

How to Glorify God at Work By Thailer Jimerson

Sometimes it's easy as Christians to forget that we're supposed to be taking Christ out into the world by reflecting him in every facet of our lives – including the regular nine to five. Paul writes in **Colossians 4.23** that we should work hard because our real Manager is the one in heaven, and all our work is ultimately done unto him. With that in mind, here are 10 tips to facilitate God-glorifying work.

1. **Remember: Do all to the glory of God.** “So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God” (**1Cor.10:31**). There is a higher standard in the work place because we are servants FOR Christ.
2. **Don't work or play too much.** This might sound like a contradiction so let me explain: If we are workaholics to the neglect of our families, or spend all of our free time playing to watching T.V. – spiritually, we will begin to run on empty. If we're working to the neglect of Bible study, devotion and prayer, whether here or at home, we're not going to have what it takes to be Christ in the work place. Even Jesus would depart to desolate places to pray (**Mk.1:35**). Be balanced.
3. **Meditate on God's promises.** When going in the workplace, we need some divine encouragement to serve in a way that is pleasing to the Lord. We should remember his promises to help: “fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand” (**Isa.41:10**). And we need to remember that we will have no success unless the Lord grants it, “Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain” (**Ps.127:1**).
4. **People need to know that we are Christians.** Someone once said, “Thinking that our work will glorify God when people do not know we are Christians is like

admiring an effective ad on TV that never mentions the product. People may be impressed but won't know what to buy" (John Piper). Do people know that you're a Christian at your job? Shouldn't they know? Talk about God, pray over your meal, tell them about God, invite them to services - there are many ways to tell others.

5. **Help people at work.** Maintain a kind, servant-like spirit, a hospitable attitude and help. Put yourself out there. "Let all that you do be done in love" (**1Cor.16:14**). Go the second mile for others if you can as Jesus taught in **Mt.5:41**. Christians shouldn't be pushed to work hard and do good deeds. Reminds me of a sign, "If you're like a wheelbarrow – going no farther than you are pushed – you need not apply for work here." We must be willing to go the extra mile for the glory of God.
6. **Ask yourself, "What is God doing in this room?"** Paul said in **1Cor.7:24**, "So, brothers, in whatever condition each was called, there let him remain WITH GOD." In your workplace, you are there WITH GOD. You are there for a reason. God has placed these fellow employees before you, not me, not someone else – YOU. Now, what is God doing with those people? What is His work and what are you going to do to join him? Remember: the church is to "proclaim the excellencies of him who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light" (**1Pet.2:9**); **Prov.10:11**, "The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life..."; and **Prov.11:30**, "whoever captures (or wins) souls is wise."
7. **Give thanks.** Paul said, **Ac.17:25**, "nor is [God] served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything." Yes, God is the great Giver and we glorify him when we thank him for our jobs and everything else.

8. **Adorn the doctrine. Titus2:9, 10**, “Bondservants are to be submissive to their own masters in everything; they are to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, not pilfering, but showing all good faith, so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior.” If the gospel, the doctrine of God our Savior is a beautiful woman, then our work is the beautiful dress and jewels on this woman. That’s what ‘adoring the doctrine’ is. By our hard work, our integrity, and our love for God and men, our holy conduct in speech and action, we attract people to the gospel message and people begin to say, “I want to serve YOUR God.”
9. **Work to give.** The apostle Paul said, “You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive’” (**Ac.20:34, 35**) & **Eph.4:28**, “Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.” Let’s realize there is something greater at stake when we work than our own earthly comforts, let’s work to give and to help those in need.
10. **Don’t make winning bread the main focus.** Jesus said, “Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life...” (**Jn.6:27**). There is something greater to work for. Let’s prioritize correctly. Let’s keep things in perspective. Let’s ‘Seek first the kingdom of God THEN all these things like food, clothing, and shelter will be added unto us’ (**Mt.6:33**). Let’s labor to love people and to honor God.