

**“LIVING BY FAITH IN THE WORKPLACE”**  
**EPHESIANS 6:5-9**  
**FEBRUARY 1, 2009**

*Questions for Study and Reflection*

1. How do Paul's thoughts in Ephesians 6:5-9 relate to the train of thought that began in 5:18? How does this connection help us interpret 6:5-9?
2. When the Bible instructs slaves how to behave before their masters, does it at least implicitly promote slavery? Explain your answer.
3. Do you think it's justifiable to think of "slaves and masters" in Ephesians 6:5-9 as "employees and employers"? Why or why not?
4. Pastor Charlie said that the dominating reality Paul is trying to point us toward is that Christ is our true Master and that in reality we work for him and that one day we will receive our reward from him. Where do you see this in Ephesians 6:5-9? (Hint: there are at least five places.)
5. One of the reasons Paul wants us to see this reality is so that we can be a beacon for Christ in the workplace and perhaps see some come to Christ. Is there anyone at work you're praying for or sharing the gospel with?
6. Another reason Paul wants us to see this reality is so that our hope and joy will be in the right thing. Are you looking to Christ alone to your reward for what happens in the workplace?
7. To "obey" is to listen well and do what you're told until you've brought it to completion. Given this definition, are you obedient to your boss? How can you grow in this?
8. Paul says that we ought to obey our bosses with "fear and trembling." Read 2 Corinthians 7:15 and Philippians 2:12-13 and ask the Lord if you are treating your boss as you ought.
9. Paul also says we ought to obey our bosses with "a sincere heart" and "good will" which means that we obey without ulterior motives and with wholehearted zeal or a good attitude. Do you obey your boss this way? How can you grow in this?
10. Paul warned us not to be "people-pleasers" because this is hypocritical and it shows that our true hope is not in God. Do you tend to do what you do at work just to be noticed, or do you do it for the glory of Christ? How can you grow in this?