

# COLLISION

Steering Clear of Collisions in Work:  
Employers & Employees

Ephesians 6:5-9

10.22.17

Brian Lightsey

When we operate within the parameters of God, we can steer clear of relational collisions.

## Employee's Responsibility:

Ephesians 6:5-8, "5 Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. 6 Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. 7 Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people, 8 because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free." (NIV)

### ■ Work spiritually (5-9)

James 4:13, 15-16, "13 Now listen, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money' .... 15 Instead, you ought to say, 'If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that.' 16 As it is, you boast in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil." (NIV)

It is time to bridge the gap between Sunday worship and Monday work.

In the Bible, there is one word (OT: *abad*), NT: *leitrea*) for both work and worship.

## Who do I work for?

This is important because who I work for determines how I work.

Colossians 3:23, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters." (NIV)

I need to stop working for my boss and start working for Jesus Christ.

### ■ Work obediently (5)

1 Corinthians 7:21-23, "21 Were you a slave when you were called? Don't let it trouble you – although if you can gain your freedom, do so. 22 For the one who was a slave when called to faith in the Lord is the Lord's freed person; similarly, the one who was free when called is Christ's slave. 23 You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of human beings." (NIV)

Ephesians 6:5-8, "5 Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. 6 Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. 7 Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people, 8 because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free." (NIV)

### ■ Work respectfully (5)

1 Timothy 6:1-2, "1 All who are under the yoke of slavery should consider their masters worthy of full respect, so that God's name and our teaching may not be slandered.... 2 ...These are the things you are to teach and insist on." (NIV)

### ■ Work sincerely (5-6)

Colossians 3:22, "Slaves, obey your earthly masters...with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord." (NIV)

### ■ Work diligently (7)

Ecclesiastes 9:10, "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might..." (NIV)

Colossians 3:17, "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus..." (NIV)

### ■ Work expectantly (8)

Colossians 3:24-25, "24 since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. 25 Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for their wrongs..." (NIV)

## Employer's Responsibility:

Ephesians 6:9, "And masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with him." (NIV)

### ■ Work humbly (9)

Colossians 4:1, "Masters, provide your slaves with what is right and fair, because you know that you also have a Master in heaven." (NIV)

### ■ Work fairly (9)

In the corporate world, the bottom line is profit.  
In the Christian world, the bottom line is people.

The quality of my horizontal relationships is dependent on the quality of my vertical relationship. How is my relationship with God?