

# OUR INFLUENCE IN THE WORK-CULTURE

**Problem:** Religious Devaluation of Work and Compartmentalize Living, will hinder our influence.

**Overview: ReThink-** Expand Vision; **Adapt-** Mission and Ministry; **Redeem-** Little becomes Big

In church we often hear about “**Missions**” and “**Ministry...**” So, how does “ministry” relate to our job/work? How does “mission” relate to our job/work?

## A. **RETHINK “MISSION” IN OUR WORK-CULTURE** (John 17:15-20)

1. “**Mission**” focuses on **being sent** out into the world, and the kind of **influence** we bring to.
2. Jesus illustrated this in four **word pictures**, the nature of our mission and places He sends us.
  - a. You are sent out to be **light** in darkness. (Matthew 5:14-16)
  - b. You are sent out to be **salt** in a world that tastes bad. (Matthew 5:12-13)
  - c. You are placed in a risky environment, like **sheep** among wolves. (Matthew 10:16)
  - d. You are planted in precise places like **wheat** next to tares. (Matthew 13:24-30)
3. We make **missions exclusive...** primarily a special call to go to a particular foreign culture. So how can Mission & Ministry relate to our work-life?

## B. **RETHINK “MINISTRY” IN OUR WORK CULTURE**

1. We tend to **restrict ministry** as an activity performed within the walls of the church building,
2. “Ministry” in the New Testament comes from the root words for **service** or **servicing**. (“*It is Christ the Lord whom you serve.*” Colossians 3:24) Performing our job responsibilities unto God is where ministry in our workplace starts.

**Question:** Describe some ways we demonstrate how our job is a ministry unto the Lord?

3. **Ministry** opportunities **expand** as I personally learn to become seeker-friendly by engaging with the people around me.

**Question:** Give an example of being seeker-friendly, and how to engage with people at your work?

## C. **ADAPTING MISSION/MINISTRY TO OUR WORK CULTURE**

1. God is custom-making our Mission/Ministry agenda to fit our particular work culture.
2. Opportunities are naturally built-in to workday as we connect with people and situations.
3. Our faith in the work culture will be understood in different ways. (2Corinthians 2:15-16)

## D. **BECOME ENGAGING IN YOUR WORK LIFE “**

1. Engagement describes a person who is **attentive**, **intentional**, involved, and **interactive** with people and situations.

**Question:** Name good habits to learn that would help in your mission and ministry at work?

2. Become intentional about “**redeeming opportunity**”. (Ephesians 5:15-17; Colossian 4:5).
3. See the **little things** you do **as** part of **God’s Bigger plans...** His work is multifaceted.
4. God will equally reward all who sow, cultivate and reap in the harvest. (John 4:35-38; Context?)

### SECOND CHARACTERISTIC

Christians with a correct view of ministry and mission in the work culture understand how it is built-in to their workday. It develops naturally as they connect and engage with people and situations, doing so without disrupting or neglecting their job responsibilities.