

Thrive Episode 6
"Thrive at Your Job"
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John 10:10 "My purpose is to give life in all its fullness...more and better life than you ever dreamed of."

Ecclesiastes 5:18-19 "It is good for people to enjoy their work under the sun during the short life God has given them, and to accept their lot in life. To enjoy your work and accept your lot in life - this is indeed a gift from God."

How to Thrive at Your Job.

1. Appointment Letter: Discover a Biblical View of Work

GOD WORKS

Genesis 2:2-3 "By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done."

WORK IS NOT A CURSE

Genesis 2:15 "The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it."

Exodus 20:9 God commands us: "Six days you shall labor and do all your work."

REFUSING TO WORK IS SIN

2 Thessalonians 3:6-15 "And now, dear brothers and sisters, we give you this command in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ: Stay away from all believers who live idle lives and don't follow the tradition they received from us. Even while we were with you, we gave you this command: 'Those unwilling to work will not get to eat.' Yet we hear that some of you are living idle lives, refusing to work...We command such people and urge them in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and work to earn their own living."

Don't worry about finding the right job – concern yourself with being the right person for the job and the right job will find you.

2. Confirmation Letter: Discover Your Call to Work

WORK IS WORSHIP

Colossians 3:23-24 "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

John 8:29 Jesus said: "I always do what pleases him."

Daniel 6:20 "When he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished voice, 'Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, **whom you serve continually**, been able to rescue you from the lions?'"

Ephesians 6:5-8 (Message Bible) “Servants, respectfully obey your earthly masters but always with an eye to obeying the real master, Christ. Don’t just do what you have to do to get by, but work heartily, as Christ’s servants doing what God wants you to do. And work with a smile on your face, always keeping in mind that no matter who happens to be giving the orders, you’re really serving God. Good work will get you good pay from the Master, regardless of whether you are slave or free.”

WORK IS WITNESS

Titus 2:9, 10 “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.”

WORK IS WORTHWHILE

Ecclesiastes 3:12-13 “I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil - this is the gift of God.”

3. Promotion: Discover God’s Favour at Work

Study Questions

Read 2 Corinthians 5:9-10

- How can you make it your goal at work to please God? Why does commitment to Christ also mean commitment to excellence?
- Why is the work of a lay person committed to Christ just as important as a pastor’s work in the church?
- What changes in attitude, behavior, schedule, or priorities would have to happen for your work to be your primary ministry?
- What would it look like for your work to become your primary platform for “doing God’s work?”
- What attitude and/or changes need to happen in you for your work to be an extension of worship, ministry, and loving others?
- Why are the great majority of people dissatisfied with their jobs?
- What “view of work” most characterizes your thinking?
 - Work is a curse
 - Work is a means of paying my bills
 - Work is what gives me significance. I am important because of what I do at work or my position at work.

Read John 8:29; John 9:4-5

- How could Jesus always do what pleased the Father? What realization of His purpose did Jesus have?
- What motivated Jesus to do the work of God? How should this motivate us also to be diligent in performing God’s purpose?
- “As long as I am in the world, I am the Light of the world.” In the world, we are to be reflections of Christ’s light. How does this apply to your job? What testimony do laziness and disobedience give to unbelievers?

Use these prayer tips to guide your time with God this week to expand your experience with the Holy Spirit:

- Begin by thanking God for the work and the job that He has given you. Pray that God will use you in your workplace to glorify Him.
- Ask God to give you a revelation of His purpose for you at work. Pray that He will show you people that you can extend His love to.
- Pray for a revival of diligence and character in the church. Pray that each worker will seek to serve God through their work and that they will be committed to excellence for His glory.
- Pray for those who are in need of jobs. Ask God to supply for them.

During this week, take time to answer the following questions.

1. On a scale of 1 (low) – 10 (high), how satisfied and fulfilled are you in your present occupation?

1—2—3—4—5—6—7—8—9—10

2. On a scale of 1 (low) – 10 (high), how much do you consider your job as an actual “calling” from God versus merely a means of income?

1—2—3—4—5—6—7—8—9—10

3. List 5 friends who would give you honest feedback concerning your strengths, gifts, passions, and abilities.

4. What would you really like to do if money and opportunity were not a problem? What have you done in the past that highly motivated you and served and helped others as you did it?