Faith-Based Social Entrepreneurial Orientation: Abraham is an Entrepreneur Model in Society through Faith and Business

Tjerlang Munir1, Timotius Bakti Sarono2, John Katrin Klamber Hutabarat3, Sutrisno4
Sekolah Tinggi Teologi Moriah, Tangerang, Indonesia1,4
Sekolah Tinggi Teologi Bethel Nusantara, Jakarta, Indonesia2
Sekolah Tinggi Teologi Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia3
Email: petrahoney@gmail.com1

Abstract
This research investigates the relationship between religion, entrepreneurship, and social impact, using Abraham’s life as an example of how these aspects can collaborate to bring about positive change in the world. Abraham’s example shows how faith and business can coexist and impact the lives of his employees. As a result, Abraham is not only a role model for entrepreneurs but also an inspiration for individuals who want to make a meaningful impact on society through faith and business. This study emphasizes Abraham’s example of faith and persistent entrepreneurial spirit. The aim of this research is to provide inspiration and direction for individuals who wish to combine their religion and work to make the world a better place. This paper uses a qualitative library research method, meaning that the source of this writing uses literary sources both from books and online journals related to the figure of the entrepreneur Abraham. Thus, the author builds theory and constructs Abraham’s entrepreneurship and the relationship between faith and business.

Keywords: Abraham; Entrepreneurship, Faith, Business

INTRODUCTION

The notion of entrepreneurial has arisen as a method for instilling entrepreneurial behavior in existing businesses. Entrepreneurship is defined as a collection of diverse but linked behaviors characterized by innovativeness, proactiveness, competitive aggressiveness, risk taking, and autonomy. These activities are related to entrepreneurship because they help to design and execute innovative resource combinations to increase competitiveness and ease entrance into new markets.1 Abram was very rich in cattle, gold, and silver, according to Genesis 13. By the

time he had to rescue Lot in Genesis 14, he had about 300 skilled soldiers, who were probably trained in the use of weapons. In addition to his money, Abram was a businessman. This is seen in Genesis 13, when Abram and Lot parted ways, with Lot choosing to travel to the fertile plains. This site has been compared to the Garden of Eden. Abram was most likely sent to a less desirable and less productive zone, but he continued to thrive. As a result of his decision, Lot’s material and spiritual well-being suffered. He began prospering like his uncle Abram but ended up living in a cave (Genesis 19). After acquiring a smaller country, Abram’s wealth increased, as did his faith and walking with God. In Genesis 21, Abraham (as God calls him today) bargains with kings and generals. Abraham had faith and a vision of a God-given future, as well as the fortitude to leave his home, obey, and complete his task.

In many religious traditions, Abraham is held up as an example of effort and faith. Abraham is revered as the father of many nations and an example of faith and devotion to God in Christianity and Judaism. According to the Bible and Torah, God invited Abraham to leave his homeland and travel to a new place that God would reveal to him. Despite the difficulties and uncertainties of his journey, Abraham trusted God’s promise and went on to become a great leader and patriarch to his people. In the Bible, Abraham’s story is often associated with business and the idea of being a blessing to the world. In Genesis 12, God asked Abraham to leave his homeland and travel where God wanted him to go. He promised Abraham that he would be blessed so that he would be a blessing to all the people and nations of the world because of his faithfulness and obedience. Abraham had confidence and a God-given vision of the future, as well as the resilience to leave his home, obey, and complete his duties. His story is often given as an example of how religion and effort can combine to produce something meaningful and influential. Following in his footsteps, entrepreneurs can aspire to build companies that not only benefit themselves but others as well as others and contribute to the greater good. The Abrahamic Covenant reminds us that God’s promises are open to those who have faith and are ready to follow His call.

Abraham's story is often cited as an example of entrepreneurship because he readily took chances and accepted new possibilities to achieve his goals. He was also renowned for his generosity and hospitality, receiving foreigners and tourists into his home and treating them warmly and respectfully. The idea of being a blessing to the nation is directly related to entrepreneurship and trade in various religious traditions. Employers can help to improve the lives of others and contribute to the greater good by leveraging their talents and resources to generate jobs and support their communities. Overall, Abraham's narrative is often cited as an example of how religion and entrepreneurship can be used to affect positive change in the world. Entrepreneurs can make a real impact in the lives of others and contribute to creating a better future for everyone by following his example and aiming to be a blessing to the nation through their business.

