

## **LET GOD HELP YOU FIND YOUR NEW JOB**

The following is a compilation of concepts that I began to learn from friends during my first period of unemployment in 1989. I gained further insight while sharing these ideas and principles with Christian and non-Christian friends from 1989 to 1993; while I was again "unemployed" (deciding where to go) in 1991; and when my wife, Susan, and I had to decide if God was really sending us to work and live in Mexico with a major U.S. company.

I have never seen God fail to guide anyone using these principles, including a good friend of mine who was not a Christian at the time we started this process. The good news is that God has a plan for you and that includes a specific place for you to work.

I trust you will find this helpful.

Roy Padgett

I. WORK IS IMPORTANT TO GOD

You are responsible to work but God controls the results.  
Do your work for God and do it His way.

COL 3:23 Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men; knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.

1TI 5:8 But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith, and is worse than an unbeliever.

PSA 127:1 (A Song of Ascents, of Solomon.) Unless the Lord builds the house, They labor in vain who build it; Unless the Lord guards the city, The watchman keeps awake in vain.

PSA 127:2 It is vain for you to rise up early, To retire late, To eat the bread of painful labors; For He gives to His beloved even in his sleep.

2CH 15:7 "But you, be strong and do not lose courage, for there is reward for your work."

PRO 22:29 Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will stand before kings; He will not stand before obscure men.

EXO 23:12 "Six days you are to do your work, but on the seventh day you shall cease from labor in order that your ox and your donkey may rest, and the son of your female slave, as well as your stranger, may refresh themselves.

2TI 3:16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;  
2TI 3:17 that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

DEU 5:13                      DEU 28:12  
PRO 10:2                    PRO 24:30-34            ECC 5:18-20  
COL 3:23-25                ECC 2:22-24            1PE 2:18-21

## II. GOD IS THE ONE WHO PROVIDES FOR YOU

PHI 4:19 And my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

ROM 8:28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

MAL 3:10 "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this," says the Lord of hosts, "if I will not open for you the windows of heaven, and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows.

MAL 3:11 "Then I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it may not destroy the fruits of the ground; nor will your vine in the field cast its grapes," says the Lord of hosts.

PHI 4:12 I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.

PHI 4:13 I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

ISA 65:21-24

ROM 8:26-28

1JO 4:4

## III. GOD HAS THE WISDOM TO KNOW IF YOU SHOULD CHANGE JOBS

I'm working now, should I change jobs? Watch your motive for wanting to change.

Read about Gideon in Judges chapters 6 to 8 and watch how he kept asking God to confirm what he should do. He started with the fleece (sheepskin) in order to ask for clear direction from God. Notice that at times God answered his concern even when he did not specifically ask.

Wherever you work, work as though you reported directly to God.

Obtain God's wisdom by reading the verses below, prayer and advice from Christians who know you and understand your field.

PRO 3:5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And do not lean on your own understanding.

PRO 3:6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight.

## Job Verses

EPH 5:15-17 Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil. So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

EPH 3:20 Now to Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us,  
EPH 3:21 to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

PRO 15:22 Without consultation, plans are frustrated, But with many counselors they succeed.

PRO 16:9 The mind of man plans his way, But the Lord directs his steps.

PRO 19:20 Listen to counsel and accept discipline, That you may be wise the rest of your days. Many are the plans in a man's heart, But the counsel of the Lord, it will stand.

PRO 3:13 How blessed is the man who finds wisdom, And the man who gains understanding.

PRO 8:14-17 "Counsel is mine and sound wisdom; I am understanding, power is mine. "By me kings reign, And rulers decree justice. "By me princes rule, and nobles, All who judge rightly. "I love those who love me; And those who diligently seek me will find me.

JER 10:23 I know, O Lord, that a man's way is not in himself; Nor is it in a man who walks to direct his steps. Correct me, O Lord, but with justice; Not with Thine anger, lest Thou bring me to nothing.

PSA 139:1 (For the choir director. A Psalm of David.) O Lord, Thou hast searched me and known me.

PSA 139:2 Thou dost know when I sit down and when I rise up; Thou dost understand my thought from afar.

ISA 30:21

PRO 3:3-14

PRO 8:10-23

PRO 18:22

PRO 19:14

PRO 23:17

PRO 24:3-5

PRO 24:14

PSA 5:7-8

PSA 139:1-10

#### IV. SEEK AND ASK FOR GOD'S PLAN

How do I decide which job to take? Pray for specific guidance (i.e., ask God to open one door and close all the others).

God will show you the best choice.

Turn the decision over to God and follow where He leads.

Trust God's Word.

Remember that God is in control.

Seek out and listen to advisors.

You and your spouse must be at peace with the decision.

How will the new job affect your Christian walk?

JER 29:11 'For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.

JER 29:12 'Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you.

