

TRUSTED ADVISORS

A peer group program for Christian business leaders from CBMC

“Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.” – 1 Thes 5:11

The Purpose of the Trusted Advisors Program:

CBMC Peer Advisory Groups help Christian business leaders realize and fulfill God’s call on their lives, whether in their home, church, community, or business through these processes:

To equip Christian business leaders to experience their leadership role through a “Christian Workview”, fully integrating Biblical principles into everyday life including their business.

To encourage Christian business leaders to use their spheres of influence and business relationships to influence the culture and share their faith where appropriate (1 Corinthians 10:31-33; 2 Corinthians 10:13-16).

As business leaders, we don’t assign a responsibility to an employee without providing the proper tools to complete the task, yet, in regards to ministry in the marketplace, many Christian business leaders are unequipped. They often find themselves floundering on how to integrate their faith and work, and how to share their faith with others.

To focus Christian business leaders in understanding the Biblical perspective as it relates to organizational and personal time, talent, and treasure (1 Chronicles 29:11-12, 1 Timothy 6:17-19).

CBMC helps Christian business leaders to be good stewards of their organization, helps them understand the Biblical perspective as it relates to business relationships, and provides wise Christian counsel relating to specific business issues.

To develop life-on-life relationships within the marketplace that impact the whole person (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Colossians 1:28-29).

The Structure of the Trusted Advisors Program:

- A group of 8-12 committed Christian business leaders (owners, presidents, CEOs, COO’s)
- A group of peers but with diversity in terms of size of business, experience, expertise, etc.
- A confidential group from non-competing businesses.
- A group committed to the idea of serving one another and growing together.
- A group that desires to grow as Godly men, Godly leaders, and grow their businesses to be both successful economic enterprises as well as a ministry of the gospel.
- A group that meets monthly for 3-5 hours to learn, pray, and work with each other on personal and business issues.
- A group that wants to benefit from the peer group experience under the guidance of a trained, volunteer facilitator.

The Benefits of the Trusted Advisors Program:

CBMC Peer Advisory Groups provide opportunities for Christian business leaders to receive godly counsel from others with similar business responsibilities. The members meet faithfully to help each other apply Biblical principles to the everyday operation of their businesses. It's like a Christian board of advisors. Peer Advisory Groups are formed on the following framework of characteristics:

- 1. Godly Counsel** — drawing on the wisdom, giftedness, and experience of the members in your group. Godly counsel is a major theme of the book of Proverbs.
 - a. Proverbs 9:8-9 — a wise man welcomes instruction and reproof
 - b. Proverbs 10:17 — heed instruction
 - c. Proverbs 11:14 — no guidance = failure
 - d. Proverbs 12:15 — a wise man listens to advice
 - e. Proverbs 13:18 — whoever heeds correction is honored
 - f. Proverbs 15:12 — a scoffer will not consult the wise
 - g. Proverbs 15:22 — without counsel plans go wrong
 - h. Proverbs 19:20 — listen to advice and gain wisdom
 - i. Proverbs 20:18 — make plan by seeking advice
 - j. Proverbs 24:6 — multiple counsel = safety
- 2. Accountability** — support and encouragement to gain the courage to follow through on tough decisions and issues as they arise.
 - a. “Do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others” (Philippians 2:4 NASB).
 - b. Since God will ultimately hold us accountable, it would be wise to ask for accountability from fellow believers now (Romans 14:12, Matthew 12:36).
 - c. Many parables illustrate God's standards for accountability (Matthew 18:23-35, Matthew 25:14-30, Luke 12:16-21, Luke 19:12-27).
- 3. Mutual Support** — receiving and giving understanding, empathy, and encouragement when facing both difficulties and opportunities.
 - a. “Anxiety in a man's heart weighs it down, but a good word makes it glad” (Proverbs 12:25 NASB).
 - b. “Encourage one another and build one another up, just as you also are doing” (1 Thessalonians 5:11 NASB).
- 4. Prayer** — experiencing the power and ministry of prayer both as a group and with individual members.
- 5. Confidentiality** — gaining trust and confidence in one another that comes with honesty and transparency in a confidential environment (Proverbs 25:9b-10).
- 6. Network** — Expand your personal and business relationships, so that you may draw wisdom from counsel beyond yourself. Listen to counsel and accept discipline, that you may be wise the rest of your days (Proverbs 19:20).

For more information, visit <http://neohio.cbmc.com/trustedadvisors> or contact Ken Vaughan, the Area Coordinator, Trusted Advisors, at neohio@cbmc.com.