

Who was creator of LEGO? Not many people know him. It started with a ordinary carpenter Ole Kirk Christiansen, who lived in the town in Denmark, called Billund. As carpenter, he started his trade by making household product from wood.

In 1924, when his two sons played around with matches in the house, they ended up burning the whole the house and their father's business. Thankfully, everyone was saved, but sadly Ole's business gone.



He started his business again from scratch. Not long after that another tragedy came again. In 1932, as the Great Depression worsened in the United State, not far-flung Billund and Ole's business would be sparred by the crisis. He had to let go all his employee. Not long after that, his beloved wife died. The carpenter was left on his own with four sons.

At forty-one years of age, he was a widower living in the largest house in Billund - a house that he soon might not be able to afford to maintain. Great Depression meant demand had dried up for his business. What had happened next?

Like many success stories, those challenge would only prove to be serendipitous. In the same year Ole Kirk made the decision to manufacture wooden toys. He turned his skills to creating a range of toys for children, some of them include yo-yos, wooden blocks, pull-along animals, and vehicles of all kinds.

The reason he turned to wooden toys because he saw that even in times of financial strife, people would still be willing to buy wooden toys for their children. In just few years his business was good again. And He built another factory. But was this the beginning to his success?

Not so fast. In 1942 misfortune struck again. Another fire burned down the new factory and all the production pattern were lost. At the same time Europe also facing short supply, and plastic gradually began to dominate the world market.

With very little money, finally he took action to buy plastic injection moulding machine with borrowed money. With his newly acquired experience with plastic, the toy company soon design and manufacture the LEGO brick.



For years Ole Kirk experienced financial as well as other difficulties before his real breakthrough came. The only one that would keep him going was his faith. Not many knew that the founder of LEGO was a follower of Christ. It was his faith that helped him through personal crises, including the death of his wife in 1932. He was a member of Danish Christian movement called "Indre Mission". Even before the LEGO company grew bigger, almost everyone would meet together for a short prayer before work.