

SCA

ge42of «First

[illegible]

L
a
s
t
>>

- **MLM / Pyramid Scams** (<http://www.scam.com/forumdisplay.php?f=11>)
- - **Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)** (<http://www.scam.com/showthread.php?t=13128>)

07-28-2006 09:33 AM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

The tactics of these false profits (spelling intentional) is also to use the reactions of critics and victims to further spread the MLM "gospel" and to further victimize those that have been hurt. These folks are always selling the script.

If you nothing about AC and came to this forum to pick up information, you are confronted with issues of credibility. The MLMarketeers thrive on attacks on Christianity and on one's faith. These folks look for responses like one's posted by Unlucky36. That's the power of the Christian script. That's the preferred argument in defense of MLMarketeers. Where the MLMs flounder is in answering specific question about "facts" of the product and the income of their reps.

As you have already seen, facts are disclosed on a multilevel scheme. In steps if you will. You ask; who are the millionaires at the conference? How are they going to help me? Why should I pay \$9,995.00? The answer will be that first you must receive your "Getting Started E-package". Then you need to review the \$7,000.00 Compensation Presentation. Finally, you need to attend the live \$7,000.00 Call on Tuesday and Thursday evenings or Saturday afternoon. Exactly the MLMarketeers' answer over & over again.

You are told that "When you understand 'How and Why' you can create such Life Changing Income with this particular vehicle, you will wonder why everyone is not doing it!" "... a Highly Unique and Empowering Product that will help you make permanent, positive changes in your financial condition."

But what exactly is this product? You are then told "It's called the Millionaire Mindset Conference."

Footsteps of Faith Messenger, Cover to Cover Campaign, Ten Talent Person, and other programs, scripts and health and wealth messages are used to "soften the heart" (eventually the wallet). Here is an exact quote from Tim Darnell found in the Ten Talent Person:

"I believe that God has endowed each of us with tremendous talent and destined us to be productive in every way for His glory. It is our obligation to amplify God's gifts to us and then use them for the right, Godly purposes.

Have you made the most of your life?
Do you feel that you could be doing more?
Are you in an environment that encourages you daily?
Are you in a corporate environment where you can openly talk about faith in Jesus Christ without fear of reprisal?"

Scams like these are powerful because they have become religious. They give us a frame of reference and an object of devotion. What is the alternative? To be bitter, angry, a "dream stealer"? That's the sale.

"I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves." Matthew 10:16

humbled-by-grace

07-30-2006 06:18 AM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

For the person who asked about the specific steps AC uses, here it is from the horse's mouth:

"Things You will be Doing

1. Simply place recommended advertising that invites people to this Simple 3 Step System.
2. Your Candidates will be encouraged to fill out the form at the bottom of the introduction page.
3. They will immediately receive an 'auto-respond' letter, and then this Step #1: "Getting Started E-Package" for their review.
4. You will receive notification in your E-mail "In-Box" each time you have a Candidate enter the system. Many of our Reps are receiving twenty or more notifications PER DAY!

5. Once your Candidate has finished reviewing this "Getting Started E-Package", they can then view Step #2: the Compensation Presentation. Candidates should review the Compensation Presentation MORE THAN ONCE in order to truly comprehend the enormity and reality of \$7,000.00 Over & Over & Over Again.

6. Candidates can then move on to Step #3: the \$7,000.00 Call hosted by one of our top Advantage Conferences Pro-Reps or President of the Company.

7. Upon completion of the 3 Simple Steps, Candidates are instructed to e-mail or call you to inform you that they attended the \$7,000.00 Call. This is the point in the process where you and the Candidate will talk to each other for the first time. The Candidate is encouraged to ask questions at this time. When you are new to Advantage Conferences, you will not know what to say, so don't do anything but make an appointment for them to talk with your Pro-Rep (trainer).

8. After the Candidate has listened to the informational \$7,000.00 Call and the two of you have conversed, and IF YOU ARE CONVINCED THAT YOUR CANDIDATE IS QUALIFIED, you will e-mail your candidate the President's Interview document, which they will answer and, upon completion, fax back to the Advantage Conferences Home Office for approval by AC President, Tim Darnell.

If you will follow these steps exactly, AND PERSISTENTLY implement the simple methods that we teach (we have left out the description of a few key components in this E-Package so as to not give away proprietary Company information to non-Reps), you will find that you WILL BE SUCCESSFUL IN YOUR ENTERPRISE!

The marketing methods we teach work amazingly well, but consistency and full trust in the System is the key. You don't "try" a few things and sit back and rake in money. No, you must implement what we teach you on an ongoing basis, have patience, and not quit until you've realized the goals you've envisioned. This Simple 3 Step System has been proven to work.

Although it is inappropriate to expose specific "how to's" at this point, you should now begin to have a sense of how you will create \$7,000.00 Over & Over & Over Again!"

The Product you sell is the Product you sell. There is no "other product/business" that is provided-just different methods of presenting you what you will present to others, ad nauseam. The "illusion" and "feeling" of success comes from the truth of the Gospel that is being sold for the profit of a few. His Glorious Grace cannot be purchased. It is freely given to us in the One He loves. Ephesians 1:6

"6. I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— 7. which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ." Galatians 1:6-7

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

Humbled by Grace,

Are you a former AC Rep?

Phinnly Slash Buster

07-31-2006 12:34 AM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

Still more on the myth of Christ-centered business:

Former execs of bankrupt Arizona Baptist foundation convicted of fraud

PHOENIX (AP) - Two former executives of the Baptist Foundation of Arizona, which collapsed in what has been called the largest nonprofit bankruptcy filing in the nation's history, have been convicted of fraud.

Prosecutors estimated 11,000 investors, most of them elderly, were defrauded in the 1980s and 1990s.

A jury on Monday found former foundation president William Crotts guilty of three counts of fraud and one count of illegally conducting an enterprise, according to the Arizona Attorney General's Office, which prosecuted the case. Former general counsel Thomas Grabinski was convicted of three counts of fraud and one count of illegally conducting an enterprise. They were acquitted of 23 counts of theft.

"These verdicts are a victory for thousands of victims who believed the promises made by the defendants," Attorney General Terry Goddard said in a statement. "They had their faith shattered and faced the possible loss of all their retirement investments."

Five other defendants pleaded guilty to fraud or other charges and agreed to pay fines, Goddard said.

The foundation was created in 1948 by the Southern Baptist Convention to administer endowments to the church. It eventually grew into an independent nonprofit organization that sold individual retirement accounts and other investments.

