

SHOP GIRL'S code

HEART CHECK WORKSHEET

LOOK BACK

1. Open your heart up to God's truth. Confess your need for Him. Ask Him for fresh vision and for direction as you create and run your shop.
2. Ask the Lord to reveal to you any issues that may be subconscious or hard to detect.
3. Ask trusted friends if there are any parts of your business that they have seen mirror too closely to others.
4. Test your work.

What is the mission behind your shop?

Why do you create?

What purpose do the products/services have?

Where do you receive inspiration?

Have you leaned too heavily on other creatives? (A few questions to help you dig):

- Do you feel defensive or the need to justify (to yourself or to others) how your product is different from someone else's?

- Do any products simply feel out of place or disconnected from your mission?

- Is someone else doing the bulk of the work?

- Do you reference their work throughout the designing process?

- Does their work serve as a template for you to make changes to?

If your shop was to close tomorrow, where would your identity lie?

CONFESS I O N :

Not one of us runs a perfect business! I think that's one reason we can feel so humbled that God chooses to use us for His kingdom. Confession brings freedom in our lives. Through confession, we uncover areas where we have misplaced our identity and hope and we place our focus back on Christ. Take time to confess specific areas of struggle to the Lord and receive His grace (i.e. some areas might include finding your identity in what you do, jealousy, envy, and bitterness towards others).

SAMPLE PRAYER: God, we confess our need for You. We cannot live, move, or breathe without You giving us the life that is in our bones. We thank You for creating us to reflect Your creativity and we confess any pride, bitterness, or envy that has taken root in our hearts. We want to be Your vessels to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ to the world around us. Cleanse us from any hidden faults, set us free, and lead us in Your ways. Strengthen us to walk in love and do business in a way that honors You and keeps You at the center of it all. In Jesus' name, Amen.

START FRESH

1. Grab our prayer sheet (page 2).
2. Commit to the code.
3. Share with the world and let's spread this message like wildfire. Our hearts are so full just thinking about what God can do when we lay all our resources at His feet.

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PRAYER SHEET

We are big believers that our businesses are the Lord's and that our mission is make sure anything we do through them points to Jesus. But if we aren't in constant communication with the Lord, our purpose gets muddled by our own human desires for attention, accolades and approval. Here are some things to pray about in regard to your business as well as some plan lines to add specific things you'd like to pray about for your business:

- Ask the Lord to direct your steps each day. Proverbs 16:3 says “Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.” (Valerie will often pray with her planner in her hands offering the day up to the Lord. Many times we have a plan, but God usually has something better if we hold it loosely.)
- Ask the Lord to give you the words to say as you speak to others through social media. (Your influence can come from more than just the products you sell. Many times, it starts with someone hearing your words on your blog or social media. Don't take this responsibility lightly! Gretchen only posts from the overflow of her walk with the Lord and not from what she feels she has to do to keep up. She prays over what she shares and seeks to be a light for Christ on Instagram.)
- Ask the Lord to inspire your creative process as you work on new products. (He is the most creative being there is! How amazing that He speaks to us and allows us to be the conduit for amazing resources.)
- Ask the Lord to protect your heart from envy or jealousy as you see others succeed. (Comparison is not just a buzz word today. It's in our hearts more often than we'd hope. The only answer is Jesus.)
- Pray for financial peace as you pursue His plan and ask Him to keep your heart steady on His plan.
- Praise the Lord for allowing you to create for His glory. Thank Him for the work He has done and will continue to do.
- Pray for your sisters who are also in a creative business. Pray that God would guide and direct their steps and encourage them with your words and support.
