



Christian Leadership & Business Program

Program Curriculum, Lesson Plans & Facilitation Guide
2026-2027 | 9 Sessions | 12-Fellow Cohort

Program Purpose & Overview

The Cardus Entrepreneurial NextGEN (ENG) Fellowship program equips Christian business leaders to integrate faith, moral responsibility, and economic leadership. Participants will develop a deeper theological understanding of business, cultivate habits of ethical leadership, and learn to navigate complex contemporary issues while contributing to the flourishing of their institutions, communities, and markets.

The program runs across 9 sessions spanning September to June. Sessions alternate between Zoom (half-day, typically 10:00 AM – noon and 1:00 – 3:00 PM EST) and in-person gatherings in Calgary, Ottawa, and Hamilton.

The 9 Program Sessions at a Glance

	Title	Date / Keynotes	Format	Session Focus
1	Orientation & The Christian View of Economics	September 24 Michael VanPelt	Zoom	Introduce participants to the program and explore the Christian understanding of economics, markets, and human flourishing – examining both a pro-free-enterprise perspective and a more critical Christian voice.
2	God in the Big Picture / God in Business	October 7-8 Mark Maxwell Missy Wallace	In-Person Calgary	Explore vocation, calling, and the place of business within God’s broader purposes for creation. Ground participants in a robust Christian worldview and understand the Bible’s overarching story as it applies to their work.
3	Ethics in Business	November 17-18 Ray Pennings Brian Dijkema	In-Person Toronto	Build robust frameworks for ethical decision-making in complex institutional environments. Explore how Christian faith shapes leaders’ responses to issues of justice, freedom, pluralism, and moral compromise. Note that participation in the Entrepreneurial Leaders Organization Toronto Forum will be part of this session.
4	Practices & Rhythms of Leadership	January 14 Rick Goosen	Zoom	Explore the spiritual and leadership disciplines that sustain wise, faithful leadership over time – including time stewardship, personal rhythm, and strategies for resisting burnout and moral drift.



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5	Character Matters	February 11 Anne Snyder	Zoom	Examine the formation of moral character in leaders – and the indispensable link between character and lasting institutional influence.
6	Hot Topics & Burning Questions	March (TBD – to align with the Cardus Exchange event)	In-Person Ottawa	Engage current social, political, and economic debates affecting business and leadership – including AI, diversity and inclusion, crisis management, and public theology for the marketplace.
7	Business & the Big Questions	April 15	Zoom	Examine fundamental questions about the purpose of business and its role in society – developing a mature philosophy of enterprise and clarifying each participant's own leadership convictions.
8	Challenges Leaders Face	May 6-7 Uli Chi	In-Person Hamilton	Address real-world leadership challenges – conflict, institutional pressure, blind spots, crisis, and the pursuit of wisdom – with practical tools and peer learning.
9	Case Study & Integration	June 17-18	In-Person tbd	Integrate the program's learning through a rich case study and honest cohort reflection – naming what has shifted, what commitments to carry forward, and how to sustain the relationships built in this cohort.

