



Modern Slavery

Case Study #21

Scenario

As employers, **we have a responsibility to provide workers with a safe environment, protection, and a livable wage.** However, many businesses exploit workers, ignoring their dignity and worth as individuals created in God's image.

In Malaysia, migrant workers face abusive conditions, including excessive overtime, unpaid wages, and unhygienic dormitories. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) identifies these conditions as indicators of forced labor.

Top Glove Corp, the world's largest medical glove maker, was banned by the US due to forced labor concerns. The company agreed to pay \$33 million to workers to reimburse recruitment fees, which can lead to debt bondage.

In Myanmar, Chinese-owned banana plantations exploit local workers, paying them low wages and exposing them to toxic chemicals. Workers face poor living conditions, long working hours, and mistreatment by employers.

These cases highlight the need for businesses to prioritize workers' welfare and dignity. **As Christians, we are called to treat others with respect and fairness** (Proverbs 22:2, James 5:3-5).

We must recognize workers as fellow human beings, not just cogs in a machine. Our labor relations should be relational, not transactional. We must ensure fair wages, safe working conditions, and dignified treatment of all workers.

As businesses, we have a responsibility to protect workers' rights and prevent modern slavery. **We must prioritize ethical practices, ensuring that our pursuit of profit does not come at the expense of human dignity.**



MALACHI 3:5

Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

WHAT DO WE DO?

As Christian business owners, what is your responsibility to ensure our business practices reflect God's love and care for all people?



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Deuteronomy 24:14-15

You shall not exploit a hired worker who is poor and needy, whether he is one of your countrymen or one of your strangers who are in your land in your towns. You shall give him his wages on his day before the sun sets—for he is poor and sets his heart on it—so that he does not cry out against you to the Lord, and it becomes a sin in you.

Reflection Questions:

1. What role do you think Christians should play in promoting ethical labor practices?
2. How can companies recognize workers as fellow human beings, rather than cogs in a machine?

NOTES & REFLECTIONS:

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