

**Workplace  
Chaplains U.S.**  
PO Box 111  
Cadillac, MI  
49601

# CHAPLAINS @ WORK

## Workplace Chaplains U.S.

### Our Mission:

Partnering with client companies to provide care, counsel and crisis management services to their employees from a Christian perspective.

### Phone:

(231) 920-1858

### Email:

[info@workplacechaplains.us](mailto:info@workplacechaplains.us)

### Website:

[www.workplacechaplains.us](http://www.workplacechaplains.us)

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### Working on Purpose

*Whatever you do, do it all in the name of Lord Jesus Christ. (Col. 3:17)*

In a sermon recently I asked six simple questions about Biblical people and their preparation for or relationship to their work:

- 1) Were Adam and Eve doing "sacred" or "secular" work when tending the Garden of Eden?
- 2) Was Abraham prepared to work for God when he left the Ur of Chaldeas and went into the wilderness with his flocks and herds?
- 3) Was Joseph serving

God or Pharaoh when he acted as Prime Minister and saved Egypt from 7 years of famine?

- 4) Was Moses trained in a seminary or on a hillside tending sheep and experiencing burning bushes?
- 5) Was Jesus trained in a rabbinical school or in a carpenter's shop?
- 6) Did Jesus call 12 priests or 12 tax collectors and fishermen to be his disciples?

My purpose was to point out that though we divide jobs into "sacred" and

"secular", "clergy" and "laity," this is not a Biblical concept at all.

On the contrary, God seems to put His people in all sorts of professions so that He can influence those areas (and them!) for His kingdom purposes.

My point in this was to say that your current job is important to God and that He has you there for a purpose.

Several conclusions:

- 1) Our work is not an end in itself, but it is a means to an end.
- 2) God needs agents in every area of life.

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### Advancing the "Mission"

In addition to providing a number of businesses with chaplaincy services another "hat" that I wear is that of Director of Mission Advancement. That's a little like "cheerleader meets car salesman". And I work with car salesmen so I know what you are thinking.

Really though, it involves meeting and talking with

many companies who have a need and helping them to see how our service will meet that need. I have the privilege of telling all about how we have seen the service succeed in businesses. The tricky part comes when they may not even recognize their real needs. They think they need a Hummer and we "sell" Chryslers. They may think they need a

drill sergeant and what they really need is a caring competent person to come along-side their people and walk with them through the realities of life.

I love helping companies find the answer to questions they may not even be asking. And I especially love finding companies who say "this is just what

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(Continued from “Working on Purpose”)

- 3) Wherever you work and wherever you go, it is your place to exemplify excellence, love, and confidence in God’s grace.
- 4) Even if your current job is not where God wants you to be in the end, it may be where He wants you to be in order to prepare you for where He wants you to be.

A few verses later Paul says to slaves in vs. 23 — “Whatever you do, work at it with all your

heart, as working for the Lord, not for men...”

I like what another speaker said about this verse: “If you don’t like your boss, change bosses.”

After a pause she noted, “I didn’t say change jobs, I said change bosses. Don’t work for your boss, work for God and see what a difference it makes.”

**Ron Klimp**  
*Executive Director*

(Cont’d from “Advancing...”)

we’ve been looking for but we didn’t even know you were out there.”

If you know of business owners or companies in your area that might have an interest in providing their employees with 24/7 chaplain care please let me know.

**Rich Langton**  
*Dir. of Mission Advancement*  
[rlangton@workplacechaplains.us](mailto:rlangton@workplacechaplains.us)

**231-920-1732**

**We appreciate  
Your support!**

Some of you have supported us occasionally. Some of you have made a regular contribution to this ongoing and growing ministry.

Whether large or small, every gift helps us cover the cost of spreading the word that such a ministry exists to serve the business world.

**Thank You!**

**Notes from our Chaplains**

Awhile back I reported that I assisted a father who was in distress in the ER about his son in prison by contacting that chaplain at the prison and asked him to see the man's son. While out to dinner last week the father saw me and came up to me with this big smile and said "I got to see my son for the first time in 18 years". He said his son was talking with the chaplain and needless to say he was thankful for our help. — *Ed Gilbert*

I read somewhere that leadership is being a step ahead... being willing to do something before everyone thinks it ought to be done and being willing to be wrong or at least early. A “leader” is one step ahead of the crowd. Get two steps ahead, and they call you a “pioneer.” Get three steps ahead, and they may call you a “MARTYR.” There is a huge spiritual crisis in our world today and leadership emerges in times of crisis. — *John Voss*

**Thoughts about leadership  
learned from Noah**

(adapted from Dave Meyer, Lt. Governor of District 15 of Kiwanis Int’l):

We can learn several good leadership principles by observing what Noah did in the story of the Ark:

- 1) Think ahead — the future may bring unexpected challenges.
- 2) Keep fit — you never know how old you may be when called upon to complete a large task (Noah was 100).
- 3) Build on the high ground — taking the high road often gives you more options (and maybe more time).
- 4) Take care of the details — the weakest link may sink your ship.
- 5) Don’t listen to the critics — just do what has to be done.
- 6) When the doodoo gets deep (and it will), you may just have to shovel it.
- 7) No matter how bleak the storm may look, there will always be a rainbow on the other side.
- 8) Don’t miss the boat — the window of opportunity to fix or survive a problem is often limited.
- 9) Watch out for the woodpeckers on the inside as well as the storm on the outside.
- 10) Remember that we are all in the same boat — every person and every animal aboard has a place and a purpose in God’s preferred future. Make sure you care for all of them equally.

We are all leaders in some area of life — large or small. To be the best we can be, we should learn from the best.