

Come As You Are (CAYA) Service  
Wednesday, April 7, 2010  
Rev. Howard-John Wesley, Alfred Street Baptist Church

## This Job is Driving Me Crazy

Call To Worship: Luke 10:1-12

**1** After this the Lord appointed seventy-two[a] others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go.  
**2** He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.  
**3** Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves.  
**4** Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.  
**5** "When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.'  
**6** If a man of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; if not, it will return to you.  
**7** Stay in that house, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house.  
**8** "When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is set before you.  
**9** Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God is near you.'  
**10** But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say,  
**11** 'Even the dust of your town that sticks to our feet we wipe off against you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God is near.'  
**12** I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town.

- A monkey can't sell bananas.
- Make your mark on your job and profession, as young adults.
  - These are your golden work years!
- One-third of your life will be working on a job
  - Most of our energy, passions, desires will be on the job

Question: What would be the ideal job condition for you?

- Work-life balance
- Easy commute
- Support from others
- Vacation days

John Maxwell speaks of four characteristics that make us happy on our jobs:

- Job Security
- Sense of achievement
- Pleasant environment
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- ✓ Realistically, most environments will only give two of four that we choose from the above, but we need three of the four to be happy.

Nothing is as bad as getting up every morning to go where you don't want to go! It will drive you crazy!

Most common things that drive people crazy on a job:

1. Hostile Environment
  - a. Harassment
  - b. Sexism, racism, ageism
  - c. Abusive treatment
  - d. Anti-Christian
  
2. Crazy co-workers
  - a. Lazy
  - b. Liars
  - c. Difficult personalities
  - d. Opportunists
  - e. “Me, myself and I” mentality

There are usually two kinds of problems on the job

  - Ones you create
  - Ones you inherit
  
3. Ridiculous Boss
  - a. Unrealistic expectations
  - b. Micro managers
  - c. Favoritism or double standards
  - d. Under/unappreciated
  - e. Plagiarists

Other factors that frustrate

- ✓ Inability to express frustrations or solutions
  - Constipated intellect
- ✓ Inflexible schedule
- ✓ Unorganized structure
- ✓ Unnecessary meetings
  - Paralysis by analysis
- ✓ Assignments beneath ability
- ✓ Lack of clearly defined policies
- ✓ Unfair promotions
- ✓ Culture of compromise

**<slide>** Seven Biblical Principles To Help On The Job (Biblical Survival Strategies)

1. Arm Yourself Before You Go To Work
  - a. Ephesians 6:10, 11; II Cor. 10:3-6
2. Be Clear on Your Purpose
  - a. John 12:27
    - ✓ Some of us get to the job to get there for the job to give us something it can't give us.
    - ✓ As long as the deposits are being made, we can deal with a little more hell!
    - ✓ Don't go to the job looking for friends, validation, etc.!
3. Make Yourself Invaluable – Excel Where You Are
  - a. Daniel 6:3; I Cor. 10:31; Genesis 41:33-41; Matthew 5:16
  - b. Qualities of Excellence:
    - i. Be on Time
    - ii. Be Self-Motivated
    - iii. Avoid mediocrity
    - ✓ Excellence creates opportunities
    - ✓ You don't just point out problems, but give solutions

iv. Point out Solutions rather than Problems

1. Remember – Excellence creates opportunities!

4. Take the High Road

- a. I Cor. 9:20 – Understand the rules of engagement where you work
- b. Romans 12:21

✓ You can put yourself in a position where God can't fight for you!

5. Pursue Your Passion

- a. Zechariah 4:10
- b. Don't hate the day of small beginnings.

6. Brush It Off

- a. Matthew 10:14

7. TRUST GOD!

- a. Proverb 3:5,6

✓ God has a way of taking care of his children!