Ephesians 6:5-9 Discussion Guide

- 1. Why does the Apostle Paul in Ephesians 6:5 tell us to "be obedient" to our employers? Shouldn't this be obvious to believers? If so, why give the command? What implications does this have for how we do our jobs?
- 2. At the end of verse 5, Paul qualifies our obedience to our employer with the phrase, "as to Christ." What does this practically mean? How should this affect us as believers, at our jobs?
- 3. What are some ways we may be tempted to obey our employer as "men-pleasers?
- 4. Why does Paul call every employee to obey our employer as "slaves of Christ?" What does it practically look like for a believer to obey as "slaves of Christ?"
- 5. What does "doing the will of God from the heart" practically look like?
- 6. How are we to treat our boss, if he is terrible to work for? How should our passage effect how we treat them? What are some options for believers who have an extremely difficult employer to work for? Give some examples how the Lord has helped you obey this text in difficult situations.
- 7. In verse 8 Paul says that "whatever good thing each one does, this he will receive back from the Lord." Why does Paul says this? How would this have been encouraging to slaves in the first century? How should this effect our obedience to submit to our Employer?
- 8. In verse 9, Paul addresses Masters and commands them to "do the same things to them." What does this mean? Why would this have been radical in Paul's day? Why would Paul give this command to Employers? What implications does this have for those who are in charge of others?
- 9. Paul states at the second half of verse 9 the reason why Masters are to obey what is commanded in these verses, "knowing that both their master and yours is in heaven." What does this mean and why is this a motivator for employers?

Prayer Requests

- 1. Pray that Anchor would honor Christ at our jobs as obedient slaves of Christ
- 2. Pray that we would not grumble and complain at work and trust that God has sovereignly put us right where we are.
- 3. Pray that God would use our obedience as a means of grace in sharing the gospel with our co-workers and our bosses.

4. Pray that we would model well for our children what it means to submit as Christ has taught us over the last few weeks.