

Study Guide for August 13th. Work Wholeheartedly – As for the Lord. I Timothy 6:1-2

Introduction: When have you felt that your work was truly significant? What has helped you grasp God's purposes for leading you into your vocation or to a specific job?

I. Perspectives on Slavery:

- A. Read the article on the back. In comparison to the American experience of slavery in the 18th & 19th Centuries, how would you characterize slavery in N.T. times?
- B. Summarize the instruction in I Cor. 7:20-24. What is the basis for this command?
- C. Read Gal. 3:28 & Phlm. 16. What new perspective should Christians adopt? Why?
- D. What applications can we make for today in light of how Jesus and the early Christians responded to the practice of slavery in their society? (see I Pet. 2:18-21)

II. Instruction to Slaves (Employees): (I Tim. 6:1-2 & Tit. 2:9-10)

- A. What should be the attitude of Christians toward their masters/employers? Why?
- B. Compare Tit. 2:9-10 with I Tim. 6:1-2. List specific actions which reveal honor.
- C. How might Christians be tempted to respond to a master is a Christian?
- D. What reason does Paul give to correct this compromise?
- E. Describe someone who inspired you to be a better at your work. In what ways?

III. Instruction to Masters: (Employers): (Eph. 6:5-9 & Col. 3:22-4:1)

- A. Use three adjectives to describe the way Christians are to work.
- B. Use three adjectives to describe how Christian masters/employers are to treat those working for them?
- C. What or who is the incentive for both groups addressed?
- D. Describe some who has been a good boss or employer for you? What made them good in that role?

Conclusion: Write out and reflect on Eph. 6:7-8 or Col. 3:22-24. What can you do to better serve God with a whole heart through your work?