

# SERMON STUDY GUIDE

## FUTURE *in* FOCUS

Future in Focus | Week 7 | October 19, 2025

Text: Ephesians 6:5–9

### READ

Read the Scripture of the week: Ephesians 6:5–9

### DISCUSS

- Share a time when you saw someone live out their faith at work in a way that made a difference.
- What are one or two truths or “nuggets” from the sermon that stood out to you?

### COME AND SEE

Paul closes his household code by addressing one of the hardest places to live as a Christian—the workplace. Writing to both slaves and masters, he subverts an entire system with the gospel of Christ, reminding believers that all work is sacred when done for the Lord.

#### 1. Work with Integrity – Because You’re Really Working for Jesus (vv. 5–6)

Paul uses the word *doulos* (“bondservant”) to describe those bound to work under authority, reminding them that they serve “as to Christ.” In our context, this transforms every workplace relationship.

- What does it mean to work “with sincerity of heart” when no one is watching? (See **Colossians 3:22–24**.)
- “Every workplace is a DBA, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Lord.” How does this illustration that Jason used make sense of the way we are to approach what we can control at work?
- How did the discussion of slavery in the Greco-Roman Empire and the identity of the slave (being based on who he/she was owned by) help you understand Paul’s meaning in this text to Christians?
- How would your attitude toward your boss or coworkers change if you viewed your work as service to Christ Himself?

#### 2. Work Wholeheartedly – Because Your Work Is Really Worship (vv. 7–8)

The Greek *psyche* (“soul”) in “serve wholeheartedly” suggests that true excellence comes from inward devotion, not external pressure. Work becomes worship when it reflects God’s character of creativity, diligence, and love.

- How can you turn ordinary tasks into acts of worship this week? (Compare **Genesis 2:15** and **1 Corinthians 10:31**.)

#### 3. Lead Humbly – Because Your Leadership Belongs to the Lord (v. 9)

Paul levels the hierarchy: “Masters, treat your slaves in the same way.” The word for “favoritism” (*prosōpolēmpsia*) means “to lift the face”—Paul reminds leaders that God shows no partiality.

- If you manage or mentor others, how can you reflect Christ’s servant leadership? (See **Mark 10:42–45**.)
- How can humility in leadership influence workplace culture more powerfully than authority or control?

#### 4. Serve the Undeserving – Because That’s What Jesus Did for You

Grace in the workplace means serving even those who don’t deserve it. Paul’s command echoes Christ’s example on the cross—He served those who rejected Him.

- What could it look like to “serve the undeserving” where you work or volunteer? How might that become a witness to God’s grace? (See **Philippians 2:5–8**.)

## **FOLLOW ME**

- Where might God be calling you to live out your faith more intentionally at work or school?
- What would it mean for you to “work for an audience of One”?
- Which of the “10 Commandments of Work” could most reshape your attitude this week?
- How can your workplace become your primary mission field—where your integrity, humility, and love point people to Christ?

Write down one practical step you’ll take this week to work *in Christ* while *working* in the world.

## **GO AND BE**

- Pray for your coworkers, leaders, and those you influence. Ask God to help you see them as image-bearers of Christ.
- This week, commit your labor to the Lord each morning, remembering that “your work in the Lord is not in vain” (**1 Corinthians 15:58**).
- Ask Jesus to make your work—whatever it is—a daily act of worship that reveals His grace to the world.