Abraham was a wealthy cattle and cattle merchant in his day. He owns a lot of livestock and oversees a group of shepherd workers who take care of the animals on his behalf. Abraham's business allowed him to travel freely from one location to another as directed by God. He expanded his small cattle business into a larger company which encouraged him to hire another shepherd and his son. Abraham's success in raising his cattle required the help and administration of other workers to keep his business growing. Livestock rearing was a labor-intensive endeavor, and Abraham had to make sure that his sheep were healthy, strong, and safe. As a result, Abraham's business was cattle and animals, and he was a successful businessman of his time. Heslam is convinced that the convergence of entrepreneurship, religion and development can offer positive prospects for people and the world they inhabit.

Examining the relationship between faith, entrepreneurship, and social impact is crucial because it can help us understand how faith can motivate and guide entrepreneurs to build companies that benefit others and contribute to the greater good. Faith can offer a sense of purpose and meaning that goes beyond monetary gain.


6 Koshy and Qazi.


and can encourage entrepreneurs to start companies that benefit society. Social entrepreneurship is a growing subject that tries to apply commercial concepts to social and environmental issues. Many social entrepreneurs are inspired by their beliefs to start ventures that benefit their communities and the world around them. We can gain insight into how entrepreneurs can set up companies that are not only financially successful but also contribute to greater good by investigating the relationship between faith, entrepreneurship, and social impact. We can also learn how faith can motivate and encourage entrepreneurs to build businesses that benefit society and the environment.10

RESEARCH METHODS
This writing uses qualitative literature research methods, meaning that this writing source uses literary sources both from books and online journals related to the entrepreneurship of Abraham figures. Thus, the author constructs the theory and builds Abraham’s entrepreneurship and business relationships. The structure of this writing begins by discussing entrepreneurship theory, Abraham as a model of entrepreneurship and the role of Abraham’s faith in entrepreneurship. This research makes use of library research; hence, George argues that library research focuses on reviewing and interpreting data from selected journals. The library technique entails seeking and selecting a source that gives information or personal expert opinion on the research subject.11

RESULT AND DISCUSSION
Entrepreneurs who make social impact through Faith and Business
In the book World Encyclopedia of Entrepreneurship, Dana writes that people with diverse cultural and religious views view entrepreneurship with varying degrees of legitimacy. Entrepreneurship was viewed as unnatural and illegitimate by the Greek philosopher Aristotle (384-322 BC), a disciple of Plato and teacher of Alexander the Great (Aristotle, 1924). According to Becker, certain cultures consider business as an

10 Philip, Taylor, and W. Randy Evans.
evil activity. Woodrum (1985) found that involvement in religious activities predicts business success among Japanese Americans. Dana (1995a) and Lumpkin and Dess (1996) argue that the direction of small business is based on the values of entrepreneurs. The atmosphere of entrepreneurship, as well as entrepreneurial activities, is shaped by values and culture. According to Aldrich (1979), the environment can offer or hold resources.\textsuperscript{12} Similarly, people of different faith origins have various tendencies to become entrepreneurial.

Entrepreneurship is more than a goal or a mission; it is a way of life. People often associate entrepreneurship with simply owning a business, but the art of being entrepreneurial is about adopting a mindset and belief system that there is always a way to use creativity, passion, and inspired vision to create value in the world - or to improve something that already exists. Aside from apparently limitless zeal, entrepreneurs have the following characteristics quoted by Hugo from Pinkett:\textsuperscript{13}

1. Creativity, possessing an imaginative or intelligent attitude to events is referred to as creativity.
2. Resourcefulness, believing that he or she can convert nothing into something.
3. Courage, taking measured risks while retaining a pioneer attitude and the confidence that one can do anything.
4. Vision entails recognizing and seeking opportunities that others do not.
5. Perseverance, keeping a healthy acceptance of failure as a chance to learn and grow.

