**Life Team Bible Study**

For the week of Sept 1

* Describe your first job – what you liked about it, what you didn’t, and anything else that comes to mind.
* People approach work with a variety of different perspectives and attitudes. How was work approached in the home you grew up in? (Pick any that apply.)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| * Work then play
* Play then work
* Stressful
* Orderly and on task
* A source of significance
* As little as possible
 | * All consuming
* Naps are important
* Little time to relax
* All about the money
* A way to provide security
 | * High energy and always ready for more
* Innovative
* Do it right or don't do it at all
* Excellence at all costs
 |

* Circle the ones you think are now a part of your world.
* Are there any changes or similarities from when you were younger to now?
* What is your opinion of work?

**HEAR**

**Genesis 1:28, 2:15, Gen 3:17**

* What do these verses tell us about work?
1. **Work is not a bad thing – Work is a God thing**

\*\*\* Work is a blessing not a curse

1. **The curse is the weeds – not the work**
* Who and what are the weeds in work?

For a farmer it’s weeds, for a builder it’s an inspector, for you it might be your co-workers. Real work is tough. There are no perfect jobs.

**Titus 2:9-10**

1. **Christians don’t have jobs – They have assignments**
* What do you think that means?
* What do the following verses tell us about working with the authority figures?

**Ephesians 6:5-8, Colossians 3:22-24**, (not about slavery – but working)

**Proverbs 16:4, Proverbs 20:2-3, Proverbs 27:18, 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12**

* How can we live out the principles in these verses?
* Is one of these more important for you to remember than the other? Why?

**Eph 6 / Col 3 – tell us that Jesus sets a new BAR at work (A new standard)**

**B - We have a different BOSS**

**(do not read – for reference) 1 Peter 4:8-11, 1 Cor 7:17-24, Eph 2:10, 4:28, 2 Thess 3:6-13**

* What does that mean? Who do we work for? Who is out boss?
* What do the following verses say about work?

**A - We have a new ASSIGNMENT**

**(do not read – for reference) 1 Corinthians 10:31, John 13:1-9, Matthew 20:26, 3:10-11**

* How does knowing God is our real boss, change the way we work?
* Jesus modeled leadership – He explained that to be great (leader / boss) is to serve others. **You want a title, pick up a towel.** How can we apply that to work?

**R - We have a better REWARD**

**(do not read – for reference) Colossians 3:23, Hebrews 4:13**

* Where is our reward for a job well done?
* Are we supposed to work well only when we are being watched? Why /why not?

Assess how you’re doing in your job in the areas below. Rate yourself - 1 to 5.

Focus Teamwork Flexibility Follow-through Attention to detail Honesty

**Are we to “do everything” we’re told?**

* If it’s sinful, don’t do it. If it’s stupid, do it well! Do what you’re hired to do!
* Pursue excellence – reject good enough
* Every day is an interview for tomorrow – the big boss (Christ) is watching
* Real work that is satisfying – will always be tough.

**Here's Some Work Advice**

* **If you can find a better job – take it (1 Co 7)**
* **If you can’t find a better job – quit complaining!**

**Matthew 18:21-35** – talks about an unforgiving master who was forgiven much

* How do the principles in this passage apply to you in the workplace as either a boss or a subordinate?
* Is there any situation you have worked through, or that you need to work through now, that is similar to what this passage talks about? If so, explain.
* Do you have a difficult boss? Why do you think so?
* Can you think of any ways you have been encouraged to live out more faithfully
* Christ’s character or to love better those you work with, and/or encounter daily?

Explain - How and why?

**HOME**

A key to working unto the Lord - is understanding that if you have a job, it is one of his many blessing in our life. If you are looking for a job - this is an opportunity to be thankful to God for his provision in your life.

* Take a moment to write a quick note of thank you to God for what He has done for you. List areas God has blessed you.

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* Circle the ones you think are now a part of your world.

**Genesis 1:28, 2:15, Gen 3:17, Titus 2:9-10**

1. **Work is not a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_thing – Work is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_thing**
2. **The curse is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_– not the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
3. **Christians don’t have jobs – They have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Ephesians 6:5-8, Colossians 3:22-24, Proverbs 16:4, Proverbs 20:2-3

Proverbs 27:18, 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12

**Jesus sets a new BAR at work (A new standard)**

**B - We have a different \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**1 Peter 4:8-11, 1 Cor 7:17-24, Eph 2:10, 4:28, 2 Thess 3:6-13**

**A - We have a new \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**R - We have a better \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Colossians 3:23, Hebrews 4:13**

**Assess how you’re doing in your job in the areas below. Rate yourself - 1 to 5.**

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**Are we to “do everything” we’re told?**

* **If it’s sinful, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ If it’s stupid - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
* **Pursue \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – reject \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
* **Every day is an interview \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
* **Real work that is satisfying – will always \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Matthew 18:21-35**

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