



Sermon Discussion Questions

"When Your Work Doesn't Work For You Anymore" From Exhaustion to Equilibrium

Colossians 3:1-17; 23-24

July 3, 2016

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Opener:

What do you think a person with Christian traits looks like in the workplace or in school?

Questions:

1. What does it mean to set one's heart "on things above" rather than on "earthly things?" (v. 2)
2. Before Paul gives some guidelines on Christian living in verses 5-14, he leaves off chapter 2 also talking about the guidelines in the Colossian community at the time (2:20-23). What differentiates Paul's guidelines from the society's guidelines?
3. How does love bind together all of what Paul wrote in verses 5-13? Also, how are we equipped to follow these virtues? (v. 9-11)
4. How does one "work for the Lord, not for men" (v.23)? How does this look like in light of the passage today, and what's the reward for this?

Application:

5. How can your small group help one another with each other's choice of clothing (v. 12)?
6. What practical difference would the "new clothes" in verses 1-14 make in your relationships at work?
7. How would doing and saying everything "in the name of the Lord" (v. 17) and "for the Lord" (v. 23) change how you perform your duties this coming week?
8. Spend some time in prayer with one another. You may share an area of concern, especially with work. Discuss with one another how you can work according to the guidelines put out in verses 17, 23, and 24.

*These questions were adapted from *The NIV Quiet Time Bible* (InterVarsity, 1996), *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998), and *The NIV Life Application Study Bible* (Zondervan, 2011).