

Are you content to build someone else's dreams? Or do you yearn to work for yourself?

Every day presents us with new opportunities; Whether we take advantage of those opportunities, or not, is entirely up to us. How many times have you seen someone make an investment, develop a new product, or simply offer a service that any of us could have done if we'd just seized the opportunity.

That's the difference between an entrepreneur and those who are content to work for the entrepreneurs who create the jobs. I've done both over the course of my working life. The first chapter, after doing things like painting or roofing houses, delivering newspapers, or performing various odd jobs, was spent working in the corporate world. I was content – for a while.

Then, like many entrepreneurs, circumstances dictated a change be made. We started our first business in 1995, bought another in 1997, and after that, embarked on a series of entrepreneurial ventures.

ARPI provides business and community coaching throughout the United States. If you have a business question for Jack, email him at

jack.newcomb@totelcsi.com. You can also visit the ARPI website, www.advancingruralprosperity.com. It was scary at first, but it became easier as we gained experience. Along the way we've owned, operated, bought, sold, and are currently still actively engaged in a few ventures. In addition, I've worked with over 800 business owners as an advisor/coach. I must add, however, that business ownership continues to be a challenging way to make a living, but it is extremely satisfying as well.

This week, I was talking to my son, who is deeply entrenched in the corporate world, and our conversation turned to career options and opportunities. My advice to him was, "While I was very content working for someone else, nothing compares to working for yourself. Seize the opportunity".

