

## **Christians at Work**

“Slaves, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ; not by way of eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart. With good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men, knowing that whatever good thing each one does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether slave or free. And masters, do the same things to them, and give up threatening, knowing that both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him.” – Eph. 6:5-9

### **How We Treat Our Boss**

### **How We Do Our Job**

### **Why We Work**

#### **For further thought and discussion:**

##### **Getting Started**

1. What was helpful to you in this week’s sermon? What raised questions?
2. Do you have different expectations for Christians at work than you do for nonbelievers? Why or why not?

##### **Going Deeper:**

3. Please read Eph. 6:5-9. Over a third of the populations of Rome in the first century were slaves. While the New Testament never approves of slavery, it does recognize its existence and helps Christians to understand how to live as a Christian if they are slaves. How does this passage addressed to slaves apply to 21<sup>st</sup> century American Christians?
4. What do you learn from this passage about how employees are to treat employers? About how employers are to treat employees? Compare vs. 5 with vs. 9. Why would vs. 9 be surprising to Christian employers in the first century? Why might it be surprising today?
5. What does this passage teach about how we’re to do our job? What common problems at work would disappear if we took this command seriously?

6. What does this passage teach about our motivation for work? How does this motive compare with your own motives for work? How does this passage change the way a Christian should look at his/her job?
7. Some Christians believe that every job is a calling from God. Do you think Paul would agree? Why or why not?
8. Do you have any further questions about this passage?

**Application:**

What is one thing you have learned from this discussion you can apply this week?