

**WORK AS WORSHIP**  
**Bringing Your Faith to Work**  
**Daniel 1-6**  
**1 Peter 3:13-16**

Today, I want to talk about our privilege and responsibility as followers of Christ to share our faith with others. This is something we are all called to do; not just something that preachers and missionaries are called to do. Jesus's command to "go and make disciples of all nations" was not just directed at the 12 apostles; it was given to every follower of Jesus on the planet until he returns. This means that you are a missionary at your OFFICE! Your co-workers need Jesus every bit as much as you do, and Jesus died for their sins and they need to know this life-changing truth!

Now, this does not mean that you should go to the office and stand on your desk and tell everyone that they are going to hell if they do not get saved right away! Nor does it mean that you are supposed to be giving away handfuls of tracts to everyone you meet or accosting people with the Gospel at every turn and on every work break until everyone around you would rather stick a pencil in their neck rather than have to meet you face to face in the hallway and be forced to listen to your speech. Please, don't be that person!

In contrast to that, I believe that a genuine and loving follower of Christ is the kind of person that people WANT to be around and listen to. They are ATTRACTED to a humble, passionate Christian. In fact, they will want to know what makes that kind of person tick! Has anyone ever ASKED YOU (in a positive way) why you are the way you are? That is an exciting moment. And those moments come whenever we choose to live by the FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLE that we have been talking about over the last few weeks: **Work is not about your greatness but about God's glory!**

As you think about bringing your faith to work, I want to give you some clear ground rules that will help you. Some of them may seem like no-brainers, but I do not want to ASSUME that they are clear to all people. **First, you and I cannot approach work as if we as Christians are the only ones that can do work to the glory of God or that can do work that is beautiful and meaningful and beneficial to the human family.** All people are made in the image of God, and they have the capacity to do great things that help people and bring God glory (even if God was not on their radar!). **Second, we must not approach our co-workers as if they need us to FIX them!** We approach them as common people who are ourselves being healed of our brokenness and who are overjoyed to share what we have found with others! [We are former beggars sharing with others where we have found bread.]

In order to give us a unique CONTEXT for the message today, I want to highlight the work of one of God's greatest servants in the Bible: Daniel. He was a man that exemplified every quality that we need to properly share our faith with others.

### **Sharing your faith at work requires CONSISTENT CHARACTER.**

From the moment that Daniel was transported to the foreign land of Babylon, he was given some very hard contexts in which he could STAND OUT as a MAN of FAITH. Some of those opportunities came at him within a matter of days. Even as a TEENAGER, he was given a chance to stand up for God when no one was even left from his hometown that he could impress with his courage. But his GOD was still alive and well. His success as a witness started with one simple decision as a teenager: He RESOLVED in his HEART that he would NOT DEFILE himself. He would not disobey God, no matter WHAT the consequence might be. **Daniel 1:8a**  
**8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself . . .**

This resolve was not TEMPORARY. It lasted for his entire life! Daniel was a man of faith in a HOSTILE world from the time he was a teenager until the day that he died as an 85+-year-old man! He LIVED his faith out day in and day out. **You and I will learn that sometimes it takes YEARS of FAITHFULNESS to create ONE MOMENT of DIVINE OPPORTUNITY!**

\*You don't just TRY these truths out every now and then; you LIVE them!

-You WILL face opposition and discouragement.

-You WILL be mistreated and attacked.

-You WILL wonder if it is all WORTH IT!

-DON'T QUIT!

As an old man, Daniel was placed in a position of top leadership at work, but he was resented by all of the others who wanted what he had. So they tried to create a trap for him to bring him down. **Daniel 6:4 NLT**

**4 Then the other administrators and high officers began searching for some fault in the way Daniel was handling government affairs, but they couldn't find anything to criticize or condemn. He was faithful, always responsible, and completely trustworthy.**

Daniel had no SKELETONS in his closet! This type of political maneuvering did not start in our generation! It has been going on since governments existed. Problem was, Daniel messed with these leader's Medo-Persian MO! They couldn't drag up any dirt on him. He was squeaky clean. The words used to describe his character mean that he conducted himself in his occupation with integrity, honesty, and diligence. He did not NEGLECT any of his duties, and he was not CORRUPT in any of his affairs of state. **That is, he did not do anything he was NOT supposed to do, and he did not fail to do anything that he WAS supposed to do!** That is remarkable. It is no wonder that he stood out at work and was given promotion wherever he went. He was the guy everyone wanted to hire.

### **Sharing your faith at work requires CREATIVITY.**

\*First, you must ASK GOD to give you HIS THOUGHTS and IDEAS about how to share.

**[Daniel 1:8-15 - Daniel's CREATIVE APPEAL to his authority.]**

-God's creativity is LIMITLESS!

- God will make you AWARE of opportunities that HE will create for you.
- You must STUDY HIS WORD and teachings from his followers that help you!

