



REFLECT:
(20 minutes minimum)

12. How would your work/school life change this week if you started to think of that as your ministry/service to God? Give a specific example, if you can.

13. What can you do to improve or strengthen your relationship with your parents?

14. How can you be God's person in a work (or school) environment that is difficult?

15. If you really aspire to excellence at work (or school), what will you do differently this week?



January 24, 2010

Ephesians #18

IT'S NOT JUST WORK

EPHESIANS 6:5-9

Tonight's questions come both from last week's sermon and this week's sermon. Some questions will be more relevant in some groups than in others. As a result, **there are more Dig questions than usual, meaning you can't cover them all.** Feel free to use the questions most applicable to your group.



OPEN:
(2 minutes)

1. If you could change one thing about your parents, what would you change?
2. If I could have any job in the world, it would be...
3. Who in our group has had the most number of employers?





Read Ephesians 6:1-9

4. Why are children to obey their parents? How long are children to obey their parents?

5. **What responsibilities toward their parents do adult children have?**

6. Are you, or will you be, more strict or more lenient with your own kids than your parents were with you? Or about the same?

7. To what extent do you think Paul's teaching for slaves applies to modern people employed for wages? Why?

8. What do you think Paul had in mind when he commanded fathers not to "exasperate" (or "provoke to anger") their children? Why do you think he addresses this command to fathers rather than mothers or parents in general?

9. **Should Paul have taken a stronger stance against the slavery of his day?** Why did Paul call slaves to obey and not to revolt against the system of slavery?

10. To what degree should we submit to our supervisors and others at work? Where should we draw the line?

11. How does God want us to treat all people with whom we work?

Think about it:

Paul's instructions encourage responsibility and integrity on the job.

- ◆ Can you be trusted to do your best work, even when the boss is not around?
- ◆ Do you work hard and with enthusiasm?
- ◆ Do you treat employees as people, not machines?

Remember that no matter who you work for and no matter who works for you, ultimately the one you should want to please is your Father in heaven.

— *From the Life Application Bible Commentary on Ephesians*