

**GRACE**



**GRIND**

**HOW GRACE WILL TAKE YOUR  
BUSINESS WHERE GRINDING CAN'T**

**SHAE BYNES**

***Grace Over Grind: How Grace Will Take Your Business Where Grinding Can't***

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This book is dedicated to my beautiful daughters

Anisa Rachelle (forever my rock)

Nia Morgan (forever my love bug)

Malia Grace (forever my grace baby)

*I love you all to infinity (plus one)*

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## INTRODUCTION

*“Too many believers in business idolize hard work. They exalt hard work over the presence of God in business.”*

These are the words that Holy Spirit shared with me one day as I was at the beach, enjoying the sight of my girls laughing together as we waited for our family photographer to arrive. Two simple statements from my favorite Teacher, packed with profound and convicting truth.

In the world of entrepreneurship, *hustle and grind* is a celebrated way of life. Some of the expressions you’ll commonly hear or read on t-shirts, mugs, and social media memes are “I’m on my grind”, “Rise and grind!” , “Team No Sleep”, “I’ll sleep when I’m dead”, “I hustle hard”, “Good things come to those who grind”...

The list goes on.

You may even use some of these expressions yourself presently or perhaps you did in the past. There’s no condemnation or judgment here. I

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used to run a website with a tagline that included the phrase “get your hustle on.”

Needless to say, I get it.

Well-meaning Christians have modified the idea of hustle and grind to make it more Jesus-friendly which has led to phrases such as:

Pray. Grind. Repeat.

Wake. Pray. Grind.

Eat. Pray. Hustle.

Hustle for Jesus.

God. Goals. Grind.

Grinding for God.

Push. Pray. Grind.

The phrases are different, and they sound more spiritual, but the prevailing mindset is the same.

When you look up the definition of grind in the dictionary, it is defined as *requiring much exertion and excessive hard work*. Synonyms for grind include the words struggle, attempt, and strain. When you look up the definition of hustle, it is defined as *making strenuous efforts to*

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*obtain especially money or business.* This should not be your testimony, and quite frankly, it doesn't have to be.

You may be thinking to yourself “Come on Shae, these are just words... it's just an expression!” But the cost of a hustle and grind mindset (even if you pray first or say you're doing it for Jesus) is simply too great for Kingdom-driven entrepreneurs. There is a supernatural realm that many Christian business owners are failing to tap into because they are busy grinding; running fast and furious to accomplish as much as possible, as quickly as possible.

This is not God's best, and if your heart is to see the realities of the Kingdom in your business, your industry, your city or even the nations, it's imperative that you create and maintain a lifestyle of working by God's grace rather than by your grind.

Consider the words on the following pages to be an invitation from Abba, your Heavenly Father, the Ultimate CEO, and best business partner you will ever have.

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It's an invitation to live and work by the grace that He has so lovingly provided for you to experience His best in your business. Notice that I didn't say your best, but rather *His* best. I'm talking about the Ephesians 3:20 kind of best; which is immeasurably more than all you can ask or imagine according to His power that is at work within you.

My prayer is that this book will either serve as confirmation of what God has already placed on your heart, while helping you to grow on the path you're already on, or that it will provide you with new revelation; igniting faith and action for a different lifestyle of doing business.

Let's begin!

# 1

## GOD'S EMPOWERING GRACE

I have good news for you (if you choose to believe it).

You don't have to strive endlessly to make things happen with the dream God placed on your heart for your business. You simply need God's empowering presence, and everything else is going to flow from there.

Grace is that empowerment. It enables you to successfully do what God has called you to do and to do what you could never do on your own. It's by God's grace that you are able to do extraordinary things, have supernatural results, and eternal impact through your business.

You are not only saved, forgiven, and transformed by grace, but you are also sustained by it. I love how the Gospel of John speaks about grace. John 1:16 refers to "grace upon grace" which is a constant and overflowing gift out of

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the abundance of Christ that we have received to live and to work.

I'm going to share something personal with you that on the surface may seem like it has nothing to do with business, but it's a powerful illustration of how God's grace produces supernatural results.

I'll connect the dots after I share the story.

Shortly after my 40th birthday, I gave birth to my third daughter Malia Grace. During my pregnancy, a friend of mine sent me a book called *Supernatural Childbirth* as a gift because he said that what was in that book led to his wife having two pain-free labors and sweatless deliveries of their sons.

Sounded good to me!

Ultimately I wanted a safe delivery and a healthy baby, but I was feeling the nudge from Holy Spirit to activate my faith in this area. Every time we accept an invitation from God, we have the opportunity to grow in intimacy with Him, experience His goodness in tangible ways, and allow our testimonies to bring Him glory and inspire others.

