

THE BLESSED LIFE: How to be a Godly Employer or Employee, Part II: New Testament

by Drew Crandall, President
Northeast Christians At Work
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Why are you and I here?

- ◆ What is the larger purpose of work, and of life itself?
- ◆ What are we to “major” on?



We're to be loving at work!

- ◆ Why? Because God is love (1 John 4:7:) and we are His ambassadors (2 Cor 5:20).
- ◆ Because we're to be full of the Holy Spirit, and one of His fruits is love (Gal 5:22).
- ◆ Because in the Great Commandment (Mark 12:29-31) we're to love our neighbor as ourselves...and many of our neighbors are "at work!"

How do we share God's love @ work?

- ◆ 1 Corinthians 13 is the classic love chapter, often cited at weddings and applied to marriage.
- ◆ It's also blueprint for Christian love @ work.



Brilliance and talent aren't enough @ work!

- ◆ We tend to evaluate ourselves by our education, training, qualifications, and ability to compete...
- ◆ but v. 1-2 remind us that good attributes are nothing, if you don't LOVE.



Giving is not enough @ work!

- ◆ You can be an incredible giver at work, going the extra mile, doing far above what you could do...
- ◆ But v. 3 exhorts us that if we give all we have to the max...but don't LOVE, we fall short.



Charity suffereth long @ work!

- ◆ You need to be patient and gracious, even when you don't "feel" like it.
- ◆ The Christian journey is a marathon, not a sprint.
- ◆ Impatience is one's inability to control one's desire for action. Do you see impatience in workplaces today?





Patience is the ability to bear trials
without grumbling

- ◆ Romans 2:6-7 God rewards it
- ◆ James 1:3-4 as our faith is tested
- ◆ Colossians 1:9-11 we're to be joyful
- ◆ 2 Thessalonians 3:5 as we wait for Christ!

Love means you're kind in the process!

- ◆ Do you see a lot of “kindness” in the workplace today?
- ◆ In my observation, the U.S. is fast becoming a nation of unreasonable people.



Charity envieth not @ work!

- ◆ We are naïve about how powerful and prevalent envy is.
- ◆ Envy is what put Jesus on the Cross (John 11:47-48).
- ◆ Envy is rampant in the workplace...we envy co-workers' talents, knowledge, understanding, wisdom, resources, looks, promotions, raises, perks, applause.





- ◆ Proverbs 27:4 tells us envy is powerful
- ◆ Acts 13:44-45 envy disrupts Kingdom building
- ◆ Romans 1:29 envy is dominant in human hearts
- ◆ Galatians 5:19-21 envy is a fruit of flesh
- ◆ 1 Timothy 6:4-8 envy is evil

Charity vaunteth not itself @ work!

- ◆ Sharing God's love at work means you're not pushy, self-centered, arrogant, prideful, conceited, intense.
- ◆ It's hard to serve others standing on a pedestal!





- ◆ Proverbs 16:18 tells us pride goes before destruction
- ◆ Proverbs 26:12 we are blinded by conceit
- ◆ Psalm 10:2 pride leads to persecution
- ◆ 2 Timothy 3:2-5 in the last days pride will be rampant, even among the “religious”

Charity is not easily provoked @ work!

- ◆ Sharing God's love means you're not a walking volcano having temper tantrums...
- ◆ You're not defensive and aggressive...
- ◆ You're not so fragile that you become suspicious, paranoid, and preoccupied with workplace politics.





Charity thinketh no evil @ work!

- ◆ Sharing God's love at work means you're a positive thinker...not constantly thinking that people are conspiring and scheming against you.
- ◆ (Even if they are, keep your focus on God and He will confound your adversaries and deliver you in due season!)

Charity rejoiceth not in iniquity but rejoices in Truth @ work!

- ◆ You don't celebrate if you "got away with something" or struck a deal that's not win-win



- ◆ You don't celebrate gain through deceit.

Charity bears, believes, hopes, and endures all things @ work!

- ◆ Don't allow discouragement, despair, depression to rob you of the abundant life that Jesus offers to Christians in the workplace!



- ◆ Keep on keeping on to the end!

Charity never fails @ work!



- ◆ You can never, ever go wrong when you share God's love at work. Things may not pan out the way you thought they would, but God will honor your obedience and His Love will have an eternal impact.



According to our research, people feel loved at work when:

- ◆ Affirmed, thanked
- ◆ Empowered
- ◆ Treated with concern, understanding
- ◆ They work in an environment with a positive attitude
- ◆ Listened to
- ◆ Cared for
- ◆ Helped
- ◆ Treated and paid honestly, fairly
- ◆ Communicated with
- ◆ Supported by team
- ◆ Asked for advice
- ◆ Celebrated with
- ◆ Have meaningful work



People do not feel loved at work when it is:

- ◆ too competitive.
- ◆ lacking in appreciation and recognition.
- ◆ too loud.
- ◆ too critical.
- ◆ too isolated.
- ◆ too stressful.
- ◆ if being loving is not considered to be “professionally appropriate.”

To the degree that you can influence the workplace environment, avoid these!



- ◆ In the final analysis, we'll be spending eternity abiding in God's Love.
- ◆ There will be no prophecies, no tongues, no knowledge in heaven.
- ◆ When that which is perfect is come—the new heavens and the new earth, with the new heavenly city the New Jerusalem...LOVE WILL BE "IT!"

May I share God's love here?





Before I go into Q&A...

- ◆ I cannot “assume” that because this is a Christian event at a Christian college that everyone here knows the Lord personally.
- ◆ *“For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life.”* John 3:16