

Alderwood Community Church
February 19, 2017

Giving Meaning to Monday Morning (Part 2)
Colossians 3:22-4:1

(Pages 1167 or 1184-1185 in chair Bible)

*“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart,
as working for the Lord, not for men.” **Colossians 3:23***

Big Idea: Your work matters to God!

1 If you are a follower of Jesus, your job is the will of God for you!

- A. Correct and repent of your faulty view of work.
- B. God’s view of work.
 - (1) Work has intrinsic value
 - (a) God Himself is a worker. (**Genesis 1, 2:2**)
 - (b) God created humans “in his image” as workers. (**1:26-27**)
 - (c) God created humans as co-workers. (**Genesis 2:8,15**)
 - (d) Work is a gift from God. (**Ecclesiastes 3:13, 5:18-19**)
 - (2) Work has instrumental value
 - (a) Through work we serve people. (**Matthew 5:16; Ephesians 2:10**)
 - (b) Through work we meet our own needs. (**2 Thessalonians 3:10**)
 - (c) Through work we meet our family’s needs. (**1 Timothy 3:8**)
 - (d) Through work we earn money to give to others.
(Ephesians 4:28)
 - (e) Through work we receive satisfaction and enjoyment.
(Deuteronomy 8:18; Exodus 35:30-35; 1 Timothy 6:17; Ecclesiastes 5:18-19)
- C. Embrace your job as the will of God for you. (**Ephesians 6:6**)
 - (1) This is addressed to slaves.
 - (2) Your job is your calling.
 - (3) Finding your calling
 - What do I want to do? (Heart, passion)
 - What am I gifted to do? (Gifts, talents)
 - What opportunities are available? (Market)

**2. What you do on the job, is to be done as _____ to
Jesus Christ. (Colossians 3:23-24)**

_____, a servant of Jesus Christ called to be a _____.
(Your Name) (Your Job)

A. Work with _____. (v. 22) *“not only when their eye is on you.”*

(1) _____

“What you leave behind on every job is an unmistakable calling card about your character and your God.”

(2) _____

*“Teach slaves to be subject to their masters in everything, to try to please them, not to talk back to them, and not to steal from them, but to show that they can be fully trusted.” **Titus 2:9-10a***

B. Work with the right _____. (Colossians 3:22-23)

(1) _____ (v. 22) *“with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord”*

(2) _____ (v. 23) *“work at it with all your heart”*

(3) _____ (v. 23) *“as working for the Lord”*

C. Work to make the gospel _____.

*“Teach slaves to be subject to their masters in everything, to try to please them, not to talk back to them, and not to steal from them, but to show that they can be fully trusted, so that in every way they will make the teaching about God our Savior attractive.” **Titus 2:9-10***

3. What you receive for what you do will ultimately come from

_____. (v. 24) *“from the Lord as a reward”*

4. Take time for _____ and _____.

Sermon Questions:

1. Who was the best *employer* you've ever had? The best *job* you've ever had? What made these your favorite?
2. Read **Colossians 3:22-4:1**. What are some of Paul's overriding concerns as he addresses the relationship between slaves and masters?
3. What attitudes and actions should an employee demonstrate toward his/her employer and the tasks they are assigned?

In what specific ways can you demonstrate these attitudes and actions in your particular situation?

4. Read **Colossians 3:24-25** again. Does the prospect of God's reward, or the loss of reward from Him, motivate you on your job? Why or why not?

What practical difference should these verses make when your employer is unfair or harsh? Or, when you are assigned a task that you don't like or feel doesn't fit your abilities?

5. Read **Titus 2:9-10** and **1 Timothy 6:1-2**. How do these passages broaden your understanding of the employer/employee relationship?