



## DISCUSSION GUIDE MARCH 26, 2023



### LEADERS

#### Read Colossians 3:22-4:1

#### Background:

Continuing his thoughts on Christian behaviors, Paul gives specific instructions about what is expected of both slaves and masters who have a new life in Christ. The Bible does not approve of slavery as we think of slavery. The slavery in this passage refers to a form of voluntary or sometimes involuntary servitude for the repayment of a debt, because of extreme poverty, or war prisoners. Some translations use the word servant or bondservant.

#### Key Thoughts

The closest current application is the employer/employee relationship.

#### Challenge

Take your Christian faith to work with you. Work in such a way that God can say, "That's my guy" or "She's my girl".

#### Weekly Memory Verse

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters,"

**Colossians 3:23**



### Dive In

Go around and let everyone answer...

Think about your work history and describe either the best or the worst job you ever had. What made it good or bad? What role did your manager or supervisor play?

### Dig Deep

Read Scripture: Colossians 3:22-4:1

"<sup>22</sup>Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to curry their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord. <sup>23</sup>Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, <sup>24</sup>since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. <sup>25</sup>Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for their wrongs, and there is no favoritism. 4 <sup>1</sup>Masters, provide your slaves with what is right and fair, because you know that you also have a Master in heaven."

- What is expected of Christians in the workplace?
  - What if we don't have our dream job, perfect working conditions, our preferred hours, or an ideal boss?
  - How does this apply to work from home or other away from the workplace situations like travel, driving, deliveries or outside sales?
- How should reverence for the Lord affect our work ethic? What rewards can be realized when the Lord Christ is our master?
- What does it mean that there is no favoritism? How does this apply to both employers and employees?
- What are the responsibilities of employers, managers, supervisors considering they also have a master?

### Do Big

Many of us spend more of our waking hours at our jobs than we spend any other place. Considering this is such a big part of our time, think about practical ways to make the most of every opportunity to glorify God in our workplace.