

Weekly WorkPlace Wisdom

A Weekly Service To The Business Community From Saddleback Church

SUCCEEDING AT WORK

By Rick Warren

Work dominates our lives. If you are a typical American, you'll spend about 150,000 hours, or 40% of the waking hours of your life, at work. You'll spend more time *working*, *thinking* about work, and *commuting* to work than you do eating, relaxing, and vacationing combined.

Since work comprises such a major component of your life, God wants you to succeed in it. In fact, he's ready to help you out. In the Bible God offers this guarantee:

"Commit your work to the Lord, then it will succeed." (Prov. 16:3 LB)

What does it mean to "*commit your work to the Lord*"? How do you do it?

There are four specific steps:

1. SEEK GOD'S DIRECTION. Ask Him to guide you everyday - in your planning ... your organizing ... your decision making... your implementing ... and in relating to everyone you come in contact with. ***"The Lord is pleased when good people pray" (Prov. 15:8 GN)***

2. SHARPEN YOUR SKILLS. Be the best you can be for God's glory. Never stop learning. Look for ways to cultivate the talents He's given you. ***"If your ax is dull, and its edge unsharpened, more strength is needed, but skill will bring success." (Eccl. 10:10)***

3. STAY POSITIVE IN YOUR ATTITUDE. Refuse to be infected by the worrying, the complaining, or the laziness of others. Remember, *enthusiasm* comes from the Greek words ("*en theos*") that mean "*to be in God.*" ***"In all the work you are doing, work the best you can. Work as if you were doing it for the Lord, not for people." (Col. 3:23 NCV)***

4. TITHE ON YOUR PROFITS. If you're serious about committing your work to God so He can bless it, then God expects you to demonstrate your commitment by tithing your income. ***"Honor the Lord by giving him the first part of all your income, and he will fill your barns... to overflow" (Prov. 3:9-10 LB)***

These are the conditions that guarantee God's blessing on your work. The choice is yours.

Until next week...

Discussion Questions:

1. How do you define success?
2. What could you do this week as a step to committing your work to the Lord?
3. Where do you need God's wisdom in your work?