JER 29:13 'And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

PHI 4:6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

PHI 4:7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, shall guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

LUK 11:9 "And I say to you, ask, and it shall be given to you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you.

LUK 11:10 "For everyone who asks, receives; and he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, it shall be opened.

DEU 30:9 "Then the Lord your God will prosper you abundantly in all the work of your hand, in the offspring of your body and in the offspring of your cattle and in the produce of your ground, for the Lord will again rejoice over you for good, just as He rejoiced over your fathers;

DEU 30:10 if you obey the Lord your God to keep His commandments and His statutes which are written in this book of the law, if you turn to the Lord your God with all your heart and soul.

ECC 5:4 When you make a vow to God, do not be late in paying it, for He takes no delight in fools. Pay what you vow! It is better that you should not vow than that you should vow and not pay.

PRO 16:3 Commit your works to the Lord, And your plans will be established.

## Job Verses

PRO 21:5 The plans of the diligent lead surely to advantage, But everyone who is hasty comes surely to poverty.

PRO 2:6 For the Lord gives wisdom; From His mouth come knowledge and understanding.

PRO 2:7 He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk in integrity,

PRO 2:8 Guarding the paths of justice, And He preserves the way of His godly ones.

PSA 37:22 For those blessed by Him will inherit the land; But those cursed by Him will be cut off.

PSA 37:23 The steps of a man are established by the Lord; And He delights in his way.

JOH 14:13 "And whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

JOH 14:14 "If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.

JOH 14:15 "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.

MAT 18:19 "Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven.

MAT 18:20 "For where two or three have gathered together in My name, there I am in their midst."

MAR 11:24 "Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they shall be granted you.

1TH 5:16 Rejoice always;

1TH 5:17 pray without ceasing;

1TH 5:18 in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

PRO 1:27-2:15

JOH 14:13-20

ISA 32:8

ECC 3:1-14

JOH 16:23-27

AMO 5:4

PSA 37:21-34

MAT 7:7-11

PRO 1:33

V. SALVATION IS FROM THE LORD

1KI 18:21 And Elijah came near to all the people and said, "How long will you hesitate between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him." But the people did not answer him a word.

ISA 43:10 "You are My witnesses," declares the Lord, "And My servant whom I have chosen, In order that you may know and believe Me, And understand that I am He. Before Me there was no God formed, And there will be none after Me.

ISA 43:13 "Even from eternity I am He; And there is none who can deliver out of My hand; I act and who can reverse it?"

ISA 59:1 Behold, the Lord's hand is not so short That it cannot save; Neither is His ear so dull That it cannot hear.

ISA 59:2 But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, And your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He does not hear.

PSA 62:2 He only is my rock and my salvation, My stronghold; I shall not be greatly shaken.

PSA 46:10 "Cease striving and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

PSA 25:11 For Thy name's sake, O Lord, Pardon my iniquity, for it is great.

PSA 25:12 Who is the man who fears the Lord? He will instruct him in the way he should choose.

PSA 25:13 His soul will abide in prosperity, And his descendants will inherit the land.

PSA 25:14 The secret of the Lord is for those who fear Him, And He will make them know His covenant.

JOH 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name,

JOH 1:13 who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

JOH 1:14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

JOH 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.

## Job Verses

JOH 3:17 "For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through Him.

JOH 3:18 "He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

JAM 4:8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

HEB 11:1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

HEB 11:2 For by it the men of old gained approval.

HEB 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

ROM 8:38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,  
ROM 8:39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1JO 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1JO 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1JO 1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

2TI 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.

2TI 1:8 Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, or of me His prisoner; but join with me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God,

2TI 4:7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith;

2TI 4:8 in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

ISA 43:10-13 ISA 65:1

PSA 25:8-18

PSA 40:1-5

PSA 52:8

PSA 56:3-12



## Job Verses

PSA 62:5-7            PSA 93:1  
JOH 3:16-19 JOH 6:29            JOH 10:9-10  
JOH 11:40            JOH 14:1  
JAM 4:6-8            HEB 11:1-6            HEB 13:5-6  
1PE 5:6-10            ROM 12:1-3

All verses herein are from the New American Standard Version

### Recommended Readings on Work

*Made to Count: Discovering What to Do With Your Life*

Bob Reccord and Randy Singer

*How to Find a Job You Can Love*

Ralph Miller and Arthur Mattson

*Men in Search of Work and the Women Who Love Them*

Diane Eble

*Your Work Matters to God*

Doug Sherman, William Hendricks

*Living in the Lions' Den Without Being Eaten*

William Carr Peel

*Let God Help You Choose: Making Decisions That Matter*

Roger C. Palms

### Recommended Readings on the Person of Jesus Christ

*More Than A Carpenter*

Josh McDowell (available at Christian bookstores)

*Mere Christianity*

C.S. Lewis

*Basic Christianity*

John R.W. Stott

*The Book of John in the Bible*