

# work • ol • o • gy

## A Better Way to Work

Colossians 3:17-25

*“I have never figured out how to wear my three piece suit and my faith simultaneously.” An Attorney*

### The Big Question: Why do you work?

- Money
- Status
- Fulfillment

We need “a *thoroughgoing revolution in our whole attitude to work.*”

*“Work is the **gracious** expression of **creative** energy for the **common good.**”*

### Colossians 3:17-25

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. <sup>18</sup> Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. <sup>19</sup> Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them. <sup>20</sup> Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged. <sup>22</sup> Bondservants, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. <sup>23</sup> Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, <sup>24</sup> knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ. <sup>25</sup> For the wrongdoer will be paid back for the wrong he has done, and there is no partiality.

### The Better Way to Work: *Work for the Lord*

*Bondservants, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. <sup>23</sup> Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for me...” Colossians 3:22-23*

## **The Difference Jesus Makes: Work with Christ**

*And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3:17*

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6*

**Putting it into practice:** *Doing your work in Jesus' name.*

### **Resources:**

*Our Work and Our Character* by Tim Keller  
*Why Work?* by Dorothy Sayers

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### **Digging Deeper into Work**

#### **This week's passages:**

**Monday** – Colossians 3:1-11

**Tuesday** – Colossians 3:12-17

**Wednesday** – Colossians 3:18-25

**Thursday** – Ephesians 6:5-9

**Friday** – Ephesians 6:10-20

**Weekend** – Review the most meaningful passages of the week.

*This Week's Big Idea: God created and redeemed you for a better way of doing your work.*

Each day this week you are invited to read the day's passage and then respond to the following questions. Take special note of Paul's comments about how to do your work. You might find it beneficial to use a journal or notebook to record insights.

1. **Read** the passage prayerfully, listening for the voice of God and asking him to speak to you.
2. **Record** or write down the word, phrase, or verse that God impresses upon you.
3. **Reflect** and write down what it is about this word, phrase or verse that is meaningful to you.
4. **Respond** by writing a prayer or recording what it is that you think the Lord wants you to do in response to his word ("*Be doers of the word and not hearers only*" James 1:22).