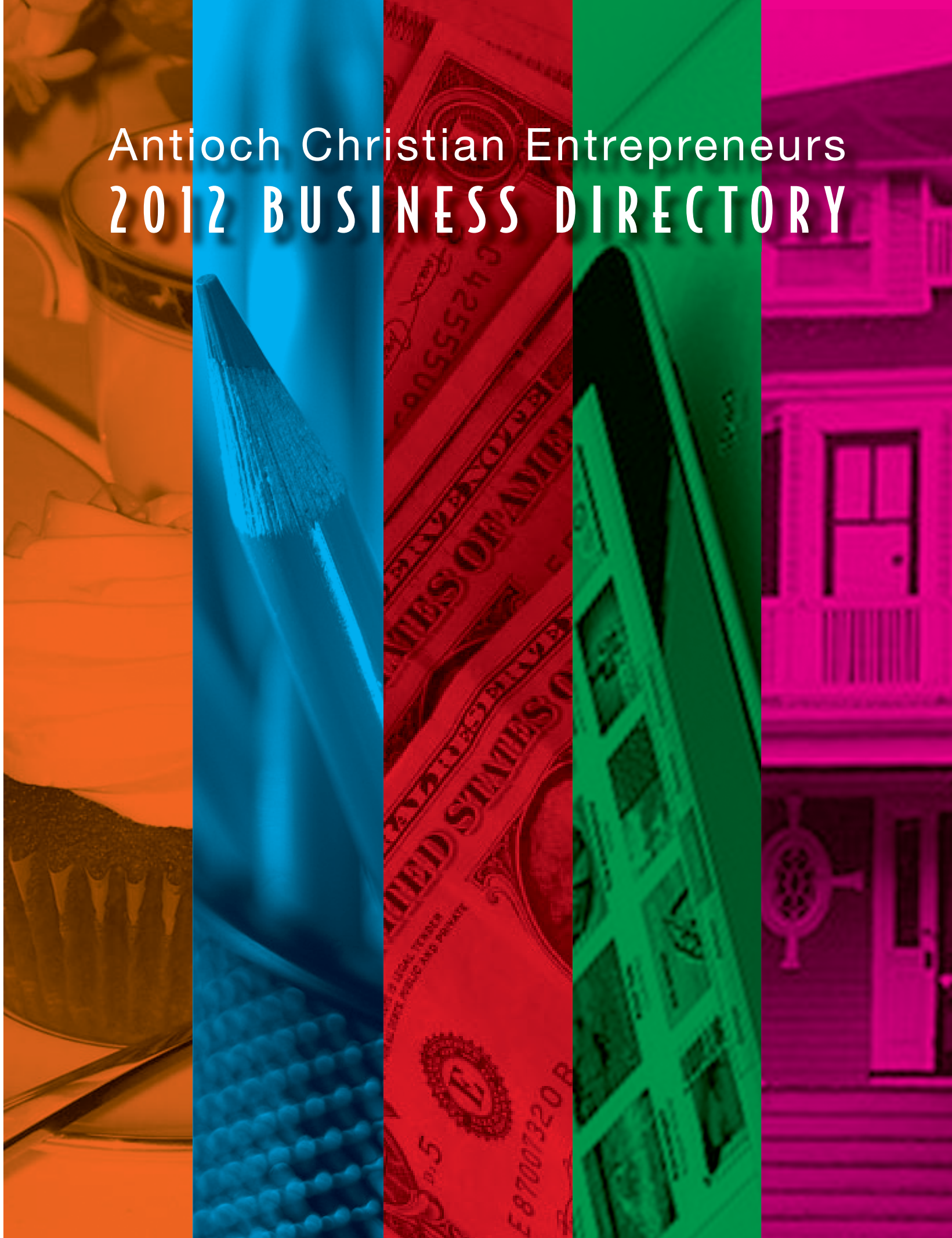




Antioch Christian Entrepreneurs 2012 BUSINESS DIRECTORY

A Message From The Pastor

My Brothers and Sisters:



As pastor, I am delighted to share with you the new ***Antioch Christian Entrepreneurs 2012 Business Directory***. Sharing information, knowledge, and service have become distinguishing hallmarks of the Antioch Christian Entrepreneurs (ACE). With the publication of this sixth edition of the ACE Business Directory, the ACE legacy of service continues as a benefit to the Antioch Congregation and to Antioch's many community families and friends. This directory represents an outpouring of heart and hard work and every member of ACE is to be commended for their outreach and willingness to serve Antioch and the greater Atlanta community.

