



Series: This is Us
Passage Colossians 3:22-4:1
Title Kingdom Employees
Speaker: Pastor JC Cooper – 5/19/2019

Discussion Starter

We all have some influence over our attitude toward our work – we can be bitter, angry, grateful, or satisfied. How might the scriptures we studied this week help us see a greater purpose in our work? How might an understanding of a greater purpose help our mindset when working conditions are difficult?

Employers and Employees Hold Influential Kingdom Positions

- Do you think Paul really meant that we should always be obedient to our employers (assuming your boss is not asking you to do anything immoral or illegal)? Should you be cooperative even if you believe the greater good is not served by your bosses approach?
- What does visible disobedience and subordination communicate to our unbelieving colleagues? What opinion do you have of colleagues that persevere and work diligently through difficulties created by an employer? Contrast the two.
- Why is it so difficult to submit to authority at work?
- Jesus knows you perfectly and he appointed you to an Influential Kingdom Position. How does this effect your mindset about your job? Does it change the way you think about the purpose of your vocation? How does this relate to Paul's instruction to "Obey in all things your masters according to the **flesh**"?

Work has Many Obstacles – Jesus Provides Opportunities

- Name three obstacles you face at work. How can these obstacles be used to reveal the character of Jesus?
- Work with excellence when no one is watching!! Why does Paul warn us to not serve with "eye service, as men-pleasers" only? What does this approach say about your character? What does this approach communicate to your unbelieving colleagues?
- How might difficult work situations be an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Christ's presence in our lives?
- What are the rewards of our influential kingdom positions? (Also, see Matthew 6:19-21)
- How does Paul's instruction apply to managers and bosses?
- Is your first priority at work to serve your personal needs? How might this impact your Influential Kingdom Position?
- Name a few ways that the parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30) relates to your mindset about work. What do the talents represent? Who is the master? What words does the master use to describe the servant that buried the talents?