

BIBLICAL CAREER PRINCIPLES

(Adapted from InterCristo's Career Kit)

*"I think most of us are looking for a calling, not a job.
Most of us have jobs that are too small for our spirit.
Jobs are not big enough for people."* Nora Watson

PRINCIPLE: WORKMANSHIP

1. God wants you to see how extraordinary you are. (Psalm 139)

- God is a *creative* God; therefore, you are unique.
- God is a *craftsman*; therefore, your God-given talents are good.
- God is a *designer*; therefore, you are equipped with a purpose.

Q: What are some personal characteristics that you feel distinguish you from other people?

WARNING: This knowledge can either motivate you to worship the Creator or you can worship yourself. Many people are so devoted to self-improvement that they have missed the point. What is the point? That I exist for Him. He doesn't exist for me.

PRINCIPLE: LORDSHIP

2. God expects you to acknowledge His right to be Lord of your career by presenting your life to Him. (Rom 12:1, 2Cor 5:15, 1Cor 6:19,20)

The awesome, almost painful truth is that you can choose to withhold yourself from God.

Q: What would it mean to make Christ the Lord of your career? Tell Him your deepest fears.

PRINCIPLE: STEWARDSHIP

3. God expects you to accept responsibility for wisely managing and investing the abilities God has entrusted to your care. (Mt 25:21)

God is looking for a good return on His investment. You can't just sit back and wait.

Q: What are some of your own hesitations in embracing the attitude of "God & me—together" in your stewardship?

PRINCIPLES: WORK, EXPRESSION, PROVISION, & MISSION

4. God expects you to invest your life in purposeful activity...

Work is good...it's God's idea. (Gen 1:28,29) God enjoyed His work (Gen 1:31) and He wants the same for you.

...that expresses your design. (Ex 36:1)

Q: How would you describe your "ideal job"?

...that provides for your needs. (1Tim 5:8, Prov 30:7-9)

Q: What areas of your life—finances, time for family/friends, reflection, time with God, relaxation—do you find most difficult to provide for right now?

...that meets His agenda (mission) on earth. (1Cor 15:58, 2Cor 5:17-20)

Q: What in your world needs doing?

PRINCIPLE: INTEGRATION

5. God expects you to integrate expression, provision, and mission in your work life. (Mt 6:33)

Q: Is there any imbalance in your current thinking about work?

PRINCIPLE: INTEGRITY

6. God expects you to live a godly life while you work. (1Pe 2:12)

Who you are as a Christian should be reflected in the following personal characteristics of your work:

- A commitment to get the job done. (Eph 6:5-9, Titus 2:9,10)
- A dedication to excellence. (1Cor 10:31)
- Quality of relationships that reflects your desire to follow Christ.

Q: Of the characteristics mentioned, which do you struggle with most?

PRINCIPLE: INTERDEPENDENCE

7. God expects you to acknowledge your need for others in discovering and doing work. (1Cor 12:21, 24-26)

Q: Whom could you turn to for wise counsel?