Prosecutors said investors were promised high returns and a safe investment for using their money to build churches and retirement homes, but their *combined losses totaled more than a half-billion dollars.*

"I just hope they realize they defied (God's) word by mishandling money that people entrusted to them," said Virginia Branch, 77, of Prescott, who lost \$400,000 she said would have helped her

grandchildren pay for college.

Crotts and Grabinski could face six to 23 years for each count. Sentencing was set for Sept. 29.

Defense lawyers said they plan to ask Judge Kenneth Fields to dismiss the charges, and plan to appeal if he doesn't.

A lawyer for Crotts, Michael Piccarreta, said all the foundation's investors would have been paid back if the state hadn't shut it down in 1999 for what the Arizona Corporation Commission said were faulty financial statements.

<http://www.fox23news.com/news/nation...8-D71A4773556B>

Wishyouknew

07-31-2006 07:48 AM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

Did any of you find the article by Tailpipe as funny as I did?

humbled-by-grace

07-31-2006 11:28 AM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

Wishyouknew

No, I am not a former AC rep, but I know some well intentioned individuals that were drawn to AC and other such companies because they were "christian-based". These folks lost alot of money and hope. I am a successful businessman. I am also a Christian. The source of my strength lies in my faith; but the success in my business is a result of good business decisions (after learning from the bad) and practices. However, I couldn't have gone through the difficult times without prayer and faith. This source of strength is not to be sold. It is freely available to any who are in need.

There is nothing wrong with looking for a different business model to give us freedom and choice (not to mention a good income). For many people, this quest takes on a religious fervor. In essence, it becomes a substitute religion-something that will give us meaning to our lives. When this happens, we become vulnerable to the deception of the "christian-scripted programs".

There is something to be said about venturing out in faith in the one and only Loving God. But this type of devotion and faith belong to God alone. When MLMarketeers start talking about "venturing out in faith" as a way to selling you their goods, you are in serious trouble if you follow. Let me give you an example.

AC denies that the would be reps are "required" to purchase anything. But that is not completely true, if you want to work the program. There is the basic enrollment fee (a psychological ploy to make some kind of investment) of only \$59.95. Then you are told about four levels of

Millionaire Mindset Conferences (MMC-I through MMC-IV), you don't "have to" attend but your ability to make money is directly tied into your attending the top level conference first.

To start earning a commission on the future reps you bring into the conferences, you too must attend one of the conferences and become either a MMC-I, MMC-II, MMC-III, or MMC-IV Pro Rep. Level one costs \$1,000.00, Level II \$2,000.00, Level III \$5,000.00, and Level IV \$9,995.00. You are also told that you can make the following commissions for each person you bring in to the conferences: \$500.00 for level I, \$1,000.00 for level II, \$2,500.00 for level III and a whopping \$7,000.00 for level IV. BUT, and this is a big but-you can only earn these commissions if you are a MMC-IV Pro Rep. If you are a MMC-I Pro Rep and "sell" a Level IV conference, you only get \$500.00.

To "earn" the \$7,000.00 commission, you will have to fork out the \$9,995.00. As added incentive to get you to buy the Level IV conference, there is a ROLLUP payment to the MMC-IV Pro Rep for all the Level IV conferences that are sold by MMC-I, II, or III Pro Reps brought in by the MMC-IV Pro Rep. This is how it works: If a MMC-I sells a Level IV conference, he or she gets \$500.00 BUT the MMC-IV Pro Rep that brought in the MMC-I Pro Rep gets \$6,500.00 on that sale. AC explicitly states that the Rollup feature will create incentive and urgency to qualify as a Pro Rep IV as quickly as possible.

Now, if that weren't enough motivation to get you to shell out nearly \$10k, AC will include your personal website (which you will need to work the program) in the cost of the MMC-IV conference. Are you required to purchase a website. Let me give you Mr. Darnell's words verbatim:

"[Question: Do I need to buy the Personalized Marketing Website?

Answer: Yes, you realistically do. The PMW is complimentary with the MMC-IV purchase, but whether you buy it or it is yours as a result of an MMC-IV purchase, you will find this to be one of the most powerful tools you ever owned. Your ability to profit from this business is dramatically enhanced with the addition of this highly effective tool.]"

What is not explicitly stated is that the cost of the website is \$7,000.00. So I ask you. Are you going to shell out \$59.95, plus \$7,000.00 to go to a Level I conference at a cost of \$1,000.00 (a total outlay of \$8,059.95) only to make \$500.00 for each person you bring in to a Level IV conference while the MMC-IV Pro Rep that brought you in makes \$6,500.00 on each of your sales; or are you going to pony up the \$9,995.00? Pretty obvious, huh.

This is done over and over again in the name of God and His Glory. You don't have to be a Christian or a man/woman of faith to know that this is Blasphemy and a bad business pyramid scheme.

To battle these false prophets/profits, I believe that they must be approached from different angles. The MLMarketeers that appear on this site and other scam forums use the "negative characterizations" as fuel to convert others who come to see what is being said about the opportunities proffered by AC and others. To call them a scam is a start, but not the end.

"in you I trust, O my God. Do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me."
Psalm 25:2

Phinnly Slash Buster

07-31-2006 03:53 PM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Wishyouknew**

Did any of you find the article by Tailpipe as funny as I did?

Hilarious! I like the post about taping an AC card to a gas pump too!
Very tacky!! HE HE HE.....Sooooo.....trailer park!!

BIGfranky75

07-31-2006 04:18 PM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

Quote:

Originally Posted by **humbled-by-grace**

*This is done over and over again in the name of God and His Glory. **You don't have to be a Christian or a man/woman of faith to know that this is Blasphemy and a bad business pyramid scheme.***

*To battle these false prophets/profits, I believe that they must be approached from different angles. The MLMarketeers that appear on this site and other scam forums use the "negative characterizations" as fuel to convert others who come to see what is being said about the opportunities proffered by AC and others. **To call them a scam is a start, but not the end.***

*"in you I trust, O my God. Do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me."
Psalm 25:2*

Humbled..... EXCELLENT post!

well said and i couldnt agree more....

does anyone else notice that Jack has gone the way of the dodo?

typical.... he can talk the talk, but he cant walk the walk....

:cool:

Soapboxmom

08-03-2006 09:43 PM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

<http://www.advantageconferences.com/succeed/>

Quote:

Are you doing what you were called to do? Are you living a life of purpose and vision? I've heard it said, "I want my life to count. I just wish money grew on trees!" While I have yet to find a tree or any other plant that produces cash, the good news is that we serve a God who is the source of infinite abundance. Advantage Conferences is a company that not only believes in the infinite resources that God makes available to us, but that as His children it is our responsibility to access it to do the work He has for us to do. It starts with the proper mind set which is what the Millionaire Mind set Conference is all about. The conferences along with the ongoing weekly training will change the way you think about finances and the responsibilities that come with great wealth. Advantage Conferences is also an opportunity to build a business that will change your life. We teach every person, regardless of marketing or internet skills how to make \$7,000 over and over again! This is based on math and how numbers work—it's that simple. There is no cold calling or convincing this is not MLM.