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I read the book multiple times and purchased an audio called *Childbirth in the Glory* with scripture-based faith declarations that I meditated on and spoke over my child and the birth process while traveling in my car. I didn't share my supernatural birth plan with many people - not even my midwife - because frankly I knew it sounded crazy and I didn't want anyone to intentionally or unintentionally create any doubts or speak against what I was standing in faith for.

While my birth plan was to have my midwife deliver our baby at the local birthing center, things didn't go according to my plan. My body wouldn't fully cooperate and my labor stalled. Despite the stalled labor, I remained hopeful. I could feel some pressure, but I wasn't experiencing pain; even when my contractions were three to five minutes apart for over an hour. My husband and I were playing a card game between my contractions!

Things changed when my midwife told me that I was not progressing as she'd hoped and I was at a higher risk of infection due to my water

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breaking hours earlier. She said I'd need to go to the hospital and have the nurse administer Pitocin to help me reach the finish line.

Honestly, I was worried. I had a history of a Pitocin-induced labor with my second child, and those contractions were no joke! There was nothing natural about the frequency, length, and intensity of those contractions. I'll spare you the details of that labor process, but overall I had very unpleasant memories and was concerned about having to experience that all over again.

On the way to the hospital, I called a close friend and shared my fears with her. She reminded me of one simple truth by asking me "Is God bigger than Pitocin?" Of course, I replied "yes," and she said, "What you were believing for at the birth center, you can still experience in the hospital, even with an induced labor." She was right, and I decided to keep my faith engaged.

When I finally arrived in the hospital delivery room, the nurse started the Pitocin. About twenty minutes later, I could feel the contractions coming in stronger, but I focused my attention on the love of Jesus and the faithfulness of God, and

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at times would ask my husband Phil to apply counter-pressure to my lower back.

All was well.

I experienced some pressure, yet no pain.

After a few hours of contractions, I asked the nurse midwife when she was going to check to see how far I'd progressed in labor. She told me that they didn't plan to check until I was at the point where I was having difficulty managing the contractions. While I understood the infection risks, I needed to know that I was finally progressing and it didn't look like anyone was going to confirm that for me. I had no plans to pretend that the contractions were painful when they hadn't been.

I looked at the clock, and it was after 10 pm. My calm demeanor took a turn for the worst, and I suddenly became mentally, physically, and emotionally fatigued. One of my best friends is a nurse at the hospital and was with me that evening after her shift ended.

She looked at me and told me that I was built to do this, I was going to be fine, and that I needed to sit back in the bed and get some rest.

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“Rest?!? Is she crazy?” I thought to myself.

I told her that I don't handle contractions well while sitting in the bed; I had tried a few positions, and I just couldn't get comfortable. I needed to be moving around.

I told her that it was late and all I wanted to know was if I was progressing because I'm physically exhausted from the past 48 hours of off and on labor and little sleep. I cried in frustration, and the last thing I wanted to do was get back in that insanely uncomfortable bed.

Eventually, I stopped arguing with my friend and laid back on the bed to supposedly “rest.”

In that moment of surrender when I had absolutely nothing left to offer other than to rest, Heaven invaded the labor and delivery room. The best way to describe what happened when I lay back on that bed to rest is to say that Jesus took the wheel. Without any medication, I was suddenly in a meditative state, where I could not feel a thing - not even the pressure I was feeling earlier.

My eyes were closed and it was as if I was sleeping, but I could occasionally hear the

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conversation between my friend and husband about how long and strong the contractions were (they were watching the monitors) and how well I was handling them.

They later told me that for well over an hour, during the most intense parts of the labor, they would hear an occasional short and soft moan from me. The next thing I recall was hearing the nurse tell me that I was nine centimeters dilated.

After that, I was back in the meditative state, and my husband said that I moved to sit on the side of the bed; making absolutely no sound at all for the next several contractions. He asked the nurse if she turned off the Pitocin and she said “no” and that she had actually increased the levels.

The next thing I remember is waking up and telling my friend that the baby was coming. With only one push from me, and two pain-free contractions moving the baby along, our Malia Grace made her entrance into the world.

We call her our grace baby.

My girlfriend says she has never seen anything like what happened with me in that

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labor room. She shared that it was such a blessing to her to be a part of such a “God moment” and said, “I would never have believed someone could have given birth with such grace and favor if I hadn’t seen it with my own eyes.”

Holy Spirit taught and confirmed so much for me through this experience. My labor was long, and I experienced feelings of pressure, but there was no pain. Whenever the contractions strengthened and increased in frequency, I focused my attention on Jesus and experienced peace. When I had to go to the hospital, and I became exhausted because the labor was taking so long, frustration and anxiety showed up... but when I decided to rest, His supernatural abilities rested upon me.

