

Think It Over: This section is about turning what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions, and scriptures are designed to help you take your own next step. If you are leading a group through this guide, don't feel like you have to answer every question. Pick out those questions that will stir up conversation and action among your group.

- Of the statistics shared about Mondays, which one stood out to you the most? What words would you use to describe your relationship with your work? (Examples: draining, joyful, purposeful, energizing, stressful) How does God want you to view your work?
- Share some ways that you have experienced your work as a blessing from God. Have you ever viewed your work as worship? Why or why not? If Christ followers started viewing their work as worship, how might it change their attitude and effort?
- Read Colossians 3:17, 1 Corinthians 9:24-25 and 1 Corinthians 15:58. What do these passages say about how Christ followers should posture themselves in their work?
- How were you taught the value of a positive attitude growing up? How have you taught this to someone else? How might viewing our job or work as "serving" help us to live more like Christ?
- Read Philippians 2:13–15 from the message guide. What does this passage say about making our faith evident in our workplace? As Christ followers, what could we do to point to Jesus better in our workplace?
- Two ways were shared that could change your attitude towards your work. (Remember, God working through you doesn't depend on your job, but how you do your job.) Of those, which one stuck out to you the most and why? How does remembering that as a Christ follower you are always on assignment affect not only how you approach work, but life? Are you rejecting "Good enough"?

Next Steps: How would you answer the question, "Who's the boss of you?" What would have to change for people in your work environment to be able to more clearly identify Christ as the one who you are serving? What can you do this week to re-imagine your work as worship to God (see part 8a)? What is the one thing you plan to do this week to live out your faith? What are some ways we can shine the light of Jesus better in our workplaces and actually, all of life?

Changing Your Mind: Choose one of the verses listed in the Message Guide and commit it to heart.

If you missed a message, visit www.scc.website or request an audio CD at Guest Services.



⁵Servants, respectfully obey your earthly masters but always with an eye to obeying the real master, Christ. ⁶Don'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. ⁷And 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. ⁸Good work will get you good pay from the Master, regardless of whether you are slave or free. ⁹Masters, it's the same with you. No abuse, please, and no threats. You and your servants are both under the same Master in heaven. He makes no distinction between you and them. Ephesians 6:5–9 MSG

A Brief Theology of Work

- Work is a blessing, not a curse.
- Every job stinks.
- Christ followers don't take jobs; they are on assignment.

When You're Not the Boss

- Do what you are paid to do, in every area, every time.
- Have a great attitude or fake a great attitude.

⁶Don'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. Ephesians 6:6 MSG

- ☑ If you can find a better job, take it!

²⁰So everyone should continue to live faithful in the situation of life in which they were called to follow Jesus. ²¹Were you a slave? Slavery is no roadblock to obeying and believing. I don't mean you're stuck and can't leave. If you have a chance at freedom, go ahead and take it.

1 Corinthians 7:20-21 MSG

- ☑ If you can't find a better job, quit complaining!

¹³Yes, it is God who is working in you. He helps you want to do what pleases him, and he gives you the power to do it. ¹⁴Do everything without complaining or arguing. ¹⁵So go out into the world uncorrupted, a breath of fresh air in this squalid and polluted society. Provide people with a glimpse of good living and of the living God. Carry the light-giving Message into the night.

Philippians 2:13–15 ERV, MSG, DFS

God working through you doesn't depend
on your job, but how you do your job.

- Pursue excellence – reject “Good enough!”

²⁵The sullen servant who does shoddy work will be held responsible. Being a follower of Jesus doesn't cover up bad work.

Colossians 3:25 MSG

- ☑ If you want to be paid more later,
be worth more now!

- ☑ Remember, you are on assignment!

²⁰We're Christ's representatives. God uses us to persuade men and women to drop their differences and enter into God's work of making things right between them...

2 Corinthians 5:20 MSG

When You Are The Boss

⁹Masters, it's the same with you. No abuse, please, and no threats. You and your servants are both under the same Master in heaven. He makes no distinction between you and them.

Ephesians 6:5:9 MSG

- Create a work environment that is
both just and fair.

Fair does not mean equal!

²⁸Love and truth from a good leader; sound leadership is founded on loving integrity.

Proverbs 20:28 MSG- see 1 Kings 12

- Treat your subordinates as you want
God to treat you.

¹And masters, treat your servants considerately. Be fair with them. Don't forget for a minute that you, too, serve a Master—God in heaven.

Colossians 4:1 MSG

²If you judge others, you will be judged the same way you judge them. God will treat you the same way you treat others.

Matthew 7:2 ERV

See also Matthew 18:23-35

Bottom Line:

Who's the boss of you?

²⁴“You cannot serve two [bosses] at the same time.
You will hate one and love the other, or you will be loyal
to one and not care about the other. You cannot serve
God and [anyone or thing] at the same time.

Matthew 6:24 ERV, DFS

Pastor Dave often uses concepts and ideas from a variety of resources when writing a message. If you have any questions regarding these sources, please don't hesitate to contact Dave at daves@senecacommunitychurch.com.

To help you turn what God is saying to you into action steps,
consider using the “Think It Over” section on the back.