

GRAMPA'S GHOST GRAMPA'S GHOST

AND THE

W-O-W WORKSHOP



by Gramps Curtis

Introduction

Grampa's Ghost and the WOW Website Workshop is a wonderful non-technical way for the church leaders, silver-haired, parents, youth, and even preschoolers to work together. This workshop is a hands-on way of learning God's simplicity and order according to our needs. The workshop has different levels for each generation group to foster a closer walk with the church, missionaries, and our own testimony.

There are those who would diminish 1 Corinthians 14:40 by saying, "Do you see the Bible has its own KISS principle, because it says, [Let all things be done decently and in order.]" You might as well be saying the ocean is wet.

But like scripture studied and savored, there are wonderful treasures just below the surface. Search them out, claim them, and then share your treasures of God's truths with a soul that might be gulping for his last breath of hope. Draw them to the only true Lifesaver.

Delivery

1. This workshop is divided into modest segments so it can be used in tandem with evangelistic efforts or other programs. The following 7 website projects can each take 30 minutes or expanded to take an hour for every page.
2. It will be helpful for the leader to read every page though some may be skipped in construction.
3. In accordance with 2 Timothy 2:2, it is important that the workshop lessons be taught in the style that the 'students' will then teach others.
4. Some of the projects may seem rather 'childlike' for use by adults, but they are perfect for seeing areas of service that may be duplicated or areas that need a bit more attention.
5. Begin each period with prayer and an open Bible ready to show 1Cor. 14:40. Work at making the connection between God's Word and present day computing, or at least creating websites that honor Him.
6. The appendix gives a clear directive to the PURPOSE of on-line websites you can teach to older youth and adults.

Note: Grampa's 'Ghost' has nothing to do with anything that would dishonor God or conflict with His Word.

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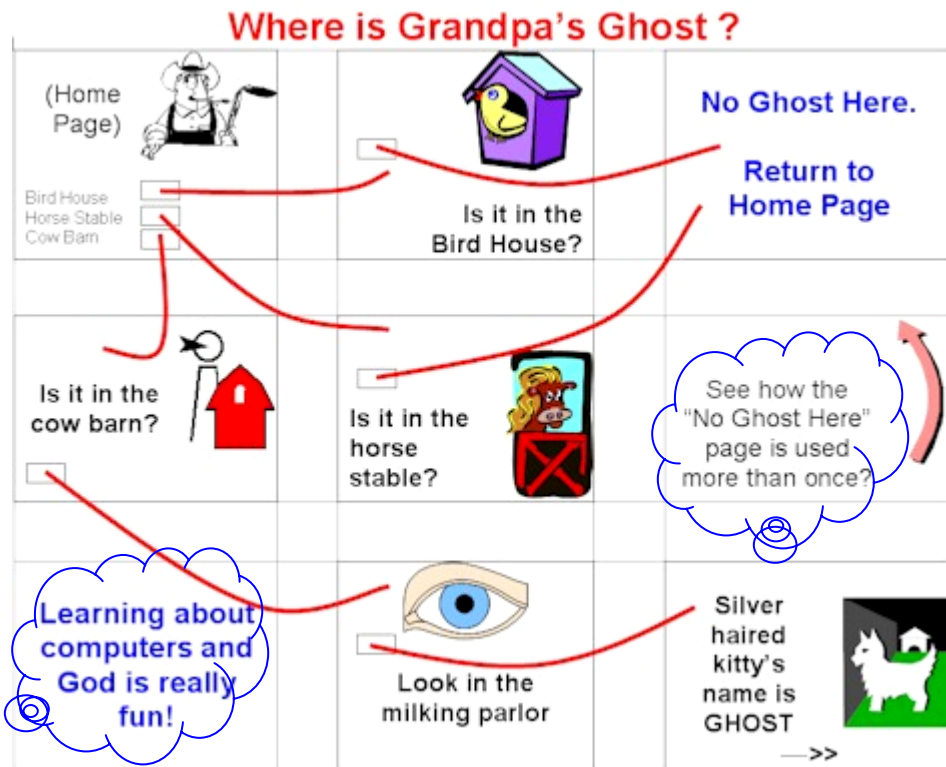
Website # 1 – Grampa's Ghost

Note: Grampa's 'Ghost' has nothing to do with anything that would dishonor God or conflict with His Word.