Founded in 1993 to support, promote, and encourage business development and the entrepreneurial spirit among members of the Antioch Congregation, ACE celebrates almost two decades as an outreach organization.

ACE strives to remain current and focused in its mission to support the businesses within our congregation, while connecting these businesses and services to the people in our congregation and in our surrounding communities.

I encourage the entire congregation to support the businesses and service organizations that are listed in the directory as they are owned and operated by members of our church family. Our support and encouragement will empower and help these entrepreneurs achieve economic stability as they grow their businesses and strengthen their resolve in delivering excellence in their business products.

As pastor, I applaud ACE for being Antioch's unique training source of promising and establishing resources to promote business development and growth. Congratulations and thank you for providing this new and revised edition of the ACE Business Directory for our Congregational Family.

Yours in God's service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cameron Alexander'.

Reverend Cameron M. Alexander
Pastor



Neither ACE nor Antioch Baptist Church North assumes responsibility or liability for the services rendered by entrepreneurs advertised in this directory.

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Adrienne is currently working on her Life Coach Certification (completion 9/10) and Doctorate in Divinity which will be completed 2011. Adrienne believes in Empowering clients to heal and short term solution focused therapy. Areas of interest include; Cultural Specific Therapy, Play Therapy, Spirituality and 12 Step Work. Populations: Children, Adolescents, Women, Geriatric clients and Military families.

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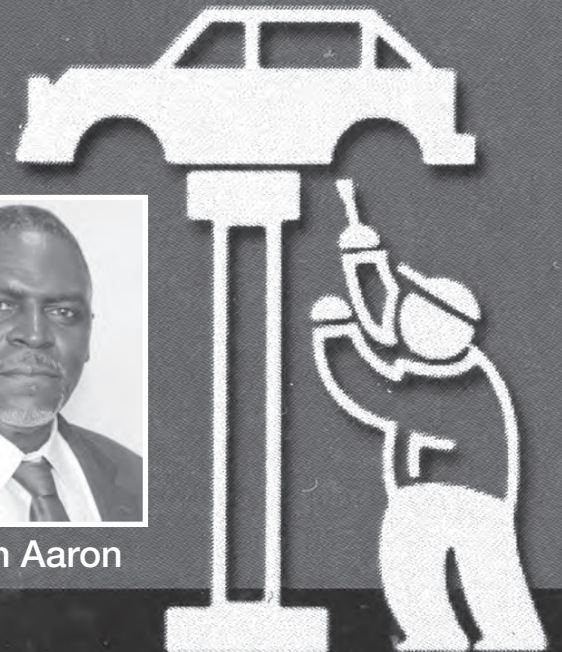
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*Everything has
its beauty, but not
everyone sees it.*

Capturing your thoughts in writing not only helps clarify them for you, it also helps clarify them for others. If you're looking to have your best year ever, start writing down how that's going to happen and what things you have to do to make it happen. Begin to write a game plan, and list the people who can help you and the ways they can help you.

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prayer, believing, ye shall receive.

Matt 21:22

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ACE joins Rev. and Sis. Darrell Arnold to visit the sick and shut-in.

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Psalm 145:18

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**everything will be ok
in the end.**

**if i's not okay,
it's not the end.**



ACE visits Bro. Bill Clement at historic Atlanta Life Insurance.

7 Tips for Starting

With flat job numbers and few solutions to get Americans back to work, starting your own business can be your path to financial recovery.

