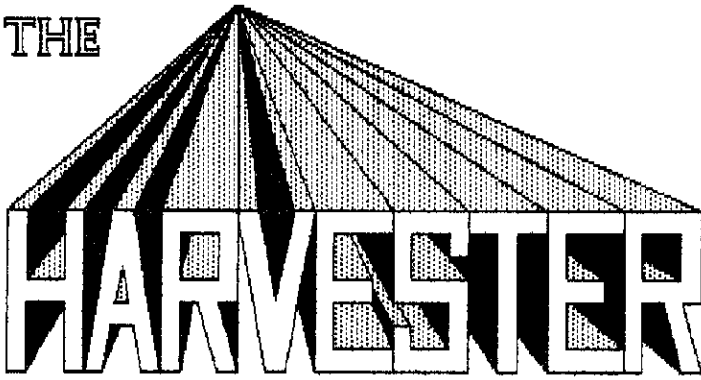


THE



*"The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest." (Luke 10:2)*

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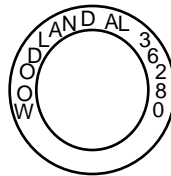
## JOB PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Evaluations are something that we face continuously in our lives at work, school and in our personal life. Evaluations range from formal to informal; some are written while others may only be a mental evaluation. But, no matter what type of evaluation we face, we will always be more successful when we:

1. have as much knowledge as possible about the requirements,
2. first evaluate ourselves honestly and objectively against the requirements, and
3. take corrective action to address

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shortcomings before facing the actual evaluation.

Often we are afraid of evaluations of ourselves, especially those that will produce true and accurate results. I recently read that one of the top fifteen nightmares people experience is that of taking a test. Why would this be so? Could it be we are fearful that the truth will be brought out about us?

What is the motivation for performing well on an evaluation? For a student, it might be to get good grades which might bring forth other rewards. For an employee, it might be to earn more money, get a promotion, or just to be able to retain the job. For anyone who is being evaluated, a positive review can bring self-respect, pride, recognition, and a sense of accomplishment. Our hope of success motivates us to succeed at whatever evaluation we face.

When we think of evaluating ourselves as a Christian, we might consider if we should perform this evaluation knowing the Bible teaches us that Jesus will be our Judge on the day of judgment (II Tim. 4:1). However, let us look at I Cor. 11:31-32: *"For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world."* These verses tell us it is very important to judge our life now and make corrections, before the day of judgment, when we will no longer have time or opportunity to do so. Therefore, it is very important for us to evaluate ourselves as Christians.

Most of us that work face periodic evaluations based on our job title. What if we faced a similar evaluation as a Christian? How well would we perform on the evaluation? Let's try and see using the following rating factors.

ATTENDANCE. If you missed the same percentage of days at work on your job as you missed church services, would you still have a job? Heb. 10:25 tells us: *"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."*

As Christians we should look forward to church services so we can fellowship those of like faith, learn more about the Bible, praise God, and exhort or uplift one another. We need to always keep in mind that we are Christians all of the time, not just while at church. Let's look to Acts 2:46-47 for activities of the early church on a daily basis. *"And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."*

KNOWLEDGE OF THE JOB. How could we perform our job at work if we didn't know all of the requirements? We must have a good knowledge of the Bible to know what is required of us as a Christian. Let's look at I Timothy 2:15. *"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly*

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*dividing the word of truth."* Also, we see from II Peter 1:3 that we are given all things that pertain to life and godliness through knowledge. *"According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:"*

ENTHUSIASM. Sometimes when a person first is added to the church, a great amount of enthusiasm is shown but later it declines. We as Christians must maintain our eagerness and zeal just as Joshua in Joshua 24:15. *"And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."*

JOB ATTITUDE. A Christian should display a positive outlook that is evident to others. If a Christian displays a constant negative attitude, it certainly will not encourage others to want to become one. The passage in I John 1:4-10 shows that our attitude is apparent in how we live. (Read I John 1:4-10.)

