



"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them." Eph 2:10

"Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve."
Col 3:23-24

Our focus has been G:Love in order to learn how to respond like a glove to every movement and desire of God's hand in our lives. We have been learning how to grow a dynamic relationship with God and to be filled with His Holy Spirit (Eph 5:18) in every area, thought, action and attitude of life. The workplace is one of the most important areas in which we must learn to respond to God's hand in our lives instead of reacting to the various situations we encounter.

(Ex 31:1-6; 35:31) Just a few months after God redeemed His people from 400 years of brutal slavery in Egypt He teaches them the 10 commandments in order to drive His people back to His grace (Ex 20). He then sets them to work to build a movable temple called the Tabernacle (Ex 25-31). **Who was the very first person in the Bible said to be filled with God's Spirit? Why is this so important to you as a businessman and worker? Why would God want the very first mention of someone being filled by His Spirit to be an everyday worker or 'craftsman' and not a priest, king or holy man? What should this say about our commitment to excellence for Christ?**

(Ex 35: 5, 21, 26, 29, 34, 36:1-2, 5-7) What is the key prerequisite for a man who wants to make an eternal impact for God in the marketplace? Who do you know that has this character trait whom God is using? What is keeping God from using you to an even greater degree?

Work is God's idea and is part of His grand design and deep desire for us (Gen 1; 2:2; John 5:17 Col 1:16-17; Ps 104:10-30; 111; Deut 11:1-7; John 4:34). God is at work every day in our lives (Phil 1:6; 2:12-13; Romans 8:18-39). Through our work God longs to partner with us to manage His creation and work is a huge part of the process He uses to help us grow to be more like Christ (Col 3:12-24; Gen 1:26-29; 2:15-20; Eccl 3:13;). In fact, as His image bearers, work is among the very first responsibilities we see God assigning to our lives as He invites us to work long side Him managing His creation (Gen 2:1-3, 8, 15; Eccl 5:18-19; Ps 8). Warning: work can become an idol and it does not ultimately satisfy your life. But God can use our work to bring lasting and fulfilling satisfaction in order to draw our hearts towards His as we partner with Him (Eccl 2:4-11; 3:13-14; John 17:3-4). We must come to understand that work is not simply about providing, performance, position, economic exchange, financial advancement or achieving the American Dream culminating with retirement. God wired man to work and therefore see all legitimate work as a sacred calling and extension of His work. No matter the vocation, we must grow to see our present job/work as partnering with God to manage His creation, promote His glory, reflect His image, advance His Kingdom purposes and contribute to the welfare of others (family, friend, needed) through love motivated service. G:Love men use their work to honor God by being productive, creative, inventive, excellent and generous as stewards/managers of this gift. **How many of you are in full time ministry? How is your work a God given platform to share and demonstrate the Gospel? What are some of the things the Lord teaches us through our work in the marketplace? How does God use our work to carve and chisel in our lives to make us more like Christ? What is your current attitude toward work and the people God has put around you?**

TAG TEAM

Call 1 guy from your TAG team and pray together this week about your work as the servant leader of your family and about your work in the marketplace. What take away from this lesson will help you to work 'hand in glove' with God this week as you serve Him at work in the marketplace? Pray with each other in praise and gratitude for your work, employer, employees, associates and vendors.

