

Equipped to Serve II September 20th & 21st, 2014

Galatians 6:10

This verse directs us to make the most of every opportunity to do good to those both inside and outside of the church body.

Outside the Church Body: Employment

📖 *Colossians 3:22-4:1*

- ❖ Christians will influence their work environment for good or for bad!

f An example of influencing for the good: Joseph

Genesis 39:4-5 “So Joseph found favor in his sight and attended him, and he made him overseer of his house and put him in charge of all that he had. From the time that he made him overseer in his house and over all that he had, the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; the blessing of the Lord was on all that he had, in house and field.”

f An example of influencing for the bad: Jonah

Jonah 1:12 “He said to them, ‘Pick me up and hurl me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you, for I know it is because of me that this great tempest has come upon you.’”

- ❖ Christians are to have a Godly attitude on the job!

Obedience: Greek “(hupo, ‘under,’ akouo, ‘to hear’)...”¹ To submit to the one in authority

Respect: Honoring authority

“...not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers...” for example, working hard only when the boss is looking!

Sincerity of heart: Pure and honest motives

Fearing the Lord: Honor and respect for God, and a healthy understanding of God’s high and holy calling on our lives. *Colossians 1:9-10*

Work heartily as for the Lord: God blesses us with employment, therefore we work with enthusiasm and an attitude of gratefulness.

Knowing that from the Lord you will receive...your reward: God will reward us beyond our paycheck!

You are serving the Lord Christ: We are ultimately serving our Lord Jesus on our jobs!

For the wrongdoer will be paid back: If we are ill-treated, we do not need to seek revenge for God will pay back the wrongdoer.

📖 *1 Peter 1:18-20*

- ❖ Christian employers are to exhibit a Godly attitude toward their employees!

“Masters, treat your bondservants justly and fairly, ...”

Just: “... influenced by regard to the laws of God;...”²

Fair: “... Open; frank; honest ... Not affected by insidious or unlawful methods; ...”²

Inside the Church Body: Ministry

📖 *1 Corinthians 12:4-7*

“To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good” (verse 7)

f You are given a gift to be a blessing to others in the body of Christ.

1 Corinthians 10:31

*“So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do,
do all to the glory of God.”*

Endnotes:

¹ Vine, W.E. *Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old & New Testament Words*. Nashville: T. Nelson Publishers, 1997.

² Webster, Noah. *American Dictionary of the English Language (1828 Facsimile Edition)*. San Francisco: Foundation for American Christian Education, 1989.

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