To see how this business can work for you, go through the 3 Simple Steps by filling out the interest form below. By doing so, you are under no obligation and in fact no one will even contact you. If after going through the 3 Simple Steps you are excited and convicted that Advantage Conferences is the vehicle that will make the difference in your life you've been searching for, give me a call or email me. My name is Linda Pender. I'm your MMC IV Pro Rep. I'm here to serve you, answer any questions and guide you along the way to achieving the things you are called to do.

Through Advantage Conferences, God is raising up an army of ordinary people who being trained with the proper mind set and equipped the needed resources, are doing extraordinary things. Make your life count—join the army, God's army.

"I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it..." Rev. 3:8

In His Service,
Linda Pender
218.937.5568
succeed@advantageconferences.com

Upcoming Millionaire Mindset Conferences

October 27-28, 2006 - Dallas, TX

The fall Millionaire Mindset Conference will be held October 27 & 28, 2006 at the Hyatt Regency, Downtown Dallas

humbled-by-grace, you have posted so many wonderful things I hardly know what to respond to first. I think it is obvious that the reps are skillfully maneuvered into paying for the ten grand conference.

Wishyouknew, the "Tailpipe" post was hilarious. Placing cards on gas pumps also smacks of desperation. I think we here at scam are hurting sales.

Phinnly, so many religious scams and so little time to bust them all. You always have a new gem for us to read.

The Pro Rep above is seriously deficient in the language/grammar and math departments. I hope she knows she is welcome to join my homeschool class anytime. Funny how simple she thinks the math is. Did she figure the 0.6 customer to rep ratio = \$7000 over and over again for more than Timmy boy, Wacko Daddio and a select few?

Soapboxmom

humbled-by-grace

08-04-2006 06:01 AM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

Soapboxmom,

Thank you for your kind review and appreciation of what I am trying to get across. I have had many direct email communication with Tim Darnell (or the program that purports to be Mr. Darnell). It is not apparent at first, and it may not be apparent to those who are not familiar with scripture and/or with the Christian faith, but most of the successful (by their terms) AC Pro Reps do not know how to respond to legitimate and honest questions about their faith, and how they can reconcile what they do in the name of God with the effect on their victims. The the defense of the program is to REPEAT over and over the same scripts.

My questions are never answered by Mr. Darnell. I just receive additional emails inviting me to participate in the "cover to cover" program (where members are encourage to read the Bible from cover to cover); or to evaluate God's word in our lives today, etc., etc. This ploy is designed defuse the criticism of the scheme that is really being presented and to cover the greed and motivation of many of the top pro Reps that promote the script. It is also designed to "trigger" the human need for God and meaning.

As I said in early posts, we all live life with a sense of insecurity at our core without God (meaning) in our lives. When we hear a life affirming message such as the one promoted by AC repeated over and over and over again, the messenger begins to take on an appearance of confidence and credibility. It is at this point that the sale is made. I think the promotional statement that one can earn \$7,000 "over and over again" is an unconscious (or arrogant) tongue-in-cheek reference to the effective script of pounding the same message into the client's psyche and soul, over and over again, until the \$7,000 is turned over to "preacher".

I view AC as a different kind of MLM because of this nefarious dynamic at work. In other MLM schemes, there has to be a belief in some kind of product or service. Although the ultimate sale is about the money one can earn, there is always some tangible good or service being promoted. When the money doesn't come in as promised, it is not difficult for one to see little value in the product or service being promoted. But in AC, that product or service is replaced by one's faith in God, and more particularly one's Christian faith. There is a not so subtle and unspoken premise being promoted here: that maybe the level of one's faith determines one's success--or--in a more sinister twist--one doesn't succeed because one's faith is weak. This is the core of Blasphemy in AC: to equate the financial success gained at the expense of the victims of AC as giving Glory to God. I cannot tell you how viscerally repulsive I find this message (and program).

"Your wisdom and knowledge mislead you when you say to yourself, 'I am, and there is none besides me.'" Isaiah 47:10

Wishyouknew

08-04-2006 04:18 PM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

Does anyone know when this court case will happen?

It will be interesting to find out how deep the judge/jury will dive into the evidence and facts of this whole ordeal.

Would it not be funny if Tim Darnell initiated a law suit that led to the downfall of his company and him facing jail time.

Does anyone think that could possibly happen? I do..

If Tim were smart he would drop the suit..

Phinnly Slash Buster

08-04-2006 04:48 PM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Wishyouknew**

Does anyone know when this court case will happen?

It will be interesting to find out how deep the judge/jury will dive into the evidence and facts of this whole ordeal.

Would it not be funny if Tim Darnell initiated a law suit that led to the downfall of his company and him facing jail time.

Does anyone think that could possibly happen? I do..

If Tim were smart he would drop the suit..

Good point,

I have considered this might be a problem for Tim and Co.

Judges are not kind to plaintiffs that present obvious BS cases to the court.

There is a counter charge that the defendant can bring in these cases.

You must be well funded to do so and counter suits are rarely successful.

The problem arises I believe because a 'counter suit' charging that the initial case was frivolous or constitutes an 'Abuse of process' often requires naming the lawyer and the law firm. These entanglements can continue for years.

This is over my head of course I'm not a lawyer, and reading up on this stuff could consume too much time.

But if Timmy boy sticks his head in the mouth of the lion he should expect he might become lunch.

humbled-by-grace

08-04-2006 05:21 PM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

Here is a link to a blog that "defends" people like TD and others using the scripts and couching attacks on critics as if it was part of God's spritual warfar on His critics:

<http://correctingwrong.blogspot.com/...m-darnell.html>

if the above link doesn't work, try this one:

<http://tinyurl.com/h9b2m>

ScammedbyAC

08-04-2006 07:47 PM

Scammed by Adavantage Conferences and Tim Darnell and Jack Weinzierl

If you are a current or former Representative for Advantage Conferences, email us at ScammedbyAC@hushmail.com Join the many who have decided to fight back. DO NOT let Tim Darnell's and/or and Jack Weinzierl's tactics scare you into silence, LET YOUR VOICES BE HEARD! DO NOT feel embarassed because you fell for this scam, that's exactly what they want you to do. Come forward and the TRUTH will set us all FREE! The Attorney General of Texas is doing their part and we need to do ours.

