

February 26, 2017

Series: Thrones

Part 5: Leveraging Authority in the Workplace to Help Others Win

Dr. Travis Brawner

1. The main text, Ecclesiastes 3:9-13, says among other things that we should “be joyful” and “do good” as long as we live as well as “take pleasure” in all our “toil.”

*Do you consider your job to be a grind? What about work not associated with your job?

*What job has given you the most fulfillment and why?

*In what ways do you take pleasure in your toil?

*How can even a grind of a job be a blessing?

*Why have you left a job?

2. Who is/was one of your favorite bosses and why?

3. I Corinthians 10:31 says that “whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”

How can you give glory to God in your particular work?

4. Col 3:23 says, “Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.”

How can remembering this affect your work?

5. Have you ever been hurt in a business deal? Have you lost a friend because of a “deal” gone bad? How did you deal with the hurt or anger?

6. Martin Luther, great theologian of centuries past, said he couldn’t do what others were telling him he must because “the Word of God holds my conscience captive.”

*What things besides God’s Word can hold our consciences captive?

*When you look at your choices, what would you say holds your conscience captive?

*How did the Word of God holding your conscience captive affect your choices last week? Or how would it have changed something last week?

7. Travis put up a picture of a turtle on a fence post and commented that the turtle didn’t get up there by himself to illustrate that others help us.

*Who have you helped succeed?

*Who has helped you reach your current or past position?

8. A clip from a Harrison Ford movie showed Ford facing a maniacal man wielding a machete. Ford pulls out a gun and shoots him.

*How is that a picture of us facing difficulties in the work place or in life?

*What difficulty has the Holy Spirit helped you overcome?

*What difficulty are you facing that you need to remember you have the incredible advantage of the Holy Spirit living in you?

9. Can you think of ways your life would have been better if you had simply done “the right thing”? (Teach your children and grandchildren this valuable lesson.)

10. Phil. 2:3-4 tells us to be humble and not only look after our own interests but the interests of others. These verses are prelude to a group of lyrical verses many consider to be an early Christian hymn perhaps modified by Paul. Read Phil 2:5-11 and discuss how Jesus shows us how to treat others.