
WITNESSING AT WORK

1 TIMOTHY 6:1-2



How can I be a witness? I don't do open-air preaching, I don't go tracting, I don't go door-to-door, I'm not a missionary. How can I witness? God has given us all three mission fields: Our home, our neighborhoods, and our workplace.

That may raise a second question. How can I be a witness in the workplace? Does that mean I'm to go around preaching to everyone, giving them texts and sermons? No, Paul tells us in 1 Timothy 6:1-2, it means being the best worker in the workplace.

- **HARD WORK HELPS THE GOSPEL IN THE WORLD**
- **HARD WORK HELPS THE GOSPEL IN THE CHURCH**

LEARNING

HARD WORK HELPS THE GOSPEL IN THE WORLD

Let all who are under a yoke as bondservants regard their own masters as worthy of all honor (1). Paul continues the idea of honor. He's already discussed honoring women, honoring widows, and honoring elders. Now he comes to honoring employers. And he takes the hardest employment situation possible, that of slavery, being a slave to a master. Paul is not accepting slavery but working within the social system of the day.

Whether the masters were bad or good, they were to be respected. Slaves were not to rebel but to work hard and speak well of their Masters. Why? **So that the name of God and the teaching may not be reviled (1).** Live and work so that God is glorified not tarnished and the Gospel is helped not hindered.

OUR DAILY WORK
HAS ETERNAL CONSEQUENCES.

"Wish I could work for a Christian, then I wouldn't need to work so hard." That's not Paul's logic. He actually demands more of us if we have Christian employers.

HARD WORK HELPS THE GOSPEL IN THE CHURCH

Those who have believing masters must not be disrespectful on the ground that they are brothers (2). Spiritual equality in the church, does not mean vocational equality in the workplace. Just because someone's your brother in the Christian community, doesn't mean you treat them like a buddy in the workplace.

Rather they must serve all the better (2). Although Christian masters will treat you better than non-Christian masters, you are not to take advantage of that for your benefit but rather take advantage of it for their benefit.

Since those who benefit by their good service are believers and beloved (2). Having a Christian employer is a greater incentive to work harder. They are fellow believers and also beloved by God. The more profit they make in their business, the more money there will be for the Gospel.

WE ARE BUSIER BECAUSE THEY ARE BELIEVERS.
THEY ARE BENEFITTED BECAUSE THEY ARE BELOVED.

LOVING

We express our love for God, for the lost, and for fellow Christians by the way we work for them. If we want an answer to "How much do we love God, or "How much do we love the lost or other Christians?" we can answer by looking at how hard we work. Let's show our love for God and the lost by our work ethic. And let's love our Lord Jesus who worked so hard and served so well to benefit the world and especially his beloved believers.

LIVING

When you've done a hard day's work and earned your employer profit or benefitted others by your work, you've just been a powerful Gospel witness. So, witness well by working well, and you'll not only model Christ but do good in both the world and the church.
