

“LIVING BY FAITH IN THE WORKPLACE: PART II”
EPHESIANS 6:5-9
FEBRUARY 8, 2009

Questions for Study and Reflection

1. Pastor Charlie expressed some concern that you would hear his last two sermons as nothing more than religious platitudes, that is, as ideas which are nice for church but that don't work in the real world. Have his sermons struck you like this? More importantly, have Paul's words in Ephesians 6:5-9 struck you like this? Knowing that what Paul wrote is from the Lord, what can you do to grow in understanding of the practical implications of what he wrote?
2. When asked, "What do you do for work?" a woman once answered, "I'm an ambassador for Jesus Christ cleverly disguised as a checkout clerk!" Do you see your work this way? How can you grow in this understanding of reality?
3. Does your love for Jesus impact the way you envision the workplace and conduct yourself there? Why or why not? How can you grow in this?
4. Read Luke 13:6-9 and think about your life. If Jesus was to assess the fruit in your life, what do you think he'd say? What does this imply for your life right now? (See also 2 Cor. 5:17-21, Col. 1:13-14, and 1 Pet. 2:9-10.)
5. Here is Pastor Charlie's "A Christian's Creed for the Workplace": "I belong to Christ, I am his ambassador, and my job is to spread his fame and glorify his Name!" (1 Cor. 6:20; 2 Cor. 5:17-21; Col. 1:13-14; 1 Pet. 2:9-10). Feel free to use this in any way you see fit.
6. For those of you who have authority over others in the work place, are you behaving toward your employees as Paul would have you do? What can you do to improve this?
7. Do you tend to use threatening tactics to motivate or scare your employees? Are you willing to obey Christ and stop treating them this way? What are the benefits of finding others ways of treating them?
8. Do you understand how the foundational thoughts at the end of verse 9 naturally lead to Paul's commands to you?