

The Church ... a *Master* Planned Community
Employees and Employers (Eph 6:5-9)
Small Group Study Questions for the week of May 17-23

Getting Started

The slave/master relationship presented in this passage has many principles relevant to the employee/employer relationship today. In light of this reality, these discussion questions are worded with respect to employees/employers. What do you feel are the top three “motivation-killers” in the workplace today?

Digging Deep

Read through Ephesians 6:5-9 together as a group.

1. In v.5 Paul says to “obey your earthly masters with respect and fear...” what would that look like on your job? What do you think it would mean to do your job with “sincerity of heart”?
2. According to v.6, what should motivate us to work hard on the job even when no one is watching?
3. What are some of the dangers you’ve encountered when others try too hard to please the boss or make sure they get credit for a recent accomplishment? (v.6)
4. In v.6, Paul likens doing our job (whatever it may be) to “doing the will of God.” How might this truth influence our workplace motivation?
5. What are the drawbacks to working “wholeheartedly”? What are the upsides? (v.7)
6. Do you feel it’s heard for us as followers of Christ to work as though Jesus is our “true boss,” not our human supervisor? Why/why not? (v.5-7)
7. How can the truth of v.8 encourage us on the job? Give specific examples.
8. What advice does Paul give to bosses or employers in v.9? Give an example of a “good boss” you’ve had, and what made them so.

A Matter of Prayer

9. What area(s) of motivation do you tend to have the hardest time with and how can others pray for you?
10. What kind of reputation do you feel Greater Portland members have in the workplace in our region?