Again email us at ScammedbyAC@hushmail.com

You can tell us your story or simply leave us your Name, Start Date & Enroller, we will contact you regarding what to do next.

txfan

08-04-2006 11:44 PM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

There is a new thread on here for those of you who are former AC Reps that feel you have been scammed by AC.

<http://www.scam.com/showthread.php?t...highlight=jack>

It sounds like a movement to ban together to fight those worthless goons once and for all!

Phinnly Slash Buster

08-04-2006 11:52 PM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

Quote:

Originally Posted by **txfan**

There is a new thread on here for those of you who are former AC Reps that feel you have been scammed by AC.

<http://www.scam.com/showthread.php?t...highlight=jack>

It sounds like a movement to ban together to fight those worthless goons once and for all!

Looks like these worthless pricks are drowning in their own sewage at long last.
Thanks for the link.

ScammedbyAC

08-05-2006 10:47 AM

Re: Scammed by Adavantage Conferences and Tim Darnell and Jack Weinzierl

For everyone responding, this is the information we need:

Your Name & Phone Number

Start Date

City & State you reside in

Enroller's Name and Phone Number

We will contact you via telephone within 3 days of submitting your information.

Thanks, we will talk to you soon.

humbled-by-grace

08-06-2006 11:59 AM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

Here is the disclaimer Mr. Darnell now places on the form when a candidate registers for the \$7,000 call:

"IMPORTANT: Others' results are no indication of what your results may or may not be. Any calculations or numbers presented are not projections or predictions for your or any person's income, but are simply displayed to show how numbers could work in a perfect business scenario. Some Reps make no money at all in this or any business for a variety of reasons. All business requires consistency of effort, personal learning, personal development, ongoing action, and a host of intangibles, including an excellent attitude, resourcefulness, resiliency, sustained unwavering belief, positive expectancy, leadership skill development, marketing skill development, posture, etc. Top income earners reflect all of the aforementioned intangibles. If you value these intangibles and are willing to work on, learn, and enhance these qualities in your personal life, then you could be a good candidate for an entrepreneurial endeavor such as Advantage Conferences."

(My emphasis added)

Phinnly Slash Buster

08-06-2006 02:59 PM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

Quote:

Originally Posted by **humbled-by-grace**

Here is the disclaimer Mr. Darnell now places on the form when a candidate registers for the \$7,000 call:

*"IMPORTANT: Others' results are no indication of what your results may or may not be. Any calculations or numbers presented are not projections or predictions for your or any person's income, but are simply displayed to show how numbers could work in a perfect business scenario. Some Reps make no money at all in this or any business for a variety of reasons. All business requires consistency of effort, personal learning, personal development, ongoing action, and a host of intangibles, including an excellent attitude, resourcefulness, resiliency, sustained unwavering belief, positive expectancy, leadership skill development, marketing skill development, posture, etc. **Top income earners reflect all of the aforementioned intangibles.** If you value these intangibles and are willing to work on, learn, and enhance these qualities in your personal life, then you could be a good candidate for an entrepreneurial endeavor such as Advantage Conferences."*

(My emphasis added)

humbled-by-grace,

Great find, thanks for the update.

I especially like the "aforementioned intangibles". You will likely see many of these intangibles in the 'Magic Kingdom' like 'sustained unwavering belief'.

One important intangible left out, [we can only assume.... *by design*],

Critical Thinking Skills.

"....A good candidate for an entrepreneurial endeavor such as Advantage Conferences." won't be needing any.....check your brain at the door.

Wishyouknew

08-06-2006 07:11 PM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

Quote:

Originally Posted by **humbled-by-grace**

Here is the disclaimer Mr. Darnell now places on the form when a candidate registers for the \$7,000 call:

*"IMPORTANT: Others' results are no indication of what your results may or may not be. Any calculations or numbers presented are not projections or predictions for your or any person's income, but are simply displayed to show how numbers could work in a perfect business scenario. Some Reps make no money at all in this or any business for a variety of reasons. All business requires consistency of effort, personal learning, personal development, ongoing action, and a host of intangibles, including an excellent attitude, resourcefulness, resiliency, sustained unwavering belief, positive expectancy, leadership skill development, marketing skill development, posture, etc. **Top income earners reflect all of the aforementioned intangibles.** If you value these intangibles and are willing to work on, learn, and enhance these qualities in your personal life, then you could be a good candidate for an entrepreneurial endeavor such as Advantage Conferences."*

(My emphasis added)

Yes, this is Tim Darnells attempt to get his company ready for court. He did not always have this disclaimer or ANY disclaimer on his website or anything else.

Mr. Darnell has made MANY changes to his website and marketing since he failed to get in to the BBB.

deepsouth

08-07-2006 08:50 AM

Re: Scammed by Adavantage Conferences and Tim Darnell and Jack Weinzierl

I was a sucker for the scam. I'll be sending you a private message.

humbled-by-grace

08-08-2006 08:08 AM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

Here is an example of the email response I receive from Mr. Darnell (or the program that claims to be Mr. Darnell) when I asked some probing questions. Instead of an honest response, I get more of the same script. This one touting spomething called the Systematized Qualifying Process© (SQP©):

"Before - You Never Had a Chance
By Tim Darnell

I wholeheartedly believe in the Direct Sales Industry, and have dedicated a major portion of my life (now over 25 years) to this industry as a marketer, consultant, trainer - and since 2001, a direct sales company owner.

I'll be the first to tell you that our industry has massive room for improvement. This brief message is designed to highlight an amazing evolution of ideas – indeed, a radical upheaval that is just now becoming a reality. Reading this letter will make a major difference in your understanding of the industry and things about which you simply must be aware.

WARNING: Ignoring this letter, I promise you, will cost you a fortune in time, capital, and possibly important relationships.

The fundamental changes and differences that I will explain to you are indeed revolutionary – and serve to dramatically separate a single model from the vast array of options (other Income Opportunities and Companies). Indeed these differences are profound, starkly contrasting

methods and philosophies that add up to the difference in success or failure for someone looking to further their financial situation. You should take every bit of this message personally and to heart.

To put it simply, if you worked other programs in the past or are currently involved in another program now, the odds are so stacked against your being successful that you really never had a chance. Glaring problems that have persisted for decades are fundamental to those programs; AND YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THEM!

The Manifestation of the Problems -
MOST PEOPLE (90+ PERCENT) IN HOME BUSINESSES
DON'T MAKE MONEY

Is that an important problem to deal with? Obviously, certainly in my mind, this is THE single most important issue in our industry. It is THE PROBLEM that has desperately needed to be fixed and has not been fixed – until now.

