the journey of entrepreneurship is one of grit, innovation, and constant adaptation. But for those who hold to their faith in God, it becomes much more than a commercial endeavor—it becomes a spiritual journey, one where trust in divine timing and provision plays a critical role. Growing a business, with all its risks and unknowns, often becomes the perfect testing ground for a business owner's trust in God. This is a story shared by many Christian entrepreneurs: a journey of building something meaningful not just for profit, but for purpose.

Starting with a Dream and a Prayer

Every business starts with a dream, but for faith-driven entrepreneurs, it often starts with a prayer as well.

Consider the story of Lisa, a small bakery owner in the Midwest. Her dream of owning a business wasn't just about selling cupcakes or bread—it was about creating a community hub, a place where people would feel loved and cared for. From the beginning, she committed her vision to God, praying over every decision, from naming the bakery to selecting suppliers and hiring staff.

Lisa's first few years were tough. Sales were inconsistent, and unexpected expenses made growth seem impossible. But in every difficult season, she returned to prayer and Scripture. One verse that became her anchor was Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight."

The Tension Between Planning and Trust

As her business slowly began to gain traction, Lisa faced a new challenge: growing. Growth came with its own set of pressures—higher payroll, more complex logistics, and the need for strategic planning. The tension between responsible business planning and spiritual trust became more real than ever.

In business circles, growing is often framed as a purely strategic decision. You gather data, identify market opportunities, and execute expansion. But for Lisa, this was more than numbers—it was about discerning God's timing. "I had to ask myself," she said, "Is this ambition or is this obedience?"

Many Christian business owners experience this struggle. There's a fine line between ambition that serves ego and growth that serves a greater purpose. For Lisa, trusting God meant waiting at times when everything seemed ripe for expansion. She turned down offers that looked profitable but didn't align with her mission. She passed on funding opportunities that came with strings attached. And she kept her focus not on growing fast but growing faithfully.

Provision in Unlikely Places

Trusting God doesn't mean abandoning practical wisdom, but it does mean believing that God can provide in ways beyond our understanding. Lisa remembers a moment when she was preparing to open a second location and the numbers simply didn't add up. Rent, construction, hiring—it all looked impossible. She was ready to give up on

the idea when, seemingly out of nowhere, a local church offered to lease her an underused community center kitchen at a fraction of the expected cost.

“That was the moment I knew God was in this,” Lisa said. “He made a way where there was no way. It wasn’t just provision—it was affirmation.”

This kind of story is not uncommon among Christian entrepreneurs. Whether it’s a surprise investor, an unexpected collaboration, or a sudden influx of customers, God often shows up in ways that remind business owners that their efforts are not in vain and that they are not building alone.

Building a God-Honoring Culture

Growing a business doesn’t just mean more revenue—it means more people. With growth comes the responsibility of leading a team, shaping a workplace culture, and stewarding influence. For Lisa, this became another area where trusting God was essential. She wanted her business to be a light in the community, a place where employees felt seen and valued, not just used for labor.

She began each week with a quiet prayer over her team and her shop. She made intentional hiring decisions, seeking people who aligned with the core values of kindness, integrity, and excellence. She implemented generous policies and created space for conversations that encouraged personal growth, not just performance.

Trusting God meant sometimes keeping an employee who was struggling personally, even when a strict business approach might have dictated otherwise. It meant giving second chances. And it meant putting people before profits, even if it cost her in the short term. It also meant occasionally using tough love to release an employee who wasn’t a good fit for the company or who proved to be toxic. Over time, Lisa found that this kind of leadership attracted loyal employees and grateful customers, reinforcing the idea that doing business God’s way was not only spiritually fulfilling but also economically sustainable.

Surrendering the Outcome

Perhaps the hardest part of growing a business is surrendering the outcome. Entrepreneurs are often taught to control every variable, but faith invites surrender. For Lisa, that meant letting go of the need to have a five-year plan perfectly mapped out. She learned to plan diligently but hold those plans loosely.

“I still make spreadsheets,” she laughs. “But I know that God has the final say. I’ve learned that my job is to be faithful, not flawless.”

This posture of surrender transformed how she viewed success. It wasn’t just about revenue growth or market share anymore—it was about obedience. If she felt God leading her to pivot, slow down, or even stop, she was willing to do so. That kind of trust gave her peace in seasons of uncertainty and joy in seasons of harvest.

Encouragement for the Faith-Driven Entrepreneur

Lisa’s story is just one of many. Across the country and around the world, Christian business owners are learning what it means to trust God during growing. They are discovering that growth doesn’t have to mean compromise, and that faith isn’t a barrier to success—it’s the foundation of it.

If you’re a small business owner navigating the ups and downs of growth, take heart. Your journey is not unseen. Trusting God doesn’t guarantee a smooth ride, but it does guarantee companionship, wisdom, and purpose in the process.

Pray over your decisions. Seek godly counsel. Work diligently, but rest in the knowledge that your success does not rest solely on your shoulders. Let your business be a testimony—not just of your hard work, but of God’s faithfulness.

Growing your business may be the biggest leap of faith you take, but remember: God doesn’t call you to build alone. He’s already ahead of you, preparing the way. The question is not whether growth is possible, but whether you’re willing to trust Him through it.

ASK YOUR MENTOR

1. What parts of this story can you relate to?
2. How did you start your business? Why did you start it?
3. What’s it looked like to trust God with growing your business?
4. Can you think of stories to share of God coming through while growing your business?
5. How have handled the tension between planning and trust?
6. What advice do you have about trusting God while growing a business?

Reflect & Respond/Self-Rate (Mentee)

To what degree do you trust God with your business? How have you practically demonstrated this?

Go Do

1. Ask God, “In what ways can I trust you more with this business?” Write down what you think He said.
2. Practice. How I will practice this over the next month:

Sources & Resources

How to Trust God’s Plan For Your Business Instead of Yours, <https://stefaniegass.com/blog/trust-gods-plan/>