1. Be Clear on Why You Want to Start a Business

While the idea of starting a business may be daunting, the fatigue of looking for a job may be even greater. Taking control of your working life by venturing out on your own may be scary, but doing nothing can be worse. That said, don't start a business because you've run out of options. If you're truly interested in doing your own thing and you're ready to go for it with gusto, then small business ownership can be the most frustration and the most freeing avenue—with the possibility of the greatest financial security.

2. Determine Your Business Type

You don't have to reinvent the wheel. The best idea for you may be tried and true with your personal twist. When I started Women For Hire 12 years ago, career fairs were a dime a dozen -- still are. I put my spin on the category by focusing on women and I created a very successful business. Today I'm doing the same thing with my new venture -- Spark & Hustle. I'm putting my twist based on my experiences on helping current and aspiring small business owners to launch and grow their businesses. Take a look around and you'll see no shortage of repeatable ideas: People buy cupcakes, we all get haircuts, everyone likes some kind of jewelry, at some point plenty of homes need plumbers. Competitors can co-exist quite successfully. You

just have to execute your version really well. So nail your idea -- and keep in mind that a service business (a service you provide based on your expertise) is much less expensive to launch than a product business where it costs money to create a tangible good.

3. Create a Simple Business Plan

Most new aspiring business owners think they're supposed to sit down and write a detailed and lengthy business plan, making all sorts of wild assumptions about how much money you'll make in five years, and so on. Some people worry so much about dotting every "i" and crossing every "t" until their plan is just perfect, they never start their business. For a basic business, I favor a one-page business plan that covers what you offer, who you're targeting, how much you'll charge and what you'll do to make it happen. It's a fluid process that will change once you dive in, so keep it simple at the start.

4. Nail Your Target Customer

Determine exactly who your customers are with great specificity. If you're creating a skin cream, don't say "all women" or "everyone with skin" could buy from you. Is it targeted to women who visit a dermatologist for monthly facials or to women who grab anything from the drug store aisles? Your ingredients, process,

ing Your Own Business

packaging and pricing will all determine who the customer is. Be specific: I'm going to provide bookkeeping services for restaurants; I'm going to create social media campaigns for self-published authors. The more you can pinpoint your targeted client, the more focused your marketing efforts will be to reach them. You'll be able to ask for the right referrals and you'll know who and what to search for on the Internet.

5. Perfect Your Pricing

Your pricing shouldn't just cover your costs; it must also generate a profit for your business. Don't undervalue your time and talent, which is a classic mistake. One option is to work the numbers from the top down: What are you looking to make annually? How does that break down monthly and weekly? How many products must you sell or how many clients will you need to bring in to meet those numbers? What are all of the costs associated with delivering that product or service? None of this requires fancy charts or advanced accounting skills. Plan around with the numbers so you know what's realistic as you get going—and revisit your numbers monthly.

6. How to Find Start-Up Money

Until you start bringing in sales, you must keep costs down. Think creatively: it would be great to rent a fancy commercial kitchen to bake those cupcakes, but use a cheap or free church or community kitchen in off-hours instead. I worked with a woman to launch a series of art classes for kids, but she didn't have money

for supplies. The solution: she required parents to purchase the supplies and pay for the courses upfront. Forget hiring a full staff; ask friends for help and train interns. Barter for key services.

