



Your Work Matters to God

September 11, 2024

Every day, millions of workers go to work without seeing the slightest connection between what they do all day and what they think God wants done in the world.¹

Series Introduction:

1. What does the Bible say about workers?
2. What does the Bible say about employers?
3. What does the Bible say about retirement?

Part One: What the Bible Says About Work and Workers

1. Good work requires a full commitment

- Colossians 3:23-24: "**Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart**, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

2. Good work brings advantage, poor work brings failure

- Proverbs 14:23: "**All hard work brings a profit**, but mere talk leads only to poverty."

3. Good workers should seize the moment while they are living

- Ecclesiastes 9:10: "**Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might**, for in the realm of the dead, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom."

4. Good and bad work effects your ability to provide for yourself

- 2 Thessalonians 3:10: "For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: **The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat.**"
- Proverbs 12:11: "**Those who work their land will have abundant food**, but those who chase fantasies have no sense."

5. Good work removes the need to steal and empowers you to do good

- Ephesians 4:28: "Anyone who has been stealing must **steal no longer**, but must work, **doing something useful with their own hands**, that they may have something to share with those in need."

¹ Your Work Matters to God by Doug Sherman and William Hendricks



6. Good work is something we offer to God like a sacrifice

- Proverbs 16:3: **"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans."**

Questions:

- What are some questions you may have about work?
- How long do employees stay in their jobs these days, and how does that impact productivity?

Research (copilot)

- **The average job tenure varies significantly based on several factors such as age, race, education, gender, and geographic location.**

Here are some key insights:

1. Age:

- Younger workers** (ages 25 to 34) tend to have shorter job tenures, with a median of about 2.8 years.
- Older workers** (ages 55 to 64) have much longer tenures, with a median of 9.8 years¹.

2. Gender:

- Men have a slightly higher median tenure (4.3 years) compared to **women** (3.8 years)¹.

3. Race and Ethnicity:

- White workers have a higher median tenure, with 28% having been with their current employer for 10 years or more.
- Black workers have a median tenure of 24%, Asian workers 22%, and Hispanic workers 21% for 10 years¹.

4. Education:

- Workers with higher educational attainment tend to have longer job tenures. For example, those with a bachelor's degree or higher have a median tenure of 5.2 years, compared to 3.2 years for those with a high school diploma².

5. Geographic Location:

- Job tenure can also vary by region, with workers in the Midwest and Northeast generally having longer tenures compared to those in the South and West².
- These statistics highlight the diverse factors that influence job tenure.



Closing: Thoughts From Your Work Matters to God by Doug Sherman and William Hendricks

1. There is a tension between the world of faith and the world of work.

The world of faith believes that it is the most important thing you do. But, you spend probably 60% of your time outside of sleep at work. He asked the question does God care about the much of your life? The obvious answer is yes. (14,21)

2. He points out that “there is no significant difference between the church and the unchurched in their ethics and values on the job. (P18)

3. He also describes something called “careerism” the idolatry of career, such that it establishes one’s self-worth, becomes the controlling center of one’s life, and is the last in a series of priorities. (Page 18)