Entrepreneurs have a unique opportunity to pursue a mission that is consistent with who God is and how God created them. God is the first entrepreneur\textsuperscript{14}. If anyone knows what it’s like to invent and build something entirely new, it’s him. And we can see that He designed us from the beginning to take part in the entrepreneurial process: “The Lord God took man and placed him in the Garden of Eden to work and nurture him” (Genesis 2:15). The Lord immediately invited Adam to help care for and cultivate the Garden. Kaestner explains that God not only left Adam in Eden and told him to have fun but Adam was given the task and responsibility to work or be an entrepreneur:\textsuperscript{15}


\textsuperscript{15} Henry, J.D., and Ingram, Faith-Driven Entrepreneurship.
Mele explains in the same concept of "management" that natural resources, or "environmental stewardship" is also referred to in the Bible in the second narrative of Creation (Genesis 2). "The Lord God took the man and placed him in the Garden of Eden to manage and maintain him."\(^{16}\)

Deshmukh explains in relation to Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs relevant to entrepreneurs, that entrepreneurial activity seems to tend to promote entrepreneurial progress through Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs. Entrepreneurship provides the financial means to meet fundamental demands. Although it is difficult to justify security needs as mentioned in Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs regarding entrepreneurs, it can be safely said that these activities provide a means for entrepreneurs to gain social acceptance and self-esteem as entrepreneurs receive recognition for their work, which increases their confidence to do better. Furthermore, an entrepreneur can achieve success in business as the pinnacle of self-actualization.\(^{17}\)

Dodd argues that faith and effort have a complicated and interconnected relationship. An examination of the interaction between society, religion, and entrepreneurs reveals that religion serves as an environmental benefactor. Studies of the relationship between individual faith and entrepreneurship reveal that faith influences the entrepreneurial activities of its adherents by influencing entrepreneurial decisions, entrepreneurial management, and entrepreneurial contact networks.\(^{18}\) Judge and Douglas found that entrepreneurs’ faith-based practices seemed to influence their creativity, which helped startups overcome "novelty obligations." In effect, it shows that the relationship between knowledge and creativity goes beyond "secular" information or psychological consciousness to "sacred" knowledge.\(^{19}\)

Raco strengthened the relationship of faith in this case spirituality with entrepreneurship by saying spirituality increases the dedication of entrepreneurship to


grow their business, increases productivity and allows flexibility and creativity in both business strategy and implementation. It then goes on to say that spirituality fosters a sense of community among employees. Furthermore, employees state that because of their spirituality, they have a more positive attitude towards their work. Work is no longer considered a difficult job, but rather as entertainment and vocation. They can find significance in their lives through their work. Going on to say that work is no longer a burden but rather an enjoyable experience. It is a self-actualization effort where they can discover and live out their full potential.  

Abraham’s Faith as an Entrepreneur

Entrepreneurs are creators and builders who can see and take advantage of possibilities. Entrepreneur becomes someone who manages, manages, and bears business risks. Because an entrepreneur is an innovator, he takes advantage of various opportunities to make a profit, so that there is a change in both the goods and services produced and the expansion of market share. Abraham's main source of wealth as a nomadic shepherd was his sheep, which he exchanged for goods and services. He was also involved in other types of businesses, such as buying and selling property and negotiating access to water and grazing fields with neighboring tribes. Among Abraham's business pursuits and economic contributions are:

1. Trade in cattle: Abraham's flock of sheep, goats, and cattle were precious commodities that he exchanged for food, clothing, and other necessities. In addition, he took advantage of them to pay homage to the local king and form alliances with neighboring tribes.

2. Abraham acquired property in Canaan, including the field of Machpelah, which served as the burial place of him and his family. He also dug a well and built a temple on the land to prove its existence and ownership.

3. Abraham and his family were famous for their hospitality and generosity to tourists and foreigners alike. They provided food, shelter, and security for people traveling through their territory, which contributed to their prestige and power.

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4. Right to water: Access to water is essential for survival and prosperity in an arid country. Abraham negotiated with the king and local tribes for access to wells and water supplies, and when necessary, dug his own wells.

According to biblical accounts, animals such as cows, sheep, and goats were the main source of Abraham's wealth. He is also said to have amassed large sums of money and gold through other means such as trade and conquest. In addition, Abraham was a skilled farmer who was able to cultivate the land in the area where he lived, which added to his wealth.

Abraham's faith impacted his economy in many ways. First, his faith gave him a purpose and meaning that went beyond financial gain, inspiring him to develop a business that not only benefited himself but also helped others and contributed to the greater good. Secondly, his religion gave him the strength and determination to pursue new projects and opportunities, which led to his success as an entrepreneur. Third, his obedience to God’s word and his commitment to God’s call were important parts of his faith that influenced his business practices. Abraham's faith allowed him to see the business world differently because he had to rely on God's word and leadership to find meaning, stability, and success.\(^{22}\)

Abraham's narrative is often offered as an example of how faith and business can combine to produce something important and lasting. Following in his footsteps, an entrepreneur will aspire to build a company that not only benefits themselves but also others and contributes to the greater good. As a result, Abraham's faith influenced his business practices by instilling in him a sense of purpose, courage, and perseverance, and shaping his obedience to God's word and reliance on God's instructions.

