



# THE SWORD

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# The GOD Factor



On a sunny Monday, Mr. Johnson, in a conference meeting with staff, appreciated their efforts and encouraged them to keep working hard mainly because the company's slogan is "hard work really pays." Francis, one of the staff members, muttered silently, "And God factor," but everyone ignored him.



Immediately after the meeting.

PETER: I have noticed a change in your reaction since the boss spoke about hard work.

FRANCIS: That bothers me; he acclaims every success to "hard work," removing the God factor, and he is a Christian.





**PETER:** Don't start again. God or no God, our hard work and diligence are speaking. Proverbs 22:29 says, "Seest thou a man diligent in his business? He shall stand before kings; He shall not stand before mean men." So, what are you talking about?

**FRANCIS:** Diligence outside God doesn't last. Anyone who overlooks the hand of God in their success will work in vain.

**PETER:** Please spare me—your success is the result of your hard work. Just continue to pray for him. Let's go, it is almost 2 pm.



Mr. and Mrs. Johnson Jones' two grown-up children, Sandra and Steve, are pressing their phones individually in the living room.

MR. JOHNSON: Hello, dears. At least give us a hug, or else we won't give you what we got for you (The children drop their phones to hug their parents ). So, you came to hug us because of gifts. Anyway, Mr. Peter will deliver your new iPhones tomorrow. Stop this behavior now. We are doing this to make you happy,

SANDRA & STEVE: We are sorry, daddy and mummy.





Mrs. Johnson calls her friend's attention to a MacBook picture in the magazine and talks about why she gets the best appliances for her children.

MRS. DAVIDS: My friend, but getting them everything is not good.

MRS. JOHNSON: If it is not good, is it restraining them from things that is good? I don't want them to start begging people for things.

MRS. DAVIDS: The Bible says in Proverbs 22:6, "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it."





PETER: I just returned from the D&D Company, and one of my friends made me understand that we have a great competitor.

MR. JOHNSON: Oh, are you serious?

PETER: I think we need to pray as we are working on the presentation

MR. JOHNSON: Forget prayer; we need more hands; get me Francis and another person you know can work overtime. We need to put more effort into the presentation to win the contract.



On a Saturday, it is past nine at night, and the room is silent and dark. Mrs. Johnson enters Sandra's room and turns on the light to check her bed. She saw a blanket covering her body and assumed her daughter was fast asleep; as she was about to turn off the light, she noticed something strange about the blanket, so she approached the bed and took it off. She was shocked and disappointed to see a pillow under the blanket. She turns off the light and leaves the room.





She immediately rushes to Steve's room and finds him lying on the floor, drunk in a stupor with bottles of alcoholic beverages everywhere. She weeps as she clears the room and drags him to his bed.



Mrs. Johnson is in the kitchen, thinking, crying, and lamenting over the children's behavior. As she stands to pray, her husband walks in. She tells him about the children not giving her peace but worsening after teaching them so much.





Mr. Johnson is surprised that that is why she is crying.

MRS. JOHNSON: We have been praying for them since, yet no changes. We counseled them and reproved them, yet there were no changes.

MR. JOHNSON: My dear, we will not relent. Please, let's go back to bed. I must get to the office early in the morning.



EVERYONE: Cheers!

MR. JOHNSON: We have another contract that will fetch us more money with little effort, and it is a company we have been working for, so you all should be relaxed. I want you all to chorus our slogan (Everyone loudly choruses except Francis): "HANDWORK IS THE ONLY SECRET TO SUCCESS."

MR. JOHNSON: That is great; always emphasize "the only."





Weeks later. Mr. Johnson is soliloquizing in his office with a sad voice.

**MR. JOHNSON:** I can't believe I lost this contract; I was too sure we would win it. It's so sad they gave the contract to a company that started last year. (He hears a knock at the door. He tries to compose himself, but he can't hide his sadness) come in.



FRANCIS: Sir, I just received a call from D&D Company...Sir, I hope all is well; your mood is the opposite. Please tell me.

MR. JOHNSON: Can you believe we lost the contract we bided for?

FRANCIS: Not again

MR. JOHNSON: It's fi.. (Becomes conscious of what Francis just said), not again? What happened?

FRANCIS: Sir, I got a call, D&D has shut down and canceled all contracts.





MR. JOHNSON: What! All my money... (He faints)

FRANCIS: Sir! Please help, please help!



MRS. JOHNSON: We gave you everything you needed, including what you don't ask for so that you won't be wayward;

SANDRA: Mummy, we are sorry.

MRS. JOHNSON: Shut that your mouth. I am tired of hearing sorry; it has become your anthem. It makes no meaning to me again.





Mrs. Johnson stands up in anger and leaves.

STEVE: Dad, we are sorry.

