

# **WORK MATTERS**WEEK 11 // LEAD LIKE JESUS

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## Introduction

Welcome to week eleven of the Work Matters study. Last week we learned who our true boss is and what He expects of us. As you begin this week's study, prepare your mind to receive the lesson God has for you.

In this guide you will find questions for your own personal study along with questions to discuss at a Bible study, neighborhood gathering, or at the dinner table with family and friends.

## Personal Study

#### **READ**

Read Colossians 3:25-4:1 and consider the questions below.

#### **CONSIDER**

• Whether you are an employee or an employer, write down a list of benefits and burdens you think come with the responsibility of being "The Boss."

 In your opinion, what additional responsibilities does a boss possess who follows Christ compared to a boss who doesn't follow Christ?

### Personal Study Continued ...

#### **READ**

Read Ephesians 6:5-9, and consider the questions below:

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<ul> <li>Why do you think Paul (the author and apostle of Jesus) felt the need to tell people God doesn't show favoritism between masters and slaves or employers and employees?</li> </ul>
• When you walk into places of business, how can you tell if the boss is a follower of Jesus or not? What attributes indicate that the Spirit of Christ lives within them?
• Who is someone you know that reflects the heart and mind of Jesus in the way they conduct themselves as an employer? What do they specifically do that sets them apart?
<b>PRAY</b> If you are an employer, ask God to reveal any thoughts or behaviors that are not pleasing to Him. If you are an employee, specifically pray for your boss. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you ways you can encourage them. Lastly, ask God to give you the strength to courageously act upon any ideas He might have given you during this study.



#### **ICE BREAKER**

Discuss this question as a group. Would you rather be the boss in a mediocre organization or a mid-level employee in an exceptional one? Explain why.

Previously, we learned these key truths about work:

- Christians do not ultimately work for their boss but for Jesus.
- You should go above and beyond the call of duty because you're a Christian.

#### DISCUSS

- What new insights or questions about work came to your mind over the last week?
- In what ways are you being inspired to make changes in your work life?

#### READ

The seating arrangement at a dinner party in ancient Israel was incredibly important. The seats closest to the host were considered the "places of honor." These seats were reserved for the most powerful and influential people in the room. So, anyone that was curious about their value in the eyes of society could quickly get an answer by counting how many seats were between them and the host.

Read Luke 14:1-11, and discuss the questions below:

#### **DISCUSS**

- We live in a much different culture than what we see in first century Israel, but are their similarities? What do we use in our culture to evaluate someone's social status or value?
- In what ways do Jesus' teachings in Luke 14 apply to us today?

#### **READ**

Read James 2:1-13 and discuss the questions below:

#### DISCUSS

- The bible mentions repeatedly that God does not show favoritism towards male, female, Jew, Gentile, rich or poor. As his representatives on earth, we are called to do the same. Why is it so easy to fall into the trap of climbing the social ladder?
- What are some practical ways we can live counter-culturally in this area?

#### **PRAY**

Close your time together by praying for any needs within your group. Pray also for a heart and mind that shows no favoritism. Lastly, ask God to help you become more and more like Him.