

# LEADING LIKE JESUS

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**Colossians 3.23:** Whatever you do, work at it with all of your heart, ... working for the Lord, not human masters.

**Romans 12.1:** I urge you brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God.

Joining our faith to our whole lives, including work, conforms with St. Paul's exhortations that our "bodies" and our "work" be offered as a \_\_\_\_\_ to God.

Today, in a society hungry for a spiritual dimension to their lives and their work, we desperately need people who can lead like Jesus.

## TWO QUESTIONS ABOUT FAITH AND THE WORKPLACE:

- 1) Can we safely speak about our faith?
- 2) Is it a competitive disadvantage to direct our departments, divisions, or institutions to act in keeping with the principles and virtues of our faith?

## WHAT CAN BE DONE BY ALL OF US IN THE WORKPLACE

**1. Develop a \_\_\_\_\_** that speaks not just to what business or activity your team is pursuing, but also to why you and your employees are coming to work each day – to improve society.

**2. Develop a set of \_\_\_\_\_** that are inspiring to others, but deeply authentic to you as a leader.

- a) to honor our faith and family obligations
- b) to be \_\_\_\_\_ to colleagues
- c) to be focused on \_\_\_\_\_ results for multiple stakeholders
- d) to act without \_\_\_\_\_
- e) to be competent or to be willing to work somewhere else
- f) to be team-oriented but desirous of \_\_\_\_\_ at work
- g) to not blame \_\_\_\_\_ for group decisions
- h) to practice servant leadership
- i) to continuously improve by embracing different forms of \_\_\_\_\_
- j) to hold each other \_\_\_\_\_ for the 9 preceding values

**3. Speak his Name or refer to our faith in \_\_\_\_\_** settings.

**4. Make promotions, demotions, and compensation decisions** based on adherence to the \_\_\_\_\_.

5. **360-degree evaluations for executives and broad surveys of employees for feedback** as evidence of our concern for the continuing health of our culture.
6. **In every publication and public setting**, show how our actions or results occurred in the context of values for the company.
7. **Change the definition of “privilege”** to let everyone know we were in this \_\_\_\_\_.

## INTEGRATING OUR FAITH INTO OUR WORK LIVES.

We are born with the option to choose magnanimity – the desire to be great with God’s gifts to us – and to pursue a \_\_\_\_\_ mission of exercising those gifts for the benefit of His world.

Leaders like you should never apologize for wanting to be great and to make a positive impact on the world.

All people, especially the very gifted ones, are also born with a tendency to let success \_\_\_\_\_ their mental picture of the world.

Those blessed with the ability and energy to lead others must recognize they embark on a perilous path for themselves and others because power, self-adulation, and secular success will forever try to seduce humans into thinking they are “\_\_\_\_\_” – superior to others. Nothing could be further from the truth.

1. **It is a big competitive \_\_\_\_\_ to be guided at work by our Christian faith:** It results in better decision-making, more trust from others and more self-worth.
2. **It doesn’t hurt to enter each day with Ephesians 6:10-17 on our lips** – to arm oneself with the spiritual armor God provides to do battle for God and for others.
3. **It helps at the end of each day to evaluate our success** by only looking at the \_\_\_\_\_ and to God.  
And then making the needed mental adjustments for the next day.
4. **Be eager to find moments to stand by a set of moral truths or virtues** especially when it compromises your \_\_\_\_\_.
5. **Don’t be \_\_\_\_\_ by a secular career joined to a non-work-related spiritual life** of “Church on Sundays and work on Mondays.”  
Make your profession part of a sacred mission.  
Christ didn’t choose priests to create his Kingdom – he chose people like \_\_\_\_\_.  
Use your work as a \_\_\_\_\_ for practicing Biblical virtues.

## PRACTICAL ADVICE

1. **Become reconciled with needing to make temporal judgments about others.**

But we must always \_\_\_\_\_ even when you don’t particularly want to or

cannot work beside someone anymore.

**2. If you hit a flat spot in your career trajectory, use your Christianity as a tool.**

We are taught to look at life as a challenge of personal salvation, not professional

\_\_\_\_\_.

**3. Pray every night for the \_\_\_\_\_ you received that day.**

**4. Pray every night for \_\_\_\_\_.**

**5. Be a good \_\_\_\_\_, even if you are a good leader.**

Will we choose to make the measure of our success how we offered our “work” and our “bodies” as a living “sacrifice” to God?

Or will we instead struggle to seek the measure of our success from less enduring sources such as the estimation of secular success?