**Abraham as a Model of Entrepreneurship**

In the Bible, Abraham is often cited as an example of entrepreneurship. He was a leading businessman in the livestock and livestock industry at the time, owning many animals and overseeing a group of herding employees who handled livestock on his

As a corporate leader, Abraham had important characteristics such as faith, vision, tenacity, and follow-through. He was a diligent worker who was always looking for possibilities wherever he went on his way to the promised land. Abraham was open to new projects and possibilities, which made him successful as an entrepreneur. Because of the nature of his profession, Abraham was free to move from place to place according to God’s instructions.

Abraham was considered an important character in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, and was held up as an example of trust and loyalty. However, in addition to his spiritual legacy, Abraham’s life taught valuable entrepreneurial lessons. Here are some important elements in Abraham’s entrepreneurial journey to be seen as a figure of faith and entrepreneurship:

**Vision and goal setting:**

God called Abraham to leave his hometown and go to the new place God promised to give him and his descendants. It requires a clear vision, goal setting, and willingness to take risks to realize the vision. Abraham’s journey of faith is distinguished by a clear vision and goal setting, which is to follow God's call and go to the new place God promised to give him and his children. This required Abraham to have faith in God’s promises and take risks to realize his vision, including leaving his comfortable surroundings and embarking on an unknown journey. Abraham’s vision and goal setting serve as a model for entrepreneurship that needs to have strong goals and direction, as well as be prepared to take calculated risks, to achieve their goals. Smith believed that entrepreneurs’ religious identities are ultimately essential and may be contentious within the setting of a firm, entrepreneurs must decide whether to actively promote one’s spiritual identity or follow its goals without promoting it to others. Company founders make decisions on how to integrate their religious identities into the identities of their organizations, either directly in their mission and objectives or implicitly in how they support the values and beliefs of their faith in how they operate the firm.

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23 Gordon, “Abraham and the Merchants of Ura.”
**Risk Taking and Innovation:**

Abraham's religious path was full of difficulties and uncertainties, and he had to be resourceful and inventive to overcome them. For example, when faced with famine, Abraham traveled to Egypt and took advantage of the beauty of his wife Sarah to ensure their protection. Abraham's religious path was not without difficulties and uncertainties. Famine struck the country God had promised to give to him and his descendants, which was one of the challenges he faced. To live, Abraham had to think imaginatively and strategize. He went to Egypt, where there was food, but he was worried about how he and his wife would be treated in the new country. Abraham shows ingenuity and inventiveness in this scenario. He took advantage of his wife Sarah's appeal to ensure their safety. He told Sarah to disguise herself as his sister and introduce her to Pharaoh, who was fascinated by her beauty and welcomed her into his palace. Abraham's quick thinking saved their lives and provided them with food and other resources to help them survive the famine. These events demonstrate Abraham's ability to adapt to difficult situations and devise imaginative strategies to overcome them. Its intelligence and inventiveness serve as a model for entrepreneurs who must think outside the box to develop fresh and unique solutions to the problems they face in their corporate ventures.\(^{26}\) While the dimensions of innovation, risk-taking, and proactivity are more commonly used to entrepreneurship, also the dimensions of competitive aggressiveness and autonomy into the equation. However competitive aggressiveness, which is commonly referred to as proactivity, or autonomy.\(^{27}\)

**Adaptability and Resourcefulness:**

Abraham was able to adapt to changing circumstances and utilize the resources at his disposal to achieve his goals. When Abraham and his nephew Lot had to part ways because of disagreements about grazing land, Abraham chose a less attractive area and made the most of it. Another example, during the famine in Canaan, he was able to adjust by fleeing to Egypt, where there was food. Similarly, when securing property for

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his family proved difficult, he was able to strike a bargain with locals to get a piece of land.