Frankly, due to my being outspoken about these problems, I don't have a whole lot of friends left in the other programs, meaning I have very few friends in the entire industry, unless they are working with me now. Se la vie, the truth must be told – those programs are unquestionably fundamentally flawed. People simply don't like to hear that their business has problems.

Serious Question of Ethics: **I find it unconscionable that companies promote an income opportunity at which the overwhelming majority of people fail.** The people who are exceptions to this statement (those who do succeed) comprise such a small percentage of people that it is a blatant misrepresentation for a company to parade their "stud's" success in front of the unsuspecting public and say the opportunity is for everybody.

The Positive News

The good news is that through years of prayer, trial and error, consultation from several people who came into my life at precisely the right moment, a band of loyal followers which has now turned into a rapidly growing, powerful, international marketing force, endless rabbit trails, lawsuits, and unimaginable blind-sides, the following solutions have finally been revealed to me and have converged into A BUSINESS MODEL that is undeniably FAIR & WORKS FOR ANYBODY who is serious about making significant money! The changes are totally in the average income opportunity seeker's favor. And, they make success absolutely predictable, more sizeable, and more quickly attainable than all the other models out there – and I can prove in black and white what I am saying is true.

I will tell you that arriving at this model has not been easy and has come about at no small price (literally millions of dollars and years out of my life). I'm not saying this to complain, but rather to point out a basic premise of innovation - dynamic solutions are never cheap or easy to come by.

If you truly want to achieve success in a home based marketing business, the following concepts

are things that you must know about:

....

* * * * *

...

This phenomenal RADICAL DEPARTURE bears repeating –

You Only Talk to People
When They Have Completely Qualified
for Your Specific Opportunity on Their Own!

These people are fully informed. They know all about your business. They qualified themselves. And they are excited, or they wouldn't be calling you or e-mailing you. Now, that's another radical departure – only talking to excited people who are ready to get started! That is a genuinely qualified person, and that is the only classification of person you will be talking to.

Who can participate in SQP©? Anybody who has the intelligence to understand the importance of what I've just detailed; and someone who has been approved after their interview with the President of the Company.

BUT...

Everything we've talked about so far is only Reason #1 that Advantage Conferences makes 100 times more sense than any other business opportunity out there. There are two more radical departure components that are just as important, if not more important than Reason #1, effectually setting this business model light years ahead of anything else you may be looking at.

Not Hype – If you "get" what I'm explaining to you, then you're beginning to see why so many "average" people are already making huge amounts of money with this new model. (If you knew what we paid out in commissions last week you would drop your jaw.)

But be assured – this is not hype. No, this is rock-solid educational information from a professional, life-long, (and I don't mind telling you) highly successful marketer explaining developments in the home based business world that you must know about.

I trust you are listening and will take this info to heart.

In service,

Tim Darnell
President
Advantage Conferences"

Emphasis added and some specifics on te sales methods were deleted for convenience.

deepsouth

08-09-2006 09:43 AM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

[quote=humbled-by-grace]I wholeheartedly believe in the Direct Sales Industry,

The Manifestation of the Problems -
MOST PEOPLE (90+ PERCENT) IN HOME BUSINESSES
DON'T MAKE MONEY

My guess is that 90+ PERCENT of AC members are now realizing they're not making money.

Serious Question of Ethics: **I find it unconscionable that companies promote an income opportunity at which the overwhelming majority of people fail.**

I find it unconscionable that Tim can make a statement and continue to push AC.

BUT...

Not Hype – If you "get" what I'm explaining to you, then you're beginning to see why so many "average" people are already making huge amounts of money with this new model. (If you knew what we paid out in commissions last week you would drop your jaw.)

Yeah, their jaw would drop if they really knew how much AC was paying out in commissions every week. My guess is that they are sending out very very few checks. This is total garbage.

[quote]

AC says that there's no selling. That's bs.

Another thing AC says is that there's no calling friends and family. Well, I can tell you as an AC member, that is total bs. Seems like most of their emphasis now is on getting AC members to dump this on their friends and family. That way, Tim and a few others will get lucky and still pull a few checks.

I know I had to get out of AC because my conscience wouldn't allow me to dump this on anyone.

Just my humble opinion.

Soapboxmom

08-09-2006 10:45 PM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

<http://www.advantageconferences.com/vip/treasures.asp>

Quote:

The Treasures for the Kingdom Foundation is a federally recognized, tax-free 501(c)3 organization dedicated to helping underprivileged families, Christian ministries, disabled individuals, severely ill, and the destitute. Gifts from the Foundation are normally perceived as unexpected and unmerited miracles by the grateful beneficiaries. This Foundation's service and philanthropy is an attempt to mirror the unfathomable grace that God has given each of us.

Quote:

Treasures For the Kingdom Foundation
1513 Home Park Dr
Allen, TX 75002

The only charity in these parts is Timmy's wallet. Aren't we all anxious to send a check to his home address? The Treasures for the Kingdom Foundation is still not registered or in the addendum for newly registered charities. Our scamming goons are still trying to fool the public. It certainly is not federally recognized. Apparently this is just an avenue for Timmy and company to defraud folks out of more money. That is misrepresentation, deceptive trade practices and a sure ticket to purgatory now isn't Super Sudsy Daddio? The only miracle is that Timmy and Wacko Jacko haven't met up with the iron hand of justice yet.

<http://www.irs.gov/charities/article...159879,00.html>

<http://apps.irs.gov/app/pub78>

Soapboxmom

Ask the Consumer Advocate

08-12-2006 10:38 PM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

Amen and Amen. Please see my e-mail to Jack upon seeing their advertising of a "christ centered" business. I intended to respond to their warped theology. However I do not know if Scam.com is the proper place for theological debate.

Your points were well taken. There is a strong collorary between Mt. 21 and this business scam.

To: jack@advantageconferences.com

Subject: Shame on you

I smell scam. And all in the name of my precious Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Shame, shame on you greedy money changers. Here is the proper MINDSET

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of NO REPUTATION, and took upon him the form of a servant... Phil 2:5-7

Our Lord amassed no earthly treasure. His apostles all died martyrs except John. Their combined estates at death were zero.

I have seen these evil MLM scams come and go since 1972. They thrive on greed.

Are you going to join Sam Caster, Lowell Mims, Rich De Vos and Jay Van Andel in the Christian MLM hall of shame?

