

Seacoast Church Small Group Questions

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New & Improved: Work Relationships [Ephesians 6:5-9] Small Group Lesson

Scripture

Ephesians 6:5-9 (NLT) : 5 Slaves, obey your earthly masters with deep respect and fear. Serve them sincerely as you would serve Christ. 6 Try to please them all the time, not just when they are watching you. 7 Work with enthusiasm, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. 8 Remember that the Lord will reward each one of us for the good we do, whether we are slaves or free. 9 Masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Don't threaten them; remember, you both have the same Master in heaven, and He has no favorites.

Icebreaker

During this week's sermon, Pastor Greg interviewed Chris Sligh, worship leader at our Greenville Campus and a recent finalist on TV's American Idol. Chris talked about the way he shares his faith "on the job." Instead of merely announcing what he believes or doesn't believe, Chris finds it more natural to form friendships with coworkers and then share his beliefs in the context of relationship.

- What do you think would be the advantages of "relationship evangelism"?
- How could you adapt this concept to your workplace? What changes would you make in the way you share your faith?

Discussion Questions

1. Pastor Greg reminded us that when it comes to Godly submission to authority, respect is owed and not earned. Think about a current or former employment situation. Do you ever find it difficult to respect those in authority over you? Talk about some ways to grow in respect for your boss. (Examples from notes: listen to your boss's heartbeat; support your boss's vision; earn your boss's trust; learn to work with your boss's weaknesses)
2. It is often tempting to slack off when the boss is not around, but a Godly employee will work diligently with or without supervision. What should be our motive for consistency in this area?
3. How would your work ethic change if Jesus was your immediate supervisor? On the other hand, how would the productivity from your department change if Jesus held your position? Talk about the implications of these answers for your specific work situation.
4. Recognition for a job well done is certainly encouraging. Suppose your supervisor is not inclined to provide this form of encouragement, and talk about some creative ideas for retaining motivation for a good performance.
5. Imagine you are the supervisor for several employees. As a Christian, what methods could you implement to motivate them to do their best?
6. Pastor Greg stated that Jesus is concerned with our hearts, not our job titles. What do you think he meant by that statement?
7. Pray together for each other's job situations, asking the Lord to help you to grow in your ability to work as unto the Lord (Ephesians 6:7).