

## The Tough Employee

“ How to Handle a Challenging Work Environment - Part 2 ”

**1.** Treat Others as You Want to Be Treated v. 1a

**2.** Remember You Still Answer to God v. 1b



# Grow Group Discussion Questions

A grow group is 8-16 people who get together weekly to study God's word and the previous Sunday's message. There is a time of discussion, support, encouragement, and learning how the message applies to daily life. **PCC uses the ESV (English Standard Version).**

## HOW DO I JOIN A GROUP?

To learn more or join a group, visit [pacificcoastchurch.org/gg/](http://pacificcoastchurch.org/gg/) or sign up at the patio Info Kiosk.

### Point #1

- Read Colossians 4:1a. Why did Paul tell masters to treat slaves "just" and "fair"? (i.e. What was normal?)
- How does this compare to the management style in your workplace? Give an example.
- In what way should Christian bosses treat employees different? How will Point #1 help? Be specific.

### Point #2

- Read Colossians 4:1b. In what way is a Christian manager, employer, or business owner never fully in charge?
- Why is this important to understand? How will applying Point #2 actually change today's workplace?
- How can this also be a witness for the Lord? What is God teaching you about your management style?

---

## Daily Devotions

These are provided for mid-week personal spiritual growth. Prayerfully writing out your answers will help you experience real life transformation as you dig deeper into the spiritual truths of God's word and today's message.

A downloadable PDF of this document is also available each week at [pacificcoastchurch.org/sermons](http://pacificcoastchurch.org/sermons).

### **MONDAY // Read Colossians 4:1a, Ephesians 6:5, 9**

- What two words does Paul use to describe a Christian management style in today's working environment?
- What is the sinful alternative? How are Christian employers called to a higher standard? Be specific.
- How can you apply this truth at your job? Give a specific example that you can step into today.

### **TUESDAY // Read Colossians 4:1a, Ephesians 6:9, Matthew 22:39, James 2:8-9**

- How can position and power cause discrimination within the workplace? How have you seen this happen?
- Why can this be especially challenging for upper management in a company? How can Matthew 22:39 help?
- In what way is God challenging your current management style? Be specific.

### **WEDNESDAY // Read Colossians 4:1a, Ephesians 6:9, Matthew 18:21-35**

- What type of illustration did Jesus use to teach about mercy? How does it also illustrate Colossians 4:1?
- How can this perspective help prevent favoritism and discrimination in today's workplace?
- How can this same lesson apply to your place of employment? What specific steps can you take?

### **THURSDAY // Read Colossians 4:1b, 3:11, Ephesians 6:5, 9b**

- What subtle temptation can occur when you are the one in charge in today's workplace? (Hint: power) Why?
- What Christian perspective does Paul provide for those in charge? Why is this important?
- What has been your experience being "in charge"? How can the truth of Colossians 4:1b help? Be specific.

### **FRIDAY // Read Colossians 4:1b, Ephesians 6:9b, Ruth 2:1-12**

- Why was Ruth so surprised and humbled by Boaz's care and concern for her?
- How does culture play into his discussion? In what way was Boaz an exception? How does Colossians 4:1b relate?
- How would people describe your current management style? What can you learn from Boaz?

### **SATURDAY // Read Colossians 3:22-4:1, Ephesians 6:5-9, Philemon 1-25**

- What was Paul trying to communicate to Philemon in taking back his runaway slave Onesimus?
- How would you have felt being both Philemon and Onesimus in this situation? Be specific.
- What does this say about how God wants you to treat others within a working relationship?

**MEDITATION VERSE:** *<sup>1</sup>Masters, treat your bondservants justly and fairly, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven.*  
**Colossians 4:1**