

**Community Leadership:**  
**Going to Work for Christ**

**Week 7 - Men For Jesus Leadership Training**

Memory verse

***1 Corinthians 10:31 - So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.***

I. The concept of work comes from \_\_\_\_\_

**Genesis 2:1-3 & 15**

II. Flawed views of work:

\_\_\_\_\_ view of work:

- Our purpose and fulfillment in life
- Success in life is based on success at work
- Do whatever it takes to get the job done
- Careerism: Idolatry

**Truth:** *Our purpose is to glorify God through obedience, justice, serving, and worshiping Him alone with our entire being. In Christ alone will we find fulfillment and satisfaction. (Ex 20:3-6; Deu 10:12-13; Mic 6:8; Jn 4:14; Ecl 12:13; Co. 3:17).*

Work is our \_\_\_\_\_:

- Your profession defines who you are
- Defines your social and economic status

**Truth:** *If you have placed your complete trust in Christ, then your identity is in Christ. You are a son of God, you are alive, a new creation, and an ambassador for Christ's work. (2 Co 5:17-6:2; Ro 6:1-14; 8:1-4; Eph 2:1-10; Jn 10:1-18).*

Two \_\_\_\_\_ views:

- Work has no intrinsic value (secular essentially)
- Only religious activities or full-time ministry advances the Kingdom

**Truth:** *"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord..." Col 3:23. The Body of Christ has many members which are all valuable and all have specific functions. (1 Cor 12:12-31; Eph 4:1-16).*

Work is only a \_\_\_\_\_:

- Work is only a platform for the Gospel
- Work takes the back seat to the Gospel
- God is not as concerned about the physical needs

**Truth:** *The Gospel is not only proclaimed through words, it also is proclaimed through our lives. (Col 3:1-17; Eph 4:17-5:20; Matt 5:13-19; Jn 13:34-35; 1 Jn 4:19-21; Mt 28:18-20)*

It's \_\_\_\_\_ work:

- Our choices and accomplishments are results of our labor
- Self-seeking attitude

**Truth:** *God has given us the gift of being co-workers with God to accomplish His purposes. (Pro 16:4; 16:9; Matt 28:18-20; Phi 2:12-13)*

### Where did these flawed views of work come from?

From the Fall and Curse:

- Myth: The Fall of man caused the creation of work
- *Toiling over work is a result from the curse (Gen. 3:17-19):*

*“To Adam he said, “Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat from it,’ “Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.”*

### **III. Whatever you do (work)**

*Ecclesiastes 3: 12-13 I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God.*

*Vs. 22 So I saw that there is nothing better for a person than to enjoy their work, because that is their lot. For who can bring them to see what will happen after them?*

Question of the day: How do we get from point A (work stinks) to point B, satisfaction and enjoyment as described by Solomon?

A. Does attitude on the job matter?

*Colossians 3:23 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.*

B. Christians should be known for \_\_\_\_\_

Why? Because...

- God is our Boss/Master (Rom 6:20-23; Eph 6:5-9)
- We are called to holy living (Eph 4:25-32; Col 3:12-17; Pr 21:3)
- Deflects glory to Christ

*Teach slaves to be subject to their masters in everything, to try to please them, not to talk back to them, and not to steal from them, but to show that they can be fully trusted, so that in every way they will make the teaching about God our Savior attractive. Titus 2:9-1*

C. Our reward for work is \_\_\_\_\_

- Expect God's reward for faithfully serving Him (Eph 6:6-8; Pr 16:3; 21:5; 22:29).

*Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free. Ephesians 6:7*

D. Work knowing God will evaluate you efforts

*1 John 2:3-4 – We know that we have come to know Him if we obey His commands. The man who says, "I know Him," but does not do what He commands is a liar, and the truth is not in Him.*

#### IV. Application

*Ephesians 6:5-9 (NIV)*

*Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people, because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free.*

*And masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with him.*

- Obey with respect and fear
- Sincerity of heart
- Motive for this work/service

As Christians, we have been set free to \_\_\_\_\_,  
as a \_\_\_\_\_

**Conclusion:** There should be no distinction between how we  
\_\_\_\_\_ and how we  
\_\_\_\_\_ in our pursuit of glorifying God.

## Questions

1. Does your attitude for work reflect the **1 Corinthians 10:31** approach of doing it all for the glory of God? What attitudes, desires, and habits do you have that need to be changed?
2. How does a good worker reflect being a good witness for Christ and give Him glory? What would this mean to you in further practice?
3. How can you lead a distinctive lifestyle in the workplace?

