

Nadine's Personal Testimony About God's Work in Her Life

God is more awesome than any words can describe. I'd like to share how He worked in my life to bring about Record Express. I loved my job working as an attorney for an outstanding law firm, but I spent more time at work than at home. Even at home, I had overflow work to do almost every day and my job required overnight travel away from home one or two days of almost every week. In 2001, I gave birth to my third son. Although I loved my job, I loved my family more and was becoming increasingly miserable as I watched my kids grow up without me. I began to pray that God would help me find a way to spend more quality time with my husband and children. My idea was to become a school teacher so that I could be home everyday right after school and have summers to spend with my kids. While I was investigating the school teacher idea, I began praying that God would show me His will for my life.

The idea for Record Express came about unexpectedly one day while I was at work. I had been working to get ready for a trial in Cleveland on an important case that involved a gentleman who had passed away from lung cancer. I had hired a record retrieval firm to obtain the medical records and x-rays for this man so that I could get them reviewed by an expert before the approaching expert report deadline. The firm I hired did a terrible job and failed to get the materials I needed. I took it upon myself to get the records and x-rays and was able to do so. Shortly after that, I was on a teleconference with approximately 50 law firms. The meeting was called to discuss the problems they were having with the available record retrieval companies. Problems included poor customer service, late records, poor follow up on records requested, and general customer dissatisfaction. As all the lawyers were complaining that there were no alternative record services to turn to, I scribbled down the words "start your own darn record retrieval business."

It felt strange to write that note, almost like I was dictating for somebody else- like the idea was not really mine at all. I am not a risk taker and have never wanted to be my own boss, so I at first brushed the idea aside as being ridiculous. But the idea would not go away. So, I prayed about it and asked my friends to pray, too. At church about that time, we started a sermon series about listening for God's will that was based on a book by John Ortberg called "If You Want to Walk on Water, You Have to Get Out of the Boat." I had always been pretty happy in the boat. The boat I was in, although uncomfortable, seemed pretty risk-free and that suited me just fine. I was willing to climb into another boat, but the idea of stepping out onto the waves did not appeal to me. But as I read that book and began learning from the sermons, I started trying to apply the lessons to my own life. It started to make sense that if I could trust Jesus with a big thing like salvation from my sins, then maybe I could trust Him with things of this earthly life, too, like changing jobs and starting a business. I started to ask God to really show me His will for

my life and I asked for specific guidance in this respect.

While praying and searching God's Word about this, there was one scripture that kept popping into my head and I seemed to hear it and see it everywhere: **“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.” Matthew 6:33.** I honestly did not know what that meant, so again I asked my friends to pray for me so that I could understand what God was trying to teach me. Then, a friend called me and said that it means exactly what it says- put God first. Don't start a business primarily to just to be home with your kids or to make your own life easier. Do everything you do, even start a business, for the primary purpose of serving God first and foremost. Then, God will take care of the rest.

I had been a Christian from the time I first gave my heart to Jesus when I was five years old. But it was not until this point that I made the conscious decision to put God first in my life, to really seek Him with all my heart, mind and soul and to use every opportunity He provided to serve Him. Once I did that my life forever changed. Life became an adventure that I never dreamed it could be. Miracle after miracle happened from the time I made that decision, and in 2003 I left my job at the law firm and started Record Express. Some of the miracles involving employees include: people giving their lives to Christ and being saved from their sins; a man having a heart attack but having his heart miraculously heal itself before the scheduled surgery; people who were desperately in need of work found jobs; and lives are being changed for the good on a daily basis.

Some of the miracles involved in the business start up included: getting an entire office full of furniture for free; getting a lease of Class A office space for no money down with 6 months rent free; getting enough financing to start and carry us for 6 months; getting more work than I asked for; finding a whole market of work I did not even consider; getting work from out of state sources and government agencies who came looking for and found us; introductions to people who helped us with our business plan and with financing; unexpected growth from 3 employees when we started to 23 employees in 3 years; and a new building with space and room to grow.

God has blessed me by allowing me to be present while He transforms lives before my very eyes- my life, lives of employees, of customers, of family members. It's been an awesome ride and I am so excited to see what God will do next!

If you would like more information about becoming a Christian, please check out one of these sites: www.notreligion.com, www.jesusgift.com.