

Who do you work for?

There is a common saying that many employees quit their jobs because of their boss' or manager's attitude or they resign from their bosses and not their jobs. Many employees seek boss compatibility in the workplace; indulge in boss bashing; and offer their bosses "eye service" in order to get ahead. It is not unusual to find employees who seek to please their bosses to the extent that they engage themselves in unethical, unprofessional and illegal activities. This situation described above is prevalent because many employees believe they are working for their bosses and their rewards come from their bosses.

It is not wrong to work diligently and in the process please our boss. But for us to treat our earthly boss as the ultimate boss and be willing to do just "anything" to have our boss' favour is what can lead us astray from God's word.

As people of faith we should let our attitude and behaviour be guided by God's word that states: "Slaves, obey your masters in all things. Do not obey just when they are watching you, to gain their favour, but serve them honestly, because you respect the Lord. In all the work you are doing, work the best you can. Work as if you were doing it for the Lord, not for people. Remember that you will receive your reward from the Lord, which he promised to his people. You are serving the Lord Christ." Col. 3:22-24

God expects us to give our best at work whether we have a good or terrible boss/employer because our ultimate boss is our Lord Jesus Christ. We can make a positive impact when we have a bad or terrible boss or employer and we refuse to engage in boss bashing; deliver low quality service or work; or call in sick when not sick amongst others.

If we accept that we are serving Jesus we will do our best whether we are being watched by others or not; be honest and ethical in our activities; and look up to Jesus not bosses for reward and recognition. Furthermore, when our efforts are not rewarded or recognized, we will not be discouraged, and our productivity, creativity and zeal will not be dampened. For we know that our labour for God will never be in vain. When our good ideas are shot down because our boss does not want us to shine let us remember that God makes things beautiful in His own time. Jesus sees all things, reads all motives, and knows how we feel when we are mistreated. He promised that the Comforter will always be with us to help us overcome challenges in life and at work too. Remember we serve Jesus not our boss at work and through our work.



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