What’s more, when God promised him a son, but his wife Sarah was barren, he was able to adjust to fathering a son, Ishmael, through Hagar, his wife’s servant. Later, when the Lord fulfilled His promise and gave Abraham and Sarah a son, Isaac, he was able to adjust once again by handling the difficult relationship between Isaac and Ishmael. Abraham was resourceful in exploiting the resources available to him to achieve his goals, in addition to his ability to adapt. He exploited his wife’s beauty, for example, to ensure their security in Egypt, and he used his money and position to establish himself as a leader in Canaan. He also showed his creativity in his agreement with God to save the city of Sodom from destruction, by exchanging the lives of the righteous people who lived there. Abraham's cleverness and adaptability enabled him to navigate the challenges and uncertainties of his faith journey and achieve his goals. This characteristic is very useful in entrepreneurship because the entrepreneur must be able to adapt to changing conditions and utilize available resources to achieve his business goals.

**Collaboration and Partnership:**

Abraham understood the value of collaboration and partnership in achieving his goals. He established relative Gerar and the other tribes and leaders, including King Abimelech of Gerar, and sought to build an inheritance with his wife Sarah and other family members. In Genesis 20, for example, Abraham allied with King Abimelech of Gerar when Abimelech acknowledged God’s power and mercy upon Abraham. This relationship guaranteed Abraham’s safety and resources while he was far away. Furthermore, Abraham worked closely with his wife Sarah and other family members to build a lineage and legacy that would continue to fulfill the Lord’s promise to him. Overall, Abraham’s success as an entrepreneur is due to his ability to work together, forge alliances, and work with others to achieve common goals, not just his unique talents and abilities.

**Persistence and Resilience:**

Perhaps most importantly, Abraham showed perseverance and resilience in the face of hardship after difficulty. Even when it seemed impossible or unreasonable, he
still believed in God’s promises and followed his instructions. Despite some obstacles and doubts, he maintained his faith in the Lord’s promises and followed His instructions. When he and his wife Sarah, for example, were unable to produce a child, they became frustrated and attempted to take matters into their own hands by having Abraham’s father a child with Sarah’s servant, Hagar. However, this caused family discord and did not fulfill God’s plan for Abraham’s inheritance. Despite these setbacks, Abraham remained steadfast and trusted in God’s plan. Sarah eventually gave birth to Isaac, fulfilling God’s promise to Abraham. When God asked Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac, he showed perseverance and tenacity. Even though this was a difficult and terrible request, Abraham remained firm in his faith and willingness to follow God’s commands.\(^{28}\)

Abraham’s faith was critical to his success as an entrepreneur. Abraham believed God’s promises and was ready to obey God’s call, even if it meant leaving his home and traveling to a new land. His faith gave him a purpose and meaning that went beyond financial gain, and it encouraged him to start a business that not only benefited himself but also others and contributed to the greater good. Abraham’s faith also gave him the strength and determination to embark on new initiatives and seek new opportunities, which helped him succeed as an entrepreneur. Abraham’s narrative is often offered as an example of how faith and business can combine to produce something important and lasting. After analyzing our data based on the five behavioral areas of interest, we realized the critical necessity of innovation capacity. This habit was noticed in various instances mentioned to us not only by Abraham but by the pastors, three of which are emphasized below. The first is the employment advertisement. As a means of attracting believers and potential members, pastors offer jobs. Some people set up job agencies specifically for this reason. The second is linked to a decrease in tithe proportion. Though seldom employed, this unique method in the Evangelical context satisfies the needs of individuals who want to pay less for religious services. Finally, the third refers to entrepreneur assistance. Gilberto’s church established a special consultation for businesses to help them.\(^{29}\)


CONCLUSION

A biblical view of social entrepreneurship—focusing on 'biblical' entrepreneurs rather than 'social' enterprises. He did entrepreneurship because he recognized that any activity that promotes human well-being and spiritual life will have an impact on social and business, no matter how 'commercial' and 'secular' the mode of operation. It becomes the focal point of business and entrepreneurial activity because by trying to meet the needs and desires of consumers, the business can ensure its long-term survival. Abraham's faith became a model for how to become an entrepreneur who had an impact on his social life and business. Spirituality becomes an asset for entrepreneurs. Good and successful entrepreneurship is one that has faith and effort and applies it strategically in providing good service to others for mutual welfare. Abraham was a role model for entrepreneurs who wanted to put their faith into their decisions. Even in difficult times, his unwavering faith in God drove him to make ethical and honest business judgments. Abraham's example shows how faith and business can coexist and impact the lives of his employees. As a result, Abraham was not only a role model for entrepreneurs but also an inspiration for individuals who wanted to make a meaningful impact on society through faith and business.

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