Throughout the entire time of my resting in Him, others witnessed the increased intensity of my circumstances with the Pitocin-induced contractions. This should have been a time when the pain was so excruciating that I’d need to ask for an epidural or at least medication to dull the pain, yet it was as if I was protected in a bubble; completely surrounded by His favor. Those who

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witnessed it were in awe, and I was able to give birth successfully.

God was truly my dwelling place.

This is what is not only possible, but what should be a way of life for entrepreneurs in the Kingdom. Instead of having painful and strenuous labor (grind), you can rest in the empowering presence of God (grace) as you labor (work) so that you are positioned for His supernatural ability which causes you to birth the ideas on your heart in a way that brings you extraordinary success, astonishes others, and gives glory to Him.

### **Are You Working By Grind?**

Grinding is such a prevalent way of doing business that you may not even be aware when you're relying solely upon your own strength. At times it's obvious, but other times it's wearing a mask easily mistaken for something else. At times the grinding is physical exertion, and other times it is mental (or what I call "grinding in your

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head”). Let’s explore some of the signs that you may be working by grind.

***Financial Anxiety:*** Considering that the survival of a business is connected with the ability to eventually create, sustain, and grow revenues and profitability, a healthy focus on the numbers is important and a principle of good stewardship. However, you’re experiencing financial anxiety if you’re feeling desperate about money, or your thoughts are constantly consumed by how much money you are making (or not making) in your business.

***Prayerlessness:*** Complete prayerlessness is unlikely, but you may not be communing with God (the Ultimate CEO and business partner who is the source of your success) regularly. Your prayers are infrequent or rushed, and you’re missing an essential fuel for your faith.

***Lack of Sleep:*** Included in the Kingdom-driven entrepreneurship journey is the occasional all-nighter, but habitual sleeplessness is a sign of working by grind. A more obvious sign is lack of

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sleep due to stress, but a less obvious sign is when you're not sleeping because you're excited about the work that you do and simply won't stop working or you're constantly dissatisfied with the amount of time you have available to work.

***Analysis Paralysis:*** You may feel confused, overwhelmed, and unable to move forward in your business due to frequent over-thinking and continuous analyzing. You may feel like you received direction from Holy Spirit, but fear of failure leads to immobility and asking God for endless confirmations.

***No Boundaries:*** You make yourself available to your clients 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and keep your smartphone close at all times. You may even have fears that your ability to be successful in business is threatened by the time you need to spend with your loved ones.

***No Joy or Peace:*** You're tired, worn-out, agitated, and carrying the stress of the everyday ups and downs of your business.

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Those are the more recognizable signs, but here are some that are sneakier and perhaps may even surprise you.

For example:

- You're motivated by proving your haters and naysayers wrong
- You're motivated by the idea of sustaining yourself because "If it's going to be, it's up to me!"
- You're constantly attending networking events and conferences and/or looking for new ones to attend
- You are running two or more businesses and looking to add more for multiple streams of income even though none of your existing ones are generating a profit
- You change the customer focus God initially gave you to exclusively serve high-end clients
- You're launching new products and services that are not in alignment with the mission or vision of your business

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To be clear, these are examples that can serve as signs, but it's not an all-inclusive list, nor am I saying that each of these examples is a 100% guaranteed sign of grinding. If you felt yourself feeling defensive about any of these, I want you to set that aside for now and allow Holy Spirit to speak to your heart; revealing what you need to hear from Him through what I have shared.

### **APPLICATION: ASK HOLY SPIRIT**

Take a few minutes and ask Holy Spirit the following question and then write down the answer you receive:

In what ways am I currently grinding in business and relying upon my own strength?

You may have identified only one or two ways that you're relying on your strength, or perhaps you've identified several. Either way, there's something infinitely greater for you in store.

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In the next chapters, we're going to explore the supernatural benefits of grace in your business, so that you can place hustle and grind at the feet of Jesus, and receive His best.

Hope you enjoyed this free Introduction  
and Chapter 1 of *Grace Over Grind*.

To purchase *Grace Over Grind: How Grace  
Will Take Your Business Where Grinding  
Can't*, visit **GraceOverGrind.com**.

Available via paperback (with bonus  
companion journal), Kindle, or audiobook.

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## **ABOUT KINGDOM DRIVEN ENTREPRENEUR**

God has a dream for individuals, families, communities, and industries and it requires sons and daughters in the marketplace who are discovering and aligning with their assignments.

Therefore, ***Kingdom Driven Entrepreneur*** exists to help Christian entrepreneurs experience God's best in business and have greater Kingdom impact in the marketplace.

We believe that nothing will be impossible when you partner with Him (The Ultimate CEO); this is why we inspire, teach, and mentor Christians called to entrepreneurship to be led by God in their business.

This isn't business as usual.

We invite you to join our community and enjoy the resources made available to you at:

**[KingdomDrivenEntrepreneur.com](http://KingdomDrivenEntrepreneur.com)**

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