

COLOSSIANS 3:23-24

YOUR **WORK**
MATTERS

FINDING PURPOSE IN THE WORKPLACE



Finding Purpose in the Workplace

Today we're going to consider the Christian and work – how your work matters, and how you can find purpose in the workplace.

This topic is important for several reasons:

- We devote a large portion of time to work. If you work 40 hours a week for 50 weeks a year, and you work from age 22 to 65, that's more than 86,000 hours of your life.
- Work affects us. Many are working longer and harder than ever before. It drains us physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Some face toxic work environments with people who have no moral code.
- We're preparing our children to enter the work force. They too will become future workers and will follow our steps one day.

CONSIDER 3 THOUGHTS ABOUT WORK:

GOD EXPECTS US TO WORK (COL. 3:23)

- The Bible begins with work. God worked in creating the world (Gen. 2:2-3). It was the plan of the master craftsman (Ps. 19:1)
- God's design for man was that we would follow the example of God- that we too would take part in work (Gen. 2:15)
- God expects us to work (Col. 3:23; 1 Thess. 4:11). The earth was designed for work – to eat one must first work (Ps. 104:14).
- There's something satisfying about work, a good hard day's labor (Ps. 128:1-2). One of the many benefits of work is that it often provides an opportunity for us to use what God has given to us (our talents and abilities). I think of...
 - Gen. 10:9 – Nimrod the mighty hunter
 - Gen. 4:22 – Zilla the forger of instruments of bronze
 - Acts 18:24 – Apollos, an eloquent man, competent in the Scriptures
- Is there a talent, an ability God has given you? Are you sitting on it? Are you looking for opportunities to use your abilities – things that have come naturally, or things that you've developed, learned, and perfected? (Prov. 22:29)
- God expects us to work, and to work well (Col. 3:22-23) – to work with an attitude of excellence. God doesn't want you to be lazy or halfhearted. Give your best – the best of your attitude, effort, and time.
- Realize that in my work I am not only serving my employer, I'm serving God!



GOD EXPECTS US TO REMAIN IN CONTROL (COL. 3:22)

- God expects our jobs not to do us in. This can happen in a number of ways:
- **Being a workaholic** – consumed so much with your job that you have no joy in your heart. You have no time for the Lord, your family, or others.
- 1 Tim. 5:8 – we must provide for our loved ones, however we cannot get so caught up providing money that we fail to providing a loving, spiritual example and presence that relationships need!
- **Being changed by the environment** – becoming like the world around us, we take on the negative, immoral, impure examples we see
- Remember – I decide what I let in my heart (Rom. 12:1-2; Prov. 4:23). Set boundaries. Guard your heart!



GOD EXPECTS US TO BLESS OTHERS THROUGH OUR WORK (COL. 3:24)

- Work connects us all together. The farmer, the businessman, the accountant, the store owner, the nurse, the school teacher, the electrician, the lawyer, we all need each other.
- You can make the gospel attractive through how you work (Tit. 2:9-10). Come to work on time. Do your work well. Have a good attitude. Take an interest in others.
- In you others will see someone with conviction, compassion – they'll see Christ!

5 REMINDERS

1. **It's tough out there – pray!**
2. **Make home and worship a restful oasis.**
3. **There may come a time for the sake of your salvation, that you must find another job.**
4. **The good that you do often stays with people longer than you realize.**
5. **Remember your true aim in life – becoming more like Christ – reaching the reward of heaven.**





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Times of Service

Sunday Worship: 10 am

Sunday Bible Study: 5 pm

Wednesday Bible Study: 7 pm

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