

AUGUST 20 & 27, 2026

Running Out of Steam

Session 6 — At Work with God

The question we're asking: What do I do when my business needs something from me that I'm just not wired to give?

But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

Ephesians 4:7 (ESV)

IF WE'RE HONEST

We get pulled in all kinds of directions as an entrepreneur. Your investors, team, customers, and the changing realities of the marketplace all make demands of you. Sometimes it seems like you have to be a chameleon changing colors multiple times every day. No matter what kind of business you are in, the demands can be exhausting.

A few of the things you have to do for your business take the biggest toll on your energy and focus. It feels impossible to be all of the things you need to be with excellence. Think about someone building a service business — their customers expect quality, caring service; their employees want highly organized systems so they can serve customers seamlessly; the market demands efficiency and the lowest cost per unit. The list goes on, and each requirement demands something different from the leader.

Always be a first-rate version of yourself instead of a second-rate version of somebody else.

Judy Garland

This pressure to be different things for different people is one of the reasons stress and burnout are so high among entrepreneurs. The truth is that every person carries a unique mixture of graces that make them well-suited for some elements of their work. Realizing you have specific gifts and talents is an important step toward also seeing that those gifts have corresponding areas in which you don't have natural strengths.

Two Places the Market Grows You

As a Jesus-following entrepreneur, the demands of the market lead to two areas of maturity:

- **Stretch for Maturity** — stepping into new ways of serving helps you stretch to become more like Jesus. Many personality tests tell us only to do our strengths, but stretching into our weaknesses makes us rely on God and become more mature in His image.
- **You weren't designed to do it alone** — you need the right other people to join your team so that those you serve get more of what they need. Finding the right team members isn't just about job roles or talents; it's also about gifting.

Some people are graced with the ability to create belonging, systems, vision, winning stories, and more. Teams organized by the unique grace or gifts they carry are much stronger and can actually demonstrate God's character more effectively.

KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING

- 1 What are some areas of your work where doing the work gives you energy and joy? If others see the benefit as well, these may be areas of special grace in your life.
- 2 Consider some areas of your work where what's being required is truly exhausting. Is this an opportunity to stretch and grow, or a season to recognize and unleash someone else's gift?
- 3 Who can you spend time with who has a strength that you can learn from?

MORE ON THE TABLE

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

James 1:17 (ESV)

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ... Each one should test their own actions. Then they can take pride in themselves alone, without comparing themselves to someone else, for each one should carry their own load.

Galatians 6:2-4 (NIV)

See, I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri... and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills... Also I have given ability to all the skilled workers to make everything I have commanded you.

Exodus 31:1-6 (NIV)