

February 22, 2015

“Working for a Living”
Text: Various

Since God designed things so that we spend such a significant portion of our waking hours at work, and since he has promised us an abundant life, “full of joy and peace and happiness and fulfillment,” it stands to reason that he wants us to enjoy our w____. Work is a gift from God.

If you find yourself miserable in your work, you can be sure that this isn't the way God intended it to be. One of two things needs to happen: a.) you need to change *where* you work, or b.) you need to change *how* you work. Ref: Eccl: 3:13

You need to make sure that you do your job in a way that brings honor and glory to God.

a.) This is not an ideal work environment. Ref: Nehemiah 4:17

The perfect work environment doesn't exist -- even when you're doing something great for the glory of God -- the perfect work e_____ doesn't exist. We need to learn to expect and accept these imperfections.

b.) This job is just temporary. When I get my dream job I'll pour myself into it.

The best advice I could give today is to take whatever job you can get, and do it like you were called to do it the rest of your life. Ref: Colossians 3:23

The habits you develop with your current job will follow you for the rest of your career. Ref: Luke 16:10

c.) Good enough is good enough. Ref: Proverbs 22:29

There's a saying that water seeks its own l_____. It means that people tend to attract what they are .When you do your work with excellence, you raise the level, and people notice and rewards follow.

1. Describe a job well done.

Sometimes we make the mistake of measuring a job well done by the results we want, rather than the actions we take. The problem is that you can't control results; you can only control your e_____.

We all love successful results, but we can't control successful results, we can only control the faithful execution of our responsibilities, carried out with a s_____of excellence.

Results come and go. A job done well is its own r_____.

2. Define who you're called to serve.

We need to remember that we serve God by serving others. Every job involves service to someone.

If you want to find more satisfaction in your work, focus on those whom you're called to serve, and serve them well. Ref: Matthew 20:26

3. Decide to be a team player.

We're more e_____ when we work together.

4. Designate role-models whose example you can follow.

Good habits and good attitudes are also contagious, if you stick close enough to the person who has them.

5. Determine what you really hope to gain. Ref: 1st Timothy 5:18

When your reward for the work that you do is the satisfaction of a job well done, knowing that you have pleased the One whom you ultimately serve, that is enough. Proverbs 22:29