

DAILY BIBLE READINGS - Week of October 25, 2020

**THEME: "Colleagues"
A HIGHER PURPOSE**

Sunday Read Colossians 3:17-25

"Servants, obey your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing the Lord. And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as unto the Lord, and not unto men." Going to work every day in eager anticipation of fulfilling the plan of God is the high privilege for every Christian worker. The job we have is His plan for our career. When He made us in our mother's womb, He gave us the talent and ability to do the job that He had in mind for us. That is the truth in Jeremiah 1:5: *"Before I formed you in the belly, I knew you; and before I brought you out of the womb, I ordained you to be a prophet."* God made arrangements for us to be hired to serve Him in the place where we work. Yes, we should work hard to please the boss, but our higher goal is to satisfy our Lord. If we do that, our earthly employers will be very happy. How we perform on the job is important, but equally important is how we treat others while working, whoever they are, particularly if they are Christians. As Christians, God is our Father. We all know how our earthly parents want us to do well for the family reputation. How much more should we desire to please our Father in heaven! God loves His children, and we should want to make Him happy with our effort at work!

EMPLOYEES

Monday Read Ephesians 6:5-6

"Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, and unto Christ: not with eyeservice, as menpleasers, but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart." It is so vital to realize that our jobs are a very important part of the work of God here on earth! We should be living our lives for the glory of God, and our work is a huge part of our lives. While serving our employer, we are serving our God as the servants of Christ with an eternal purpose every day of our lives. Christians have a double blessing every day, the *"abundant life"* that Jesus mentions in John 10:10. Unbelievers have only a temporal purpose. Yes, we serve Christ in our local churches in some way, but a great part of our service is at work throughout the week. The Christian life is seven days every week.

MISSION FIELD

Tuesday Read Mark 16:15-16

"Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." The place we work is a part of the world about which our Savior spoke. This means that going to work is fulfilling the command Jesus gave to us. As a matter of fact, it is very important to remember daily this Divine mandate that Jesus gave just before He returned to heaven. Yes, those called to foreign fields as missionaries are going into the world, but God needs His workers to do His work

here in the homeland, an important part of His world. People at work are as important to Him as those on other planets! It is the will of God that every colleague knows the gospel message!

CHRISTIAN PRESENCE

Wednesday Read Matthew 5:13-16

"Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven." People read our lives! Our co-workers see how we perform on our jobs, whether we go full blast or whether we simply put in time. What do they see? Ought not Christians always strive for excellence with a good spirit? Mediocrity does not honor God; He is worthy of our best performance. Are we a good example for our colleagues? Those workers who have Christian co-workers benefit because of their commitment to doing a job well and who have a real care for others and for their well-being. We are God's light while on the job!

A PERSON'S VALUE

Thursday Read Mark 8:34-38

"For what shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul." Jesus mentions here that every person with whom we work is more valuable than all the wealth in the world! That is quite a statement! It is a good thing to keep in mind every day while we are going to work. Jesus is telling us that the soul of every person there on the job is priceless. The truth is that Jesus gave His life for that person by dying on the cross. He paid the penalty for sin, for those with whom we work or for whom we work so God could grant them a Divine pardon. Showing them and telling them should be our fervent prayer.

DUAL PURPOSE

Friday Read John 6:27-29

"Labor not for the meat that perishes, but for that which endureth unto everlasting life." Our Savior emphasizes that every day we go to work to earn a living is also an opportunity to gain a reward in heaven. Yes, Christians have a dual purpose when they go to work. Just as the bookkeeper at work records the hours and makes out the pay check, so the books in heaven have a record of those things we have done with an eternal purpose while on the job to determine rewards. What an extra incentive for us to perform! We read of that account in these words of Paul recorded in Philippians 4:17: *"I desire fruit that may abound to your account."*

ALERTNESS

Saturday Read Colossians 4:1-3

"Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving: withal praying for us, that God would open a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ." Since the Christian's mission field is our place of employment, we do well to have as a high priority an open door to share the Gospel. It is likely that

being the light in our world in our lifestyle will prompt questions from colleagues. This given us an opportunity to share our faith and to honor our Lord with word of witness. We then have an open door to witness of our faith and share verses with special meaning that we use as a guide for our lives. The Spirit can then use that to bring conviction to the soul of that individual and hopefully get them on the road that leads to heaven. Prayer is the key to all of that! Prayer is necessary to keep us alert!