

## Ephesians Part 15 – A Servant’s Heart

### May 29, 2022 Discussion Notes

Everyone is encouraged to bring a Bible

(Phone apps are good for reading together in the same translation. Study Bibles give help with interpretation.)



#### Questions:

1. Icebreaker question: Have you ever worked for a bad boss? What was that like?
2. The sermon focused on having the right heart as we work for earthly masters. What do you remember about each of the main points? What stood out to you or impacted you?
3. Read Genesis 39:1-6. Joseph had been sold into slavery by his brothers (who hated him).
  - a) Was what had happened to Joseph fair or just?
  - b) How did he respond to his situation? What must his attitude have been like?
  - c) Clearly, Joseph worked hard, but what was the real source of Joseph's success?
  - d) What did Potiphar notice about Joseph?
  - e) What difficult life situation are you in? What has your attitude been like regarding it? How can this story inspire you and help you to have a better perspective?
4. Read 2 Kings 5:1-5
  - a) What trauma had the Israelite girl endured?
  - b) What was her attitude toward her captor?
  - c) Do you think that her concern for her captor was a good thing, or was this just a case of what we call Stockholm Syndrome (where kidnap victims begin to feel affection for their captors)?
  - d) Now read 2 Kings 5:14-15. How did God use the slave girl for good?
  - e) What principles can we glean from this story about God using bad situations for good? What part do we play?
  - f) How do we know when we should fight for social justice as opposed to accepting our situation and making the most of it?
5. Read Proverbs 24:30-34
  - a) How is the sluggard described here?
  - b) What are the results of not working hard?
  - c) How much effort do you put into your own work?
6. How do you envision your future retirement (or if you are retired, how is it going)? How do you think work should figure into your retirement?
7. Spend some time in prayer together. Ask the Lord to give you a good attitude toward your earthly masters. Pray for help to work hard, earn their respect, and point them to him.