Lesson to teach: Websites help us learn in a visual way the importance of simplicity and order.

Materials needed: Yarn, tape, markers, scrap paper, prayer and grandparent hugs.

Have the students (with optional grandparent help) create pages before taping them to a wall in the layout shown. The home page should be in the upper left of the grid. Emphasize that the 'home page' is the 'start here' of every website.



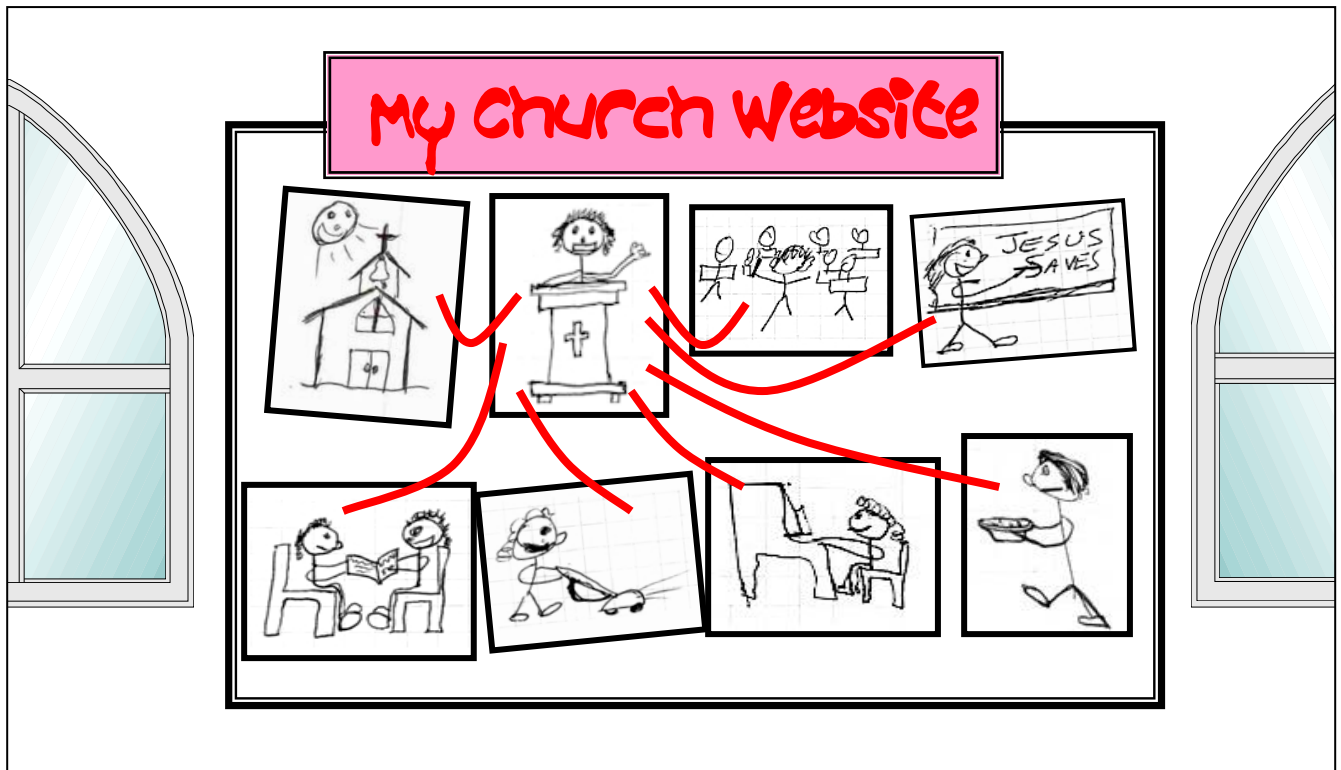
The little boxes represent buttons(pretend) you'd click on to go to the next page. Tape each end of pieces of yarn in the manner shown. They represent a "link" or "hop" to the next screen.