I am 69 years old. Have been trying to preach the gospel without charge for 55 years. If I died today my estate would be under 10K, yet I can say with Paul, I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

*A wretched man, saved by grace if saved at all
Elder Frank Thomas*

Here is Jacks reply

Frank, I will pray for you brother. For you to judge that which you have no clue and obviously have done no due diligence is not only sad, but not Christ-like in any way. I wish you well and I have attached a copy of Slay Your Giant without charge as you have some giants that need to be slain. The Lord gives us the power to get wealth as you know from His word and not so we can hold tight to it, so it can flow through us. How dare you make such an accusation and I will stop at that before I reflect the lack of love and decency that you have demonstrated here. I have already forgiven you brother whether you asked for it or not.

Be blessed so you can be a blessing. We are reaching over 8,000 people with the Good News every week and most of them will never be representatives of AC. We will raise \$250 million for

His Kingdom over the next 5 years. My best to you and enjoy your read.

Jack

It is apparent these men (Jack and Tim) have bought into the health and wealth gospel, which is not a gospel but unscriptural error. I am reading the "Slay your Giant" which I downloaded. I will be making a point by point scriptural critique of Tim's false teachings. I will not sit back and see God's little ones led down a path of financial destruction.

Elder Frank Thomas

Quote:

Originally Posted by **the411**

Poweroldglory

Your last post is absolutely chilling. Undoubtedly, you and SBD have faced personal attacks here that I do not condone nor have participated in. (Re-read any of my posts). I have sought to be a moderate, professional voice of dissension when it comes to Advantage Conferences.

Regardless of what has been said to you or about your company, your retaliation in like manner is most unbefitting for someone Representing a Christian Company. You have responded not in love or gentle words which turn away wrath, but in harsh words that stir up anger- Proverbs 15:1. You and SBD have repeatedly referred to your opponents here as "lame brains," "cognitively challenged," "delusional", "scizophrenic," "bigots", "ass" and flat out "idiots." To add to this, you have taken a "Holier than Thou" stance in each of your post, often asserting that you are part of a world wide crusade while those here serve a useless purpose. If that wasn't enough, you have had the audacity to end these snide retaliations with "God Bless You."

Sir, I am going to ask you kindly to hold to your commitment of being done with this thread. You are making a mockery of the Christian faith that I hold dear.

Let me remind you of the only time our Lord lashed out in anger. In Matthew 21 the tables of the money changers were over turned in the temple. These "robbers" were convincing good men and women that the sacrificial animals they brought to the temple looked weak and pitiful. These temple go-ers were conned into paying ridiculous prices for better, healthier looking sacrificial animals. The parallel here to Advantage Conferences is left to interpretation, but clear to me. With the new "Treasures for the Kingdom" slogan you have adopted, you have taken a similar role. The real crusade you are a part of is convincing good Christian people that they need your Network Marketing program in order to offer God a meaningful, more giving life as a part of his Kingdom. The fact of the matter is that people do not need your \$10,000 conference in order to please God, be part of a world wide crusade, or even be successful in life. And to call those who express opposition to your crusade "idiots" only

confirms my suspicion that it is only a matter of time before the tables are over turned on you!

humbled-by-grace

08-13-2006 12:24 AM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

You are correct in your assesment of Mr. Darnell. He would not even respond to my emails. I just received the same old script. As I indicated in earlier posts, the Gospel truth is a powerful message that will draw many who do not know the Lord but are looking for meaning to the rhetoric and distortions of the "health and wealth" gospel. This is why I believe this particular brand of MLM is so destructive. There is more than money the victims will lose. I do not believe health sceptic will be drawn in by Mr. Darnell's message to the point where they will turn over the 9,995.00 required to be a MMC-IV Pro Rep, but I think some good honest people can be sucked into the scam by the powerful message of the Gospel that is "used" to may the sale in this form of MLM.

Jesus looked at him and loved him. "One thing you lack," he said. "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." Mark 10:21

Soapboxmom

08-13-2006 12:28 AM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

Ask theConsumer Advocate,

Welcome to the thread! I have torn apart the business model, calculated funds available to the reps, investigated the many bogus charities and startling conradictions that are a part of AC. I am very much looking forward to your take on the ways Timmy boy has taken the scripture and twisted it for his own deceitful purposes. I am not terribly religious, but I believe that honesty and service to one's fellow man are the cornerstones to a happy life. I will continue to expose this bum deal in hopes that I can prevent more victims of these serial scammers.

When AC threatened me with lawsuits they seriously miscalculated. That just made me more determined to research and expose this scam for what it is. We can all see how little Jack really thinks of this deal as he hasn't the courage to defend it now that he has been exposed as SoapBoxDad one of the most arrogant and self-righteous buffoons to ever post on this thread. Hopefully your take on the scripture will help those drawn by the religious aspect of this to reconsider before lining Tim's and Jack's pockets and putting themselves and others in financial peril.

Soapboxmom

humbled-by-grace

08-13-2006 12:28 AM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

Sorry too many misspellings in the above. The sentence should have read:

"I do not believe healthy sceptic will be drawn in by Mr. Darnell's message to the point where they will turn over the 9,995.00 required to be a MMC-IV Pro Rep, but I think some good honest people can be sucked into the scam by the powerful message of the Gospel that is "used" to make the sale in this form of MLM."

Ask therConsumer Advocate

08-13-2006 03:45 AM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

He might find some help in recovery at MLM Survivors. Ruth and her group are wonderful people.

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Wishyouknew**

There is another thread that has been started on our old friend Jack..

Also a new former AC Rep "ACVictom" has joined our group on scam.com.

Welcome and we are sorry for your lose. Join the club!

07-19-2006, 07:38 PM

AC Victim!

Junior Member Join Date: Jul 2006

Posts: 1

Watch Out for 7KAdvantage/Jack Weinzierl is an EVIL Rat! Liar and Scammer!

Hi Everyone,

I wish that I would have found this thread a year ago! I need to warn everyone about a scam called the 7kadvantage....

There is an evil man masquerading as a Christian, and his name is Jack Weinzierl. He will lie and cheat every last penny out of your savings and then never return your calls after it is

obvious that you have no more to give.

I fell for this scam BIG TIME.... I believed in Jack.... and he and his wife kept telling me to "believe" and that everything would "work out" in God's time. What a fool I was.... he tried to tell me that my faith wasn't strong enough! The more I got to know him, the more un-Christian I realized he was! There is truly a dark spirit around this man and his wife! They are EVIL to the core!

My entire life savings was blown on this ridiculous opportunity. I fully understand that is probably my fault as much as anyone's, but there was Jack and his evil wife... encouraging me every step of the way! I am so embarrassed.... but I feel the need to share this disaster with others so that they don't fall for it as well!