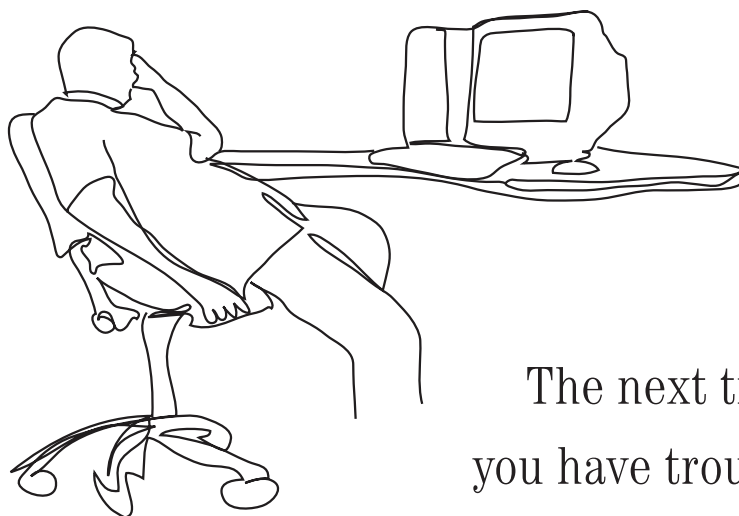
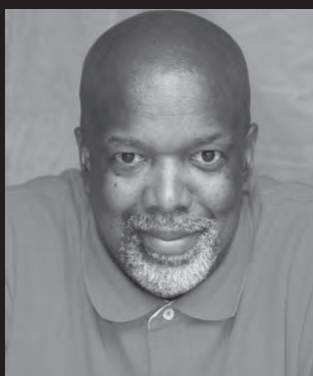
If tapping personal savings isn't an option or if you need a more creative financing option, one of the fastest growing now is crowdfunding, which allows your network of friends and family to contribute to your start up costs if they like you and want to support your small business idea.

7. Go Out and Get Customers

This is where the magic happens. Nothing else matters if you don't have customers. The majority of your time and effort must focus on sales. Having a smart marketing plan to attract interested people, and then convert them to customers is your number one priority. Don't get overwhelmed about how to dive in: just start where you are. Create a list of 50 potential prospects that you'll go after and begin making calls one by one. Build a serious social media presence for your business where you can engage directly with your target market.

Dreaming about how fabulous your business can be is good; but doing some to get it there is sensational. It's all about the hustle: the decisions you make and the actions you take each and every day – that'll get you where you want to go.

