

— weekly —
**STUDY
GUIDE**

WORK MATTERS

WEEK 10 // *Working from the 2nd Chair*

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Introduction

Welcome to week ten of the Work Matters study. Last week we learned how to invest in God's business. This week we seek to find the answer to the question: Who do I really work for and what does he expect of me? As you begin, prepare your mind to receive the lesson God has for you.

In this guide, you will find questions for your own personal study along with questions to discuss at a Bible study, neighborhood gathering, or at the dinner table with family and friends.

Personal Study

As mentioned in previous studies, the slavery we read about in the Bible was much different than the inhumane slave trade we learned about in American history. During biblical times, people who fell behind financially would often make a deal to work off their debts through voluntary slavery. In essence, they would become an employee within their master's household. The slave would be set free after the time of servitude was complete.

READ

Read Colossians 3:22-25 and consider the questions below.

CONSIDER

- Read the passage again slowly. What words or phrases stick out to you? Now ask God to reveal the lesson He wants you to learn through the phrase(s) or word(s) you noticed.

Group Study

ICE BREAKER

Discuss this question as a group. Who has been your best boss and why?
(Example: Brian Johnson, because he challenged me to do my best work.)

Previously, we learned this key truth about work:

- God provides you work as the means to invest in God's business and when you take care of God's business, He will take care of your business.

DISCUSS

- What new insights or questions about work came to your mind over the last week?
- What obstacles are impeding your ability to invest in the work of the kingdom of God? What can you do to overcome these challenges?

READ

Read Ephesians 6:5-8 and discuss the questions below:

DISCUSS

- In what situations do you find it hardest to “serve wholeheartedly”?
- How could viewing God as your ultimate boss, change the way you approach your work?
- What is one attitude or approach to your work that you would like to change?

CASE STUDY

Use the following case study as a model for a real life situation where you could put this week's lesson into practice.

Patricia has always been her own boss. She started a lawn-mowing business when she was 11 years old. By the time she was 13, she had five employees (her friends from the neighborhood) mowing the lawns while she found new business.

Since then, she has started and sold numerous companies. Unfortunately, the economic recession forced her to sell her current business and go to work for one of her competitors. For the first time, she is taking orders from someone else and she is miserable.

Using the scriptures from this study guide for guidance, what could you say and do to encourage Patricia?

PRAY

Close your time together by praying for the needs of the people in your group. Invite the Holy Spirit to change your mindset towards your earthly bosses, if needed. Lastly, commit your life (especially your work) to our one true boss, Jesus Christ.