

## Instructions for Workers

Titus 2:9-10

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**Christians' behavior in the workplace has significant impact on the attractiveness of the Gospel to others.**

**I. First century slavery was not the evil, racist institution of American history. (v. 9a)**

**II. Christian workers are to appropriately submit themselves to the authorities above them. (v. 9b)**

Slaves, in reverent fear of God submit yourselves to your masters, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh. (perverse or unreasonable) For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. (1 Peter 2:18-19)

**A. Christian workers are to make their bosses glad they were hired. (v. 9c)**

Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people, because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free. (Ephesians 6:5-8)

**B. Christian workers are not to cause trouble with their words. (v. 9d)**

On the next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy. They began to contradict what Paul was saying and heaped abuse on him. (Acts 13:44-45)

He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it. (Titus 1:9)

Those who have believing masters should not show them disrespect just because they are fellow believers. Instead, they should serve them even better because their masters are dear to them as fellow believers and are devoted to the welfare of their slaves. (1 Timothy 6:2)

**C. Christian workers must be scrupulously honest. (v. 10a)**

If he has done you any wrong or owes you anything, charge it to me. (Philemon 1:18)

**D. Christian workers must be faithful and trustworthy (v. 10b)**

God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them. We want each of you to **show** this same diligence to the very end, so that what you hope for may be fully realized. We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised. (Hebrews 6:10-12)

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I received mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might **display** his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. (1 Timothy 1:15-16)

**III. Excellent Christian behavior in the workplace adds credibility to the Gospel message.**  
(v. 10c)

All who are under the yoke of slavery should consider their masters worthy of full respect, so that God's name and our teaching may not be slandered. (1 Timothy 6:1)

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. Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. (Colossians 3:22-24)