**Mor2Lif**

**Work**

**Session Goal:** To help participants gain a biblical understanding of work and recognize the relationship between work and ministry.

**So What?**

As you view the video, consider these questions.

* What is your definition of work?
* Do you believe that God calls and equips us for our job or vocation? If yes, in what ways do you feel God has equipped you for your current job?
* Christina and Melissa both seem very happy in their “jobs.” What attitude do Christina and Melissa have that makes them so happy?
* Tiffany and Jennifer seem to be unhappy or less than satisfied with their current work status. Why do you think they feel this way?
* On a scale of 1 (low) or 10 (high), rate your feelings about your current working status (either inside or outside your home).
* What is your reaction to Melissa’s explanation: “It is not what we do; but how we do it; and who we’re doing it for”?

**What Does the Bible Say?**

Read Proverbs 31:10-31. List the virtue found in each verse. How does each quality translate to your work?

V. 10

V. 11

V. 12

V. 13

V. 14

V.15

V. 16

V. 17-19

V. 20

V. 21-22

V. 23

V. 24

v. 25

v. 26

V. 27

V. 28-31

What are the characteristics of this virtuous woman you admire most?

Which of the characteristics do you find easy to achieve? Which are difficult for you?

In light of this passage, what changes in attitude and action toward your “work” might need to occur?

What are some steps you can take to begin modeling the virtues revealed and applauded in this passage?

Read Ephesians 6:5-10.

How might your work habits change if Jesus Christ were your supervisor?

How do you think God views your attitude and contribution at your workplace?

Read 1 Corinthians 10:31.

React to this statement: Christians should see their jobs as an offering to God; then even menial tasks become an opportunity for praise and worship.

**How Does This Affect My Life?**

In a sermon, a pastor told a story about a woman who was asked what she did for a living. She replied, “I’m a missionary for Jesus Christ cleverly disguised as a checkout clerk.”

What difference would it make in your workplace if you saw yourself as “a missionary for Jesus Christ cleverly disguised as an (insert your work title here)?”

In the video, Melissa and Christiana encourage Tiffany and Jennifer to use their dreams and skills in a ministry opportunity. Think about your workplace, what would their suggestion look like in your situation?

**Now What?**

Option One

In the book, *When There’s No Burning Bush,* three suggestion are listed to help the believer to create a ministry at their workplace: 1) meet someone’s need; 2) cultivate a loving attitude; and 3) maintain a God-honoring quality of work (Hall & Morsch, 2004).

Write down two or three specific ways you can implement these suggestions in your workplace. Place your plan in an envelope, seal it, and exchange envelops among your group. Covenant to pray for each other this week.

Option Two

Consider the following perspectives about a person’s “job” or “work” from the book *Generation iY* (Elmore, 2010) and discuss your findings.

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| --- | --- |
| My Job | My Work |
| Is about what I get. | Is about what I can give. |
| Will change. | Ties my life together. |
| Allows me to be a consumer. | Allows me to be a contributor. |
| Often involves competition. | Is driven by compassion. |
| Is about making a living. | Is about leaving a legacy. |

Do you consider your current employment a “job” or “work”?

If you see your employment as a “job,” reflect on your attitude and contribution to that job. Does your attitude and contribution honor God? Why or why not?

If you see your employment as “work,” are you being a God-honoring woman? Why or why not?