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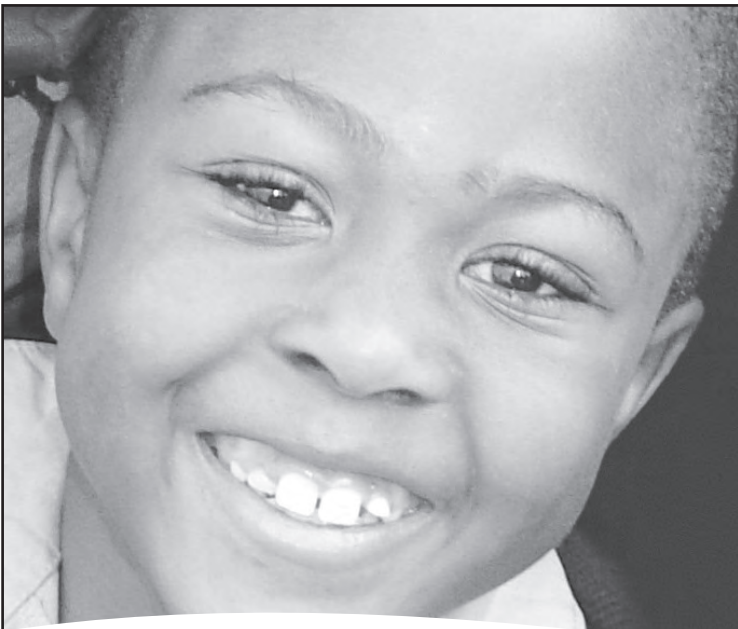
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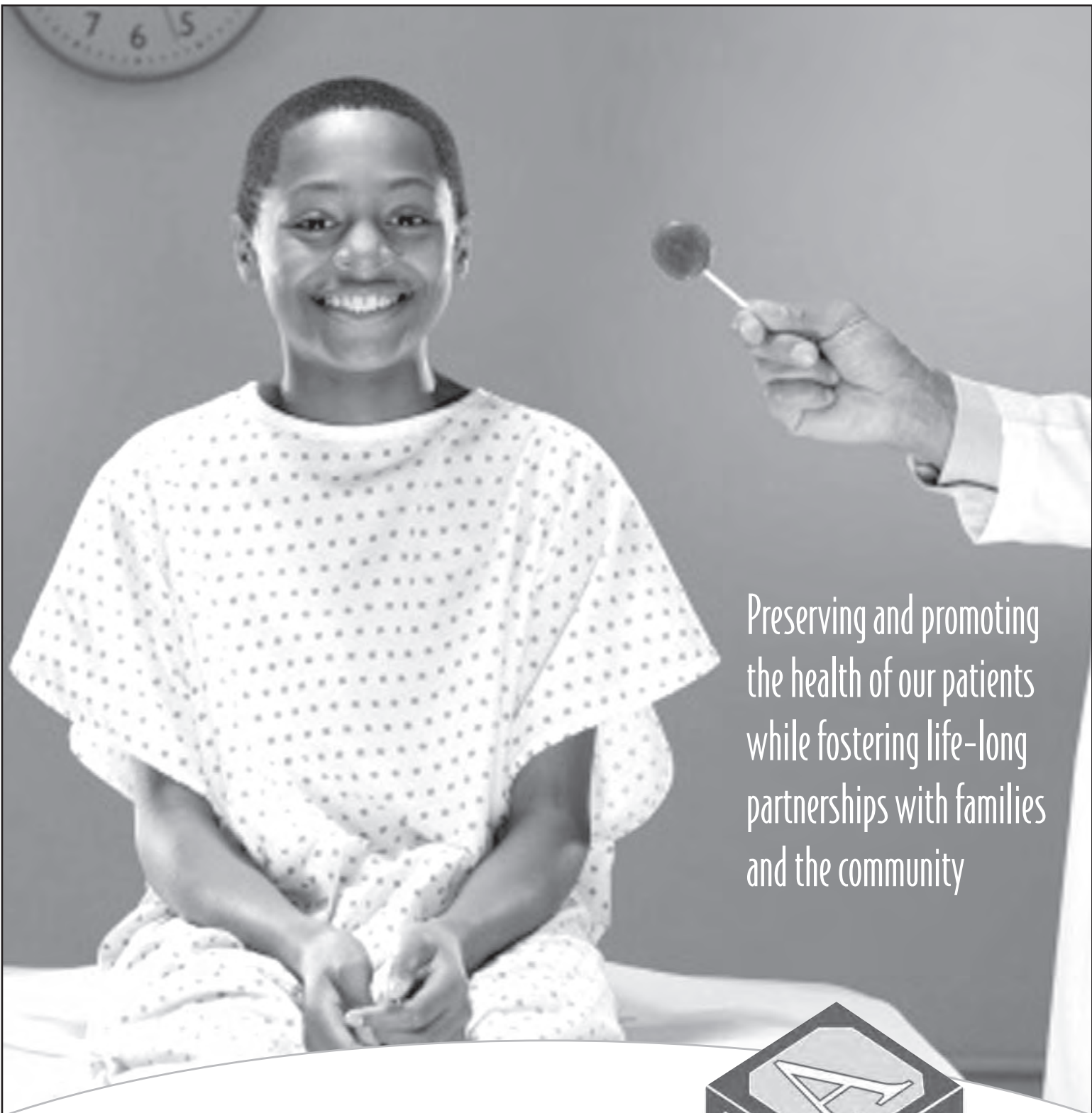
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everything. Tell God what
you need, and thank him
for all he has done.

Philippians 4:6

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BIBLE FACTS

What is the shortest chapter in the Bible?

Answer: Psalm 117

What is the longest chapter in the Bible?

Answer: Psalm 119

Which chapter is in the center of the Bible?

Answer: Psalm 118

Fact: There are 594 chapters before Psalm 118.

Fact: There are 594 chapters after Psalm 118.

Add these numbers up and you get 1188.

What is the center verse in the Bible?

Answer: Psalm 118:8

Does this verse say something significant about God's perfect will for our lives? The next time someone says they would like to find God's will for their lives, just send them to the center of His Word!

Psalm 118:8 "It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man."

Get up earlier. I hate sleeping. I think it's a waste of time. At some point in the next 30 or 40 years, I will be asleep permanently. Until then, I consider every waking moment an opportunity to accomplish something.

