

Demonstrations of God's Love in Human Relationships: At Work

Ephesians 6:5-9

“Bondservants, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, ⁶ not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, ⁷ rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man, ⁸ knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a bondservant or is free. ⁹ Masters, do the same to them, and stop your threatening, knowing that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and that there is no partiality with him.” Ephesians 6:5–9 (ESV)

1. Do good work because it pleases God.

“When no bush of the field was yet in the land and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground...” Genesis 2:5 (ESV)

“The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.” Genesis 2:15 (ESV)

The LORD was with Joseph, and he became a successful man, and he was in the house of his Egyptian master. Genesis 39:2 (ESV)

Application: Are you working in a way that would please God?

2. Do good work because it will grow a profit.

In all toil there is profit, but mere talk tends only to poverty. Proverbs 14:23 (ESV)

“Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.” 1 Corinthians 15:58 (ESV)

Application: What positive results are you seeing from your work?

3. Do good work because profit is without partiality.

“I [Apostle Paul] planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.” 1 Corinthians 3:6 (ESV)

And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” Genesis 1:28 (ESV)

Application: Are you hopeful about the future fruitfulness of your work?

4. Lead others as God has led you.

“The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come...” 2 Peter 3:9–10 (ESV)

Application: Would your treatment of others, validate your kindness to yourself?