

**LUNCH BUCKET CHRISTIANS**  
**1 Timothy: Doing Church God's Way, Part 9**  
August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011

The first Christians were left in a predicament - Matthew 28:18-20

The early Christian church dramatically changed their world by following God's plan for influence

1 Timothy 6:1-2 (NIV) "All who are under the yoke of slavery should consider their masters worthy of full respect, so that God's name and our teaching may not be slandered. Those who have believing masters are not to show less respect for them because they are brothers. Instead, they are to serve them even better, because those who benefit from their service are believers, and dear to them. These are the things you are to teach and urge on them."

Goal: That God's name and the reputation of Christianity won't be slandered

Christianity brought some Radical teaching into that culture & still does today  
Galatians 3:26-29

The early Christians fought the evil of slavery not by a political uprising or by protesting, they actually went along with this political evil but lived in a different way

The "perfect job" probably doesn't exist  
Genesis 3:17-19

There are parts of every job that we don't like to do - no matter how good the job is

When the fallenness of the world comes and impacts us, we are shocked

If you are a "wage slave," and your boss is a jerk Scripture tells us to Respect and obey him/her anyway

**We're to respect and obey our boss even if he/she is a jerk because...**

1. It makes God look good

There will be times & places where God's reputation is more important than our Rights

People decide what they think of God based on what they think of us

Jerk bosses need Jesus too

Titus 2:9-10

2. It will save your neck

Proverbs 16:14

Only a fool riles (aggravates) a Rhino

3. To respect and obey, even if your boss is a jerk, is the best way to get ahead

Proverbs 27:18

4. It is what God says to do

1 Peter 2:18-21

Key Principle: Always do the Right thing

If you are in a bad job, remind yourself you are on assignment from God

What if my boss is a believer? – 1 Timothy 6:2

If your boss is a Christian, never take advantage of the relationship

If you work for someone who is a Christian, go above & beyond what your job calls for

*What to do if your job isn't working out? Two key questions to ask:*

1. Am I being asked to do anything unethical?

If so, obey God and not man and accept the consequences  
Acts 4:18-20

We often think because I'm doing right, reward should come today; reality is it may not come in this lifetime  
2 Timothy 3:12

2. Can I quit?

1 Corinthians 7:17-24

If the answer is "no, I can't quit," then make the best out of the job

The goal today is the same as in the first century – everyone would want to hire a Christian

We won't change our culture by whining or protesting but by infiltrating our culture with godly living

***My Next Step Today Is:***

- My prayer today, "God, help me be the type of employee who causes others to have a favorable opinion of You and want to know You."
- God help me be an employee who goes above and beyond what my job calls for
- I plan to attend Class 101, the church's basic information class, on Sun, Aug 21<sup>st</sup> at 12:30 pm
- I want to be baptized on Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at the beach