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ACE SUPPORT



ACE supports Sister Barbara J. Alexander as she is honored by the Trumpet Awards Foundation as one of this area's phenomenal first ladies!

Love what you do — and your business will succeed

Having your own business in today's economic environment is difficult. There are so many obstacles to overcome. However, there are four key building blocks that when followed can lead to great success and personal freedom. Miss any one and your chances of success diminish greatly. The four are as follows:

1. Know exactly why you are in business.

You are here to serve your customers, provide a benefit that will produce tremendous value and also provide them with more than what they expect. Begin by replacing the phrase, "How does this benefit me?" with "How does this benefit my customer?"

Everything that we receive comes from us having served. As Andrew Carnegie, one of the founders of the American Steel Industry said, "No man can become rich without himself enriching others."

2. Make yourself and your company hard to replace. The harder you are to replace, the bigger the reward.

Imagine a triangle. When you provide your customers with unlimited service and have a uniqueness that distinguishes your company from your competition, you position yourself at the top or point of the triangle alone from your competition. You're harder to replace. Your customers will be loyal and unlikely to entertain offers from your competition to switch. Companies at the bottom of the triangle are among the masses, indistinguishable from one another and much easier to replace.

3. Be unique. Different is good.

In today's economic environment, it is vital that you do things differently from the masses. You have to fill a special niche if you want to be successful and thrive. If I'm a potential customer and I asked you these three questions, you should be able to answer them:

- What separates you from your competition?
- Why should I buy from you over your competitors?
- What makes you more valuable?

4. Love what you do.

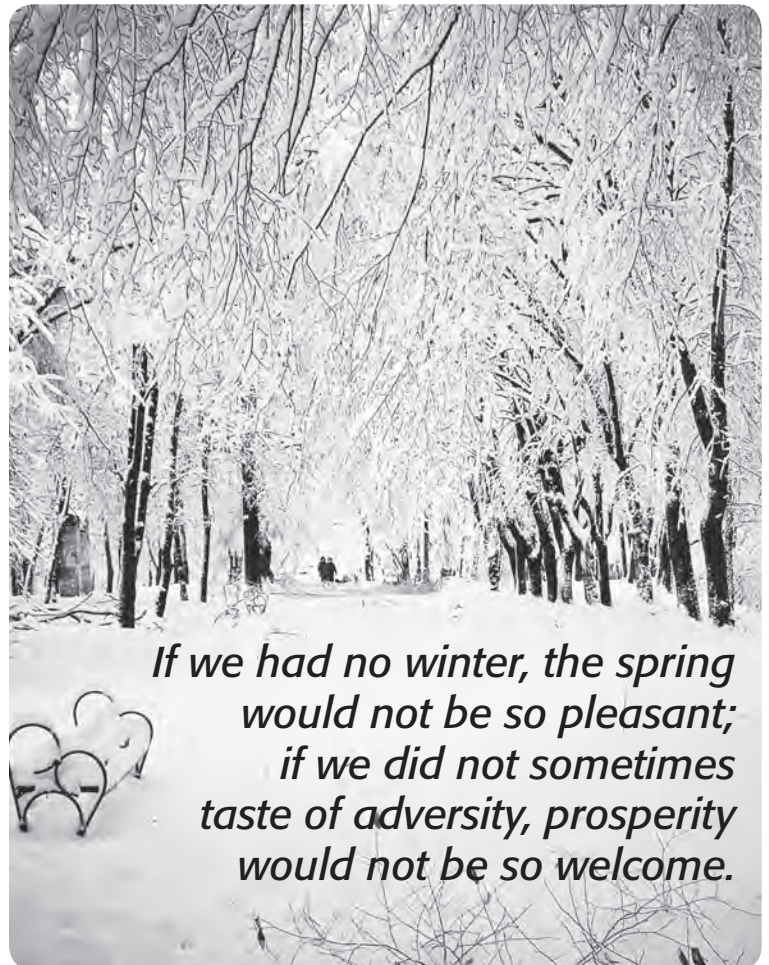
Business owners that love what they do become more immersed in their work. They enjoy serving others and it shows. And when things get difficult or they encounter rough times they're the ones that remain positive and find solutions that will guide them to riches.