I literally cried the night I went to my hotel room after attending a Millionaire Mindset Conference... I knew then that I had been taken. And I felt worse because I had unknowingly conned a close friend of mine to attend as well...He could only afford a one day ticket...I was sick.

PLEASE people.... beware of this scam. I have lost everything because of this opportunity, along with my poor decision making... my wife left me...everything.

BEWARE OF JACK WEINZIERL!!!!

Ask theConsumer Advocate

08-13-2006 05:33 AM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

Thank you. You and Ruth at MLM survivors are my favorite ladies (after my wife that is). I have fought other "christian" scams like Mannatech, Eagle Shield and Electro Kat, but AC is by far the most pernicious.

Ask the consumer advocate

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Soapboxmom**

Ask theConsumer Advocate,

Welcome to the thread! I have torn apart the business model, calculated funds available to the reps, investigated the many bogus charities and startling contradictions that are a part of AC. I am very much looking forward to your take on the ways Timmy boy has taken the scripture and twisted it for his own deceitful purposes. I am not terribly religious, but I believe that honesty and service to one's fellow man are the cornerstones to a happy life. I will continue to expose

this bum deal in hopes that I can prevent more victims of these serial scammers.

When AC threatened me with lawsuits they seriously miscalculated. That just made me more determined to research and expose this scam for what it is. We can all see how little Jack really thinks of this deal as he hasn't the courage to defend it now that he has been exposed as SoapBoxDad one of the most arrogant and self-righteous buffoons to ever post on this thread. Hopefully your take on the scripture will help those drawn by the religious aspect of this to reconsider before lining Tim's and Jack's pockets and putting themselves and others in financial peril.

Soapboxmom

CuriousinDallas

08-13-2006 06:47 AM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

A question that nobody has asked on this thread is this (I restrict the subject matter to only "Christ-centered" businesses):

[Has any one concerned themselves with the question of deciding for and against joining a business like this, being a 'Spirit-led' decision **or** an emotional one?](#)

In my experience a lot of Christians can't tell the difference between an emotional decision or a 'Spirit-led' one.

Bottom line, if people spend \$10k with this company for their product, I question whether or not their decision is emotional **or** 'Spirit-led'. If it's the former, then they will, more than likely, **not** make money. If it's the latter, then they will, more than likely, make money.

Consequently, regardless of what the naysayers put out **or** the proponents for that matter, if the majority of folks at Advantage Conference are not making money then their decision is probably **not** 'Spirit-led' but emotional and that is the reason for their losses.

MLMs are a bad business model because they trigger emotion and not intellect in the secular world or God's leadership in a Christian business venture. Those that are making money honestly in this kind of endeavor have their full wits about them and completely understand the process and how to use it to their advantage (pun intended) **AND** are few and far between. That does not necessarily make them crooks. But it does make them, at the very least, extremely naive in mentoring others and thinking that others can duplicate their success.

Entrepreneurs are not made they are born. Successful people demonstrate their entrepreneurial tendencies at different times in their lives. Whether 10, 20, 30 or even 70 years old before that realization dawns and they ACT on it, it was always inherent in them. The old adage of the unwritten 80/20 rule works every time. 80% of ALL businesses fail within the first 5 years. 20%

of an organization makes 80% of the profit. I could go on!

If AC plans to break that rule they are going to be seriously disappointed. AC may have a great product, (and a conference program **is** a product), but it can claim to make successful entrepreneurs out, at the very most, 20% of it's reps (see below). Unless it carefully selects and successfully picks those people who are the **born** entrepreneurs and in this case the ones who are led by God to pursue this venture. That can only be achieved through a thorough team led interview process carried out over a period of time and in person, with thorough references, resumes and indepth analyses. In an MLM environment unless all candidates are local, that is not possible.

Consequently, because they will be receiving emotional decisions from the majority of candidates then the end result will be that **only** 20% of 20% will make money at AC. This means less than 5% will be successful. I don't know if my figures are accurate with regard to AC, but I bet they are close.

This analysis is not meant to be critical of AC in particular. I have just chosen it because its in my home town and I happened on this thread through a mutual acquaintance who is a rep and is apparently very happy at AC. This writer questions the **entire** MLM business model as a viable way for ANYONE to make money on two fronts:

1. The 'emotional' or 'Spirit-led' element for Christian businesses.
2. The 'entrepreneurial' element for any MLM.

The bottom line, in the end for the buyer, is simply two words:

Caveat Emptor.

Period!!

yossarian

08-13-2006 08:27 AM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

Quote:

Originally Posted by **CuriousinDallas**

Bottom line, if people spend \$10k with this company for their product, I question whether or not their decision is emotional or 'Spirit-led'. If it's the former, then they will, more than likely, not make money. If it's the latter, then they will, more than likely, make money.

Consequently, regardless of what the naysayers put out or the proponents for that matter, if the majority of folks at Advantage Conference are not making money then their decision is

probablynot 'Spirit-led' but emotional and that is the reason for their losses.

I strongly disagree with the basis of your logic. It would mean believing that God "leads" people to make decisions, financial or otherwise, so that they will experience financial abundance. Therefore, if you are not making money at something, that must mean that your involvement is not "spirit lead." It discounts the possibility that God has placed you in a business (or any situation, for that matter) for reasons that do not involve money in any way -- to bless those within it through personal relationships, for example. It also assumes that our God guides us by the "path of least resistance" principle, an idea which runs contrary to most of the stories and verses found in the Bible.

That said, if anyone is truly lead by God to join AC it will be for the purpose of exposing this scam from the inside out to bring Timmy and Jacko to justice.

In the case of Advantage Conferences, we are dealing with **blatant exploitation of the Christian faith**. Tim Darnell is a man who **uses Jesus Christ to sell conferences in the same way Nike uses Tiger Woods to sell golf clubs**. It is difficult for me to understand how Christians are not able to see how evil this is, because it couldn't possibly be more obvious to the majority of people who post to this thread, myself included.

Wishyouknew

08-13-2006 06:41 PM

Re: Advantages Conferences / Tim Darnell

[quote=CuriousinDallas]A question that nobody has asked on this thread is this (I restrict the subject matter to only "Christ-centered" businesses):

[Has any one concerned themselves with the question of deciding for and against joining a business like this, being a 'Spirit-led' decision or an emotional one?](#)

In my experience a lot of Christians can't tell the difference between an emotional decision or a 'Spirit-led' one. QUOTE]

CuriousinDallas,

Welcome to our little thread here. You are exactly right. Most Christians can't tell the difference. However the Presidential Interview process in which Tim Darnell ask a series of questions designed to getting the prospect to make a emotional decision.

The more important question in this thread (in my mind) is the legality of this business model.