- God's Word and His creation show over and over that order is so important. 1Corinthians 14:40 tell us to: "Let all things be done decently and in order."
- When the boy gave his lunch to Jesus to feed the five thousand, Jesus had the people all sit in a specific order.
- In the wilderness when they set up the tabernacle (tent church) each tribe and family had a specific place (order) to set up their tent.
- Even in the family, there is order. God blesses young people that honor their parents. He blesses your mom and dad when they honor their silver haired parents.
- But above all, Jesus honored His Father in Heaven by willingly laying down His life on the cross for our sins.

Website # 2 – My Church Leaders

This is a very powerful website that even preschoolers can participate in creating. Creating this 'beginner's' website on a wall will find excited silver seniors to join in, even though it's got a strong computer flavor.

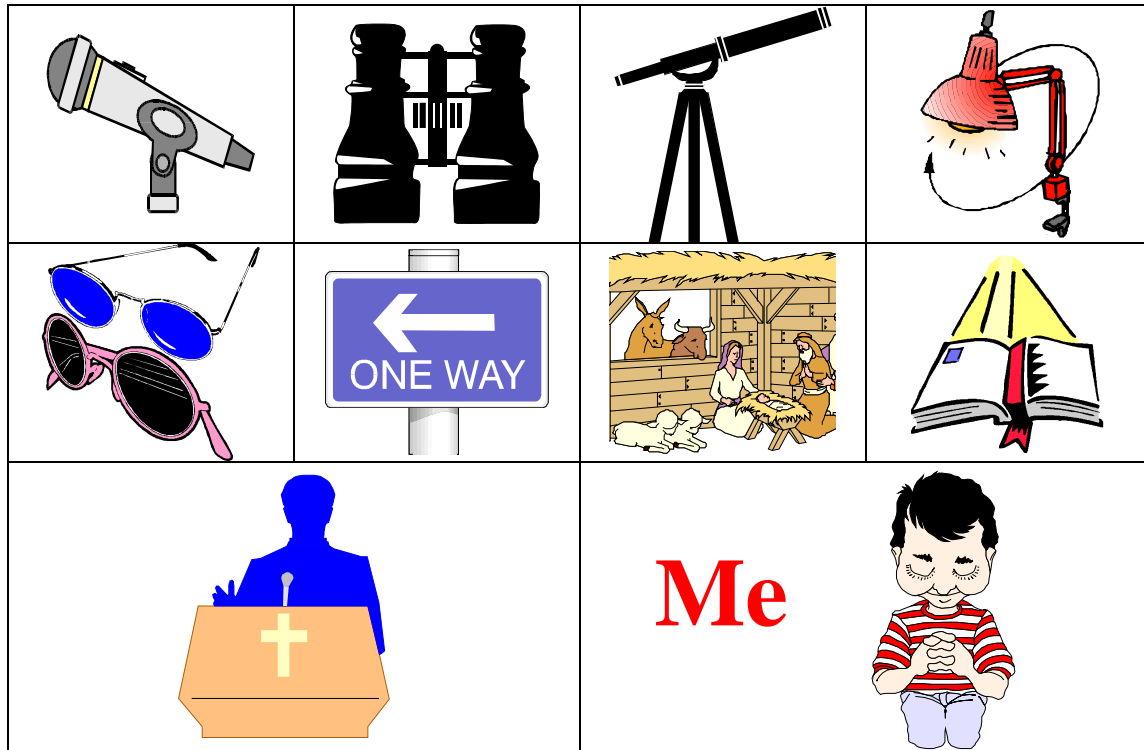
1. Start with the children drawing different church leaders while seated at a table.
2. Tape the web 'pages' on a wall or large piece of cardboard.
3. The top left position in a website is always reserved for the 'home page' with its usual menu of buttons to 'hop' to other pages.
4. You'll possibly want to have the 'preacher' page next to the home page with only one connection between the two. This could indicate the pastor is in the undershepherd position for all the other church leaders, much like the father is of the family.
5. If time and materials allow, obtain photos of each of the leaders represented to be attached to the appropriate webpage that also includes their name.
6. The purpose of the church website is to show the organization and importance of all the church leaders and our responsibility to pray for them often and by name.
7. Ask if there might be a leader each student would like to encourage and even help.



Website # 4 – Make It Clear

Creating things Decently and In