INITIATIVE. Christians should have the desire and ability to self-start a course of action. Certainly others will join in if someone establishes a door-to-door visitation program or a church newsletter but someone has to get it started. Christians are commissioned by Jesus in Mark 16:15-16 to spread the gospel. *"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned."*

QUALITY OF WORK. The work of a Christian must be focused on actions required and authorized by the scriptures, not just on activities that seem like a good idea. Jesus makes this point clear in Matthew 7:22-23. *"Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."*

PERFORMANCE OF DUTIES. As with any job, successful execution of the required duties of a Christian is essential. Jesus makes this clear in Matthew 7:21. *"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."*

A Christian must perform the required duties in an acceptable period of time. Since we do not know how much time we have left, we must not delay in the execution of our duties. James 4:14 describes the length of our life and the

uncertainty of the future. *"Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."* Good intentions don't count for much unless they are accompanied by performance of duties. A job well done is the result of successfully executing the duties required of the employee.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT. Once our evaluation is completed, it is time to look for ways to improve. While each person will have a unique list of improvements, below are some general "Recommendations for Improvement" that may apply to most of us.

- \_\_\_ Worry less - Work more
- \_\_\_ Think safety first - Don't gamble on your (eternal) life
- \_\_\_ Improve attendance - Spend more time on the job
- \_\_\_ Increase knowledge of job
- \_\_\_ Execute duties of job better
- \_\_\_ Develop a better attitude
- \_\_\_ Take more initiative
- \_\_\_ Set goals and continually monitor progress
- \_\_\_ Increase efficiency and productivity
- \_\_\_ Don't do things you know your boss doesn't like
- \_\_\_ Be a better team player without individual compromise
- \_\_\_ Manage your employer's resources better
- \_\_\_ Improve quality of work
- \_\_\_ Use time more wisely
- \_\_\_ Perform more self evaluations
- \_\_\_ Improve on corrective action (repentance)
- \_\_\_ Treat subordinates better (children)
- \_\_\_ Be a better example for other employees

While we face many evaluations in this life, some may not be fair or true or we may deceive the judge into believing we are better than we appear. However, one

day we will all face a true judgment before Jesus Christ and we will receive a fair evaluation. We may not be able to fool, deceive, or influence our way into appearing to be someone we are not. We will not be able to get off on a technicality; our evaluation or judgment will be true and fair as well as the sentence we receive: heaven or hell. So, let us all evaluate our lives and make corrections necessary to have a hope of a home in heaven.

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## SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

1. What articles did Pharaoh give Joseph after he put him over the people of Egypt?
2. To what destination did Jacob and his family journey after their meeting with Esau?
3. In what does James 3 say we all offend?
4. According to 1 Chr. 29, the events of King David's reign are recorded in what three records?
5. In what was Jesus laid after He was born?

ANSWERS NEXT MONTH . . .

(continued on p. 7)

# GOSPEL MEETINGS

<u>DATES</u>	<u>PLACE &amp; TIME</u>	<u>SPEAKER</u>
October 9 - 15 TN)	Oak Grove Church Somerset, KY	James McDonald (Woodbury,
October 16 - 22	Ashlock Church near Celina, TN	James McDonald (Woodbury, TN)
October 19 - 22	Marrowbone, KY	Wilbur Bass (Auburn, AL)
October 27 - 29 (Fri-Sun)	Brushy Creek Church Lucedale, MS 7pm Fri. & Sat. 10:30am Sun.	Lindeal Greer (Bogue Chitto, MS)
Oct. 30 - - Nov. 3	New Bethel Church McKinney, KY	James McDonald (Woodbury, TN)

\* \* \* \* \*

and remember last month's questions?

1. Which church (congregation) had turned aside to "*another gospel*"? THE CHURCH AT GALATIA (Gal. 1:6)
2. Who fell asleep during one of Paul's sermons? EUTYCHUS (Acts 20:9)
3. On which day of creation did God make trees and plants? FOURTH (Gen. 1:13)
4. Which prophet was told not to marry? JEREMIAH (Jer. 16:2)
5. Which people searched the Scriptures daily? THE BEREANS (Acts 17:11)