

30 Business “No No’s” (13)

It is a No No to be alone in business! Build a Team!

It is true that the vowel “I” is not in team, but it is the center of win! Each individual needs to play their part for the team to be successful.

I turned my head and saw yet another wisp of smoke on its way to nothingness: a solitary person, completely alone—no children, no family, no friends—yet working obsessively late into the night, compulsively greedy for more and more, never bothering to ask, “Why am I working like a dog, never having any fun? And who cares?” More smoke. A bad business.

It's better to have a partner than go it alone. Share the work, share the wealth. And if one falls down, the other helps, But if there's no one to help, tough! By yourself you're protected. With a friend you can face the worst. Can you round up a third? A three-stranded rope isn't easily snapped. Proverbs of Solomon¹

A Wisp of Smoke

People who are alone in their business adventures can more easily develop the habit of working obsessively! At the heart of this is the broken desire for more and more stuff. This is a greedy way of doing life. When you work obsessively you avoid asking the right questions of yourself. Does anybody care about me? Why am I working like a dog and not having any fun? According to Solomon this is “bad business”! Workaholic’s have no children, no family, and often no friends, they end up completely alone. I

I found this wonderful article by Beatrice Adams, October 21, 2007 titled **The Last Words of Dying Workaholics.**² I have given you the link and I would suggest that you read her article on the last words of some famous men who died thinking only of their work. It has been said

that no one ever dies wishing they had spent more time at work. Beatrice Adams suggests that may not be the case.

How about you? Why are you working so hard? What is your motive? Workaholics are more likely according to Solomon to have a broken desire for more and more. Many of us have started our own businesses, ministries, or franchises. As a result, we feel a greater sense of ownership toward the business we are in. The danger is that we become obsessed with wanting to do more, to get more, or to be more.

The saddest reality for workaholics is that their life is described as **a wisp of smoke on its way to nothingness.** Life is too short to make work the essence of who we are and the bulk of what is our purpose. Make sure you are having fun and enjoying life by having balance in work, family, and fun times.

One certain way is to find a partner! Find someone who is going to help you. Find someone who will join you in your journey. You need to build a team.

“The most important motive for work in school and in life is pleasure in work, pleasure in its result, and the knowledge of the value of the result to the community.” Albert Einstein³

Build a team!

*Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.
Helen Keller⁴*

7 Essentials for creating a team!

- 1. Buy in.** Mission commitment and Agenda Harmony You need to find a partner who will see what you see and help you implement it. Visionaries need implementers and the reverse is also true.
- 2. Clear Expectations** for performance and goals set. Make sure that you have been clear with each other about your expectations for the team and the goals you want reached.
- 3. Team as a core value** and grasping of individual roles within the team!

¹ MSG, Ecclesiastes 4:7-16.

² <http://www.socyberty.com/Death/Last-Words-of-Dying-Workaholics.53258>

³ <http://quotes-motivational-inspirational.blogspot.com/search/label/Einstein%20Quotes>

⁴ http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/keywords/alone_2.html

Find people that value being a part of a team. John Wayne is dead there are no "high plains drifters" in business!

4. Leverage the best gifts of the team.

Value and employ each other's strengths and work to avoid each other's weaknesses! Leader's should staff for their weaknesses.

5. Emotionally healthy communication between teammates.

Insist on having a process for resolving conflicts that allows for confrontation and healthy forms of communication.

6. Allowance is made for creative nonsense!

Give your teams the right to be free to think and act outside the box. Allow yourself to be seen as a "learner."

7. Accountability for team efforts – rewards, redo's, and responsibility for failures.

Hold your teammates responsible for all that they do. If what is accomplished is good reward them. If what they have done doesn't cut it, redo it. If what they did wasn't sufficient and the team failed you have to call role!

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Round Table:

What are the dangers of being alone?
What are the dangers of being on a team?
Which is the greater danger?