\*Create CONTEXTS that open doors for sharing your faith.

- Make faith NATURAL! [\[Dad praying at the job site\]](#)
  - SERVE the people that you work with. [\[Do special favors; offer to help\]](#)
  - CHALLENGING your co-workers to DO GOOD for needy people in the area.
  - Offering RESOURCES to help them in an area of need in their own lives.
- [\[ALEX FANCHER – Testimony about Financial Peace\]](#)

\*Demonstrate genuine LOVE by the way you ENGAGE others. **Daniel 4:19, 27 NLT**  
 19 "Upon hearing this, Daniel (also known as Belteshazzar) was overcome for a time, frightened by the meaning of the dream. Then the king said to him, 'Belteshazzar, don't be alarmed by the dream and what it means.' "Belteshazzar replied, 'I wish the events foreshadowed in this dream would happen to your enemies, my lord, and not to you! ... 27 "'King Nebuchadnezzar, please accept my advice. Stop sinning and do what is right. Break from your wicked past and be merciful to the poor. Perhaps then you will continue to prosper.'

~PRAYER

- COMMIT to praying for your co-workers.
- ASK them if there is anything you can pray about for them.
- Then PRAY FOR THEM RIGHT THEN AND THERE.
- Keep a PRAYER LIST for the workers at your office. Pray for them regularly.
- ASK about their need later on to see what God is doing.

~INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

- Look for ways to INVITE people into the joy of community.
    - \*Invite them to eat with you, or come to LIFE GROUP or CHURCH with you.
    - \*Share STORIES of how you see your group/church HELPING OTHERS.
- [\[Story of my conversation on a plane with an atheist who got excited about our WELL STORY at CHC!\]](#)

**Sharing your faith at work requires COURAGE.**

**\*We live in a world that FROWNS upon mixing FAITH and WORK.**

- Yet, as Christians, we CANNOT let that DETER us from being witnesses at work.
- If our faith is truly central to our lives, then we cannot separate faith from work!

**\*The FAILURE to share your REDEMPTIVE STORY steals God's glory!**

- They cannot just see you as a "really good guy!"
- They need to HEAR the REASON for your HOPE and JOY and LIFESTYLE.

**1 Peter 3:13-16 NLT**

13 Now, who will want to harm you if you are eager to do good? 14 But even if you suffer for doing what is right, God will reward you for it. So don't worry or be afraid of their threats. 15 Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life.

And if someone asks about your Christian hope, always be ready to explain it. 16 But do this in a gentle and respectful way. Keep your conscience clear. Then if people speak against you, they will be ashamed when they see what a good life you live because you belong to Christ.

-Peter tells us that we must REMAIN READY to share our story.

-Peter also says that we must share it in a GENTLE and RESPECTFUL way!

\*This is no time for LEGALISM or ARROGANCE or DEFENSIVENESS.

**\*Courage will always place PRINCIPLE ABOVE PROFIT.**

-For the Christian business owner or worker, business is NEVER just about the BOTTOM LINE, but about how to leverage every aspect of the business for the glory of God and the good of others!

INTERVIEW WITH MAT LIPSCOMB

We are STEWARDS of every PLATFORM that God has given to us: Life, Loss, Business, Profits.

-They seek to HONOR and ACKNOWLEDGE God in every platform they have.

\*When we get pushback about being Christians and having Christ-honoring principles, we simply acknowledge disagreements with GRACE, LOVE, and COURAGE.

\*If you are an EMPLOYER: How are you using your business to help people and to further the Kingdom of God?

-Your employees will EMBRACE charity/work that helps people.

[Habitat for Humanity, etc.]

-What could YOUR BUSINESS do for others?

-Using some of the profits from your business for others gives you a PLATFORM for sharing the Gospel.

**\*Courage will choose to do the right thing NO MATTER WHAT.**

\*I MUST make sure that all of you remember that being a faithful witness at work does NOT guarantee that everything will work out or that nothing bad will happen to you at work! Sometimes you get delivered from the LION'S DEN or from the FURNACE, but sometimes you LOSE your JOB or your LIFE. God's faithfulness extends far beyond what we can see. Remember: **Hebrews 11:36-38 NLT**

36 Some were jeered at, and their backs were cut open with whips. Others were chained in prisons. 37 Some died by stoning, some were sawed in half, and others were killed with the sword. Some went about wearing skins of sheep and goats, destitute and oppressed and mistreated. 38 They were too good for this world, wandering over deserts and mountains, hiding in caves and holes in the ground.

So, how are YOU choosing to INJECT FAITH into your work world? Daniel did it, and it changed the world! You can do the same, and it just might change the world that you live in unexpected ways. But you will NEVER KNOW if you don't take the RISK to STAND UP and SPEAK OUT. If you do, you cannot lose!

Let's pray.