MR. JOHNSON: As your mother said, stop saying sorry; change for the better, and we will know you are genuinely sorry.



**SANDRA:** Why the tension? After all, we are better than Ken and his siblings; they leave their house for days, partying, drinking, and sleeping in hotels.

**STEVE:** See your life; we need new strategies.

**SANDRA:** That's correct. Let's re-strategize; we will know what to do.





PETER: I am sure you are better now, sir.

MR. JOHNSON: Thanks. I'm weak, but I will be fine once I use my prescription. Any good news, please?

PETER: I'm afraid sir, but let's be hopeful

FRANCIS: Please forget about work and let's focus on your health. Make sure you recover soon; we all miss you at work.



FRANCIS: Sir, something dropped in my spirit. I have a word for you.

MR. JOHNSON: You know I am a Christian too.

FRANCIS: know, sir, but there is one thing you are not doing.

MR. JOHNSON: What is that, please? I hope it will save my business.

FRANCIS: Have you ever thought of entrusting your business to the Lord?





He wonders why he needs to do that. After all, he is a Christian, prays for his family, and works regularly.

MR. JOHNSON: Entrust? But God is aware I am running a business.

FRANCIS: Yes, but He also minds His business. He doesn't go beyond His boundary; if you don't call Him, He won't interfere, and once you entrust your business to Him, He will give you all-round rest on it, and lines will begin to fall unto you in pleasant places.

MR. JOHNSON: I never thought of this; I only believe in hard work.



He listens attentively as Francis answers him. Francis tells him he needs to commit everything to God in prayer and ask God to take over from him so he can have rest over them.

**FRANCIS:** Yes, I know. Hard work without a God-factor; even if you get results, it will only last for a while. But with the God factor, you will know that wise work is better and will have great productivity due to God's favor. He will make things so easy for you with little effort. He is the best you can ever partner with; entrust everything to him, and you will be settled.





MR. JOHNSON: God bless you for this. I have never thought of it; I believe that once I am born again, that's all. How do you think I should go about it?

FRANCIS: Since you have given your life to Him, tell Him in prayers, and He will step into your affair. Your business will become His business.

MR. JOHNSON: Hmm, thanks a lot. I am grateful. I will now.

FRANCIS: Let me leave now, sir.



A few weeks later. Mr. Johnson's family returns from church joyfully.

**SANDRA:** Mummy, you have been smiling since we left for church.

**MRS. JOHNSON:** Yes, I am just happy for the turnaround the Lord gave this family.

**MR. JOHNSON:** Yes, I am glad we followed my friend's recommendation that we should entrust you to God's hand and that He will give us rest.

**MRS. JOHNSON:** So we prayed and never bothered about that again. Sooner than expected, we saw the result beyond our expectations.





In Mr. Johnson's office. He picks up a phone call, doesn't utter any word, but opens his mouth wide in amazement. He ends the call with tears as he drops the phone on the table. After a while, he becomes conscious of where he is.



**MR. JOHNSON:** I just received a call from the manager of D&D company that half of the money of the project that was canceled had been approved before they shut down, and their shutting down was not as a result of finances, but they had an issue with some things he wouldn't want to disclose

**FRANCIS & PETER:** Praise the Lord!

**FRANCIS:** This is the Lord's doing. It is marvelous in our sight.

**MR. JOHNSON:** I never expected this; I have taken my mind off it (his phone beeps). Please excuse me (Mr Johnson gets a text with another good news).





FRANCIS: This is a double blessing.

PETER: This must be the “God factor” you have been talking about.



MR. JOHNSON: Yes. Our new slogan is "God first, and everything else follows."





**MR. JOHNSON:** Indeed, "Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: Except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain." Thank you, Jesus!

## Conclusion

When we seek God first, everything else falls into place. He is faithful to provide for our needs, guide us on the right path, and bless us beyond measure.

Jesus himself teaches us in Matthew 6:33 to set kingdom priorities. Knowing that God guides our steps, I'm confident that my being a Realtor aligns with His purpose for my life and allows me to fulfill His calling. Here, I've experienced the blessings of finding fulfilling clients, closing successful deals, and contributing to a positive community through real estate.

Just recently, when faced with a challenging negotiation, I turned to God for guidance, and through His grace, we reached a mutually beneficial agreement that exceeded all expectations.

Moments like this remind me that when we honor Him in all our ways (Proverbs 3:6), He guides us along the best pathways for our lives and nurtures us through it all (Psalm 32:8).

Shalom,  
Temi Falana  
Flaming Sword Ministries.

Dear Reader,

We hope you have been blessed by this bulletin. You may visit our YouTube channel @Flaming Sword Movies to watch “Entrust”, the video recording of this piece that you’ve just read.

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