Also, another important question. Will Tim Darnell give refunds to the people he has promised them to?

Will Tim Darnell change his advertising to be more truthful?

Will Advantage Conference survive with the growing amount of money being spent on lawsuits?

Time will tell!

Wishyouknew

08-13-2006 06:43 PM

Re: Scammed by Adavantage Conferences and Tim Darnell and Jack Weinzierl

BUMP! (I wanted to bring this tread back up to the forefront!)

Wishyouknew

08-13-2006 06:45 PM

Re: Advantage Conferences, is it Legal and ethical in its use of Relgion?

All new posters on the Advantage Conferences Thread. Please vote!

yossarian

08-13-2006 07:29 PM

Re: Advantage Conferences, is it Legal and ethical in its use of Relgion?

Commission approval Federal Register notice: In response to a request from the public, the Commission has approved the publication of a Federal Register notice extending the rebuttal comment period for the proposed Business Opportunity Rule to September 29, 2006. In a Federal Register notice published on April 12, 2006, the FTC requested comments on the proposed rulemaking. Comments had to be submitted to the Commission on or before June 16, 2006, with rebuttal comments to be submitted on or before July 7, 2006. On June 1, 2006, the FTC extended the public comment period to July 17, 2006, and the rebuttal period to August 7, 2006. The Commission has now extended the time for rebuttals further, requiring rebuttals to be submitted on or before September 29, 2006.

Looks like we'll have to wait another month to hear the death rattle of thousands of scams just like AC as they fail to live up to the new FTC rule.

Phinnly Slash Buster

08-14-2006 02:11 AM

Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)

Tim Darnell's [sacred?] cash cow is slowly sinking in quicksand.

Federal Judge Allows Lawsuit Against Faith-Based Prison Program To Proceed

Friday, August 11, 2006

Pennsylvania County Fails In Effort To Dismiss Legal Challenge

A federal judge in Pennsylvania has allowed a lawsuit against government funding of a faith-based prison ministry to proceed.

On Aug. 10, U.S. District Judge James M. Munley dismissed an attempt by Bradford County officials to scuttle a lawsuit brought last year challenging local, state and federal funding of an evangelical prison ministry.

Americans United for Separation of Church and State along with the law firm of Arnold & Porter and the ACLU of Pennsylvania are representing members of the Bradford County Alliance for Democracy (BCAD) in the lawsuit.

“It is clearly unconstitutional for the government to expend tax dollars for a prison ministry program that proselytizes inmates and coerces them to take part in religious activities,” said Americans United Senior Litigation Counsel Alex Luchenitser. “We are pleased that the federal judge has allowed our case to go forward.”

The prison program operated by a group called The Firm Foundation has received hundreds of thousands of dollars in public funds to offer vocational training for inmates of the Bradford County Correctional Facility. The program was implemented in 2003 and is the only vocational training available to the inmates. The BCAD uncovered immense financial mismanagement of the program and church-state problems, but county officials refused to heed their concerns.

In *Moeller v. Bradford County*, the plaintiffs argue that The Firm Foundation’s vocational program is largely an evangelical ministry that should not be supported by public funds. The plaintiffs’ suit argues that large amounts of the program include religious discussion, lectures and prayers and that its staff is made up entirely of persons adhering to the Foundation’s religious beliefs.

Bradford County officials had urged the federal court to dismiss the lawsuit for technical and substantive reasons.

In yesterday’s action, Judge Munley concluded that plaintiffs’ claims were substantial and that litigation should proceed.

http://www.au.org/site/News2?abbr=pr...s_iv_ctrl=1241

humbled-by-grace

08-14-2006 03:51 AM

Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)

Yossarian stated:

In the case of Advantage Conferences, we are dealing with blatant exploitation of the

Christian faith. Tim Darnell is a man who uses Jesus Christ to sell conferences in the same way Nike uses Tiger Woods to sell golf clubs. It is difficult for me to understand how Christians are not able to see how evil this is, because it couldn't possibly be more obvious to the majority of people who post to this thread, myself included.

You are ABSOLUTELY right. However, as I have been trying to get across, the Gospel message is very powerful to those who have been searching for a better way. There is a "pull" from the message presented to people of faith. Mr. Darnell is very skilled and adept at bringing this message across at the right time to "soften" one's defenses and to confuse the mind of those who are as familiar with the Word of God yet are attracted to the "Good News" of the Gospel. This is the evil of AC and "christian based" MLMs. It is not so much that the Word of God is twisted to rationalize the greed of a few, the spiritual call itself is USED to sell a DREAM (as in "not a reality"). It leaves it's victim poor, discouraged, bitter and embarrassed by their self perceived naviete--All in the name of our Lord. It doesn't get any worse.

CuriousinDallas

08-14-2006 03:57 AM

Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)

Originally quoted by Yossarin:

[quote]**I strongly disagree with the basis of your logic. It would mean believing that God "leads" people to make decisions, financial or otherwise, so that they will experience financial abundance. Therefore, if you are not making money at something, that must mean that your involvement is not "spirit lead." It discounts the possibility that God has placed you in a business (or any situation, for that matter) for reasons that do not involve money in any way -- to bless those within it through personal relationships, for example. It also assumes that our God guides us by the "path of least resistance" principle, an idea which runs contrary to most of the stories and verses found in the Bible.**[/QUOTE]

Yossarin, I totally agree with you. If I was implying that money was the primary motivator behind my reasoning then you'd be right in critising. However, I was merely suggesting that the opportunity would more than likely only be 'Spirit-led' if it 'made money'. What I should have said is 'be successful'. That would encompass all the variable reasons why God would bring a person to the decision to start their own business.

But I disagree with you if you are implying that God would purposely encourage someone to go into business and lose money. If God leads someone to start their own 'For-Profit' business, money **will** be a factor and they **will** more than likely be profitable. If the end game for God involves other attributes than 'pure profit' then sobeit. But my friend, they wont lose money either. If they do, as I pointed out, they will join the 80% who fail for one reason or another.

Hope that clarifies an ambiguous post.

CuriousinDallas

08-14-2006 04:08 AM

Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)

HBG,

If I'm understanding you correctly you are saying that their decision to join any given opportunity (that ultimately fails) was one of emotion and not Spiritual guidance from our Lord and Savior'?

A p

ll a

ti g

m e

es 4

ar 2

e o

G f

M 9

T 5

-

5.

T

he

ti

m

e

n

o

w

is

0

9:

1

6

P

M

.

«
F
ir
st
2 2 2 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 6 6 9
3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2
»
L
a
st
»

[Show 40 post\(s\) from this thread on one page](#)