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if we did not sometimes
taste of adversity, prosperity
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If life happens to deliver a situation to you that you cannot handle, do not attempt to resolve it. Kindly put it in the SFGTD (Something For God To Do) box. All situations will be resolved, but in My time, not yours.

Once the matter is placed into the box, do not hold onto it by worrying about it. Instead, focus on all the wonderful things that are present in your life now.

If you find yourself stuck in traffic; Don't despair. There are people in this world for whom driving is an unheard of privilege.

Should you have a bad day at work; Think of the man who has been out of work for years.

Should you despair over a relationship gone bad; Think of the person who has never known what it's like to love and be loved in return.

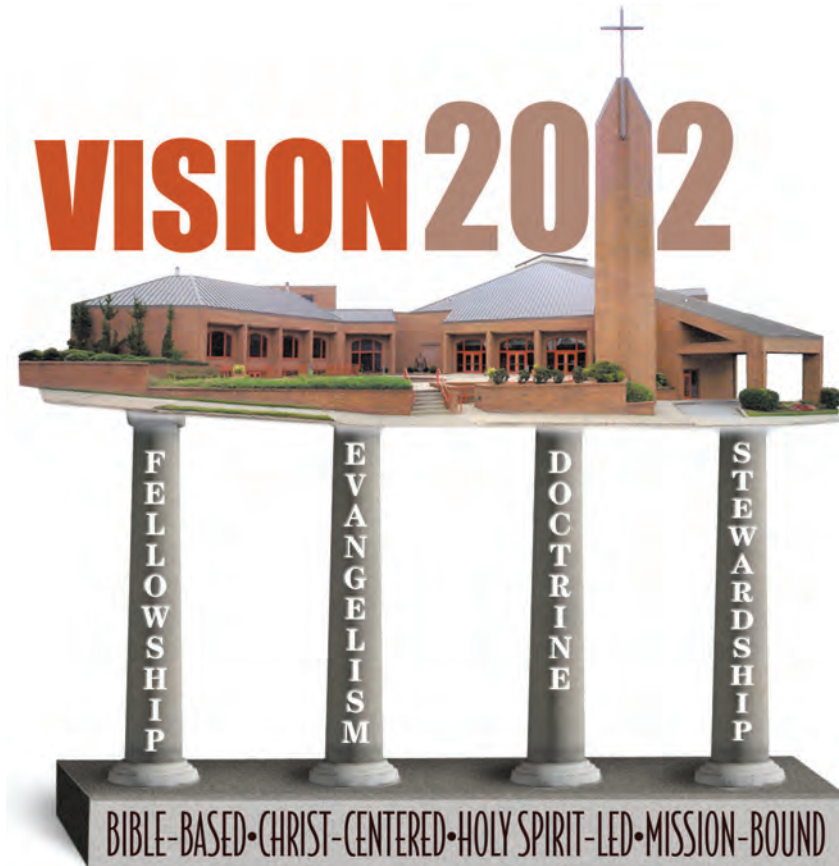
Should you grieve the passing of another weekend; Think of the woman in dire straits, working twelve hours a day, seven days a week to feed her children.

Should your car break down, leaving you miles away from assistance; Think of the paraplegic who would love the opportunity to take that walk.

Should you notice a new gray hair in the mirror; Think of the cancer patient in chemo who wishes she had hair to examine.

Should you find yourself at a loss and pondering what is life all about, asking what is my purpose? Be thankful. There are those who didn't live long enough to get the opportunity.

Should you find yourself the victim of other people's bitterness, ignorance, smallness or insecurities; Remember, things could be worse. You could be one of them!



*Where there is no vision, the people perish:
but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.*

Proverbs 29:18

Antioch Baptist Church North

Rev. C. M. Alexander, Pastor

Bible-based • Christ-centered • Holy Spirit-led • Mission-bound

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