

Read Colossians 3 v 22 - 4 v 1 and Genesis 39.

During our working lives most of us spend more than half of our Monday to Friday waking hours at work – 'working 9 – 5' or more, a sobering thought! So, is this huge chunk of our lives and energy of interest to God and if so, how?

1. As Christians, are our jobs just about earning a living, or is there more to it than that? How does God see it?

2. What does this passage in Colossians say about how we should treat our work and those for whom we work? Also, those who work for us?

3. Joseph lived and worked in a culture quite foreign to the one he had known for most of his young life. How did he conduct himself as an employee? Gen 39 v 3 says his employer saw that The Lord was with Joseph. How might Potiphar have seen this and what can we learn from this for our witness to the Lord in our workplace?

4. What facilitated Jospeh's promotion to the top in Potiphar's household and in the prison – then later when Pharoh made him Prime Minister in Egypt (Gen 41 v 41 – 43)? How should we view career ambitions?

5. Gen 39 v 3 & 23 says the Lord gave Jospeh success in everything he did. Why?

6. What was it about Joseph's work and new position that caused the Lord to bless all of Potiphar's household and business – Gen 39 v 5? How could this apply to our workplaces?

We may have retired from our 'day jobs', or we may not have even started work yet - but the principles gleaned here apply to all our lives whatever the stage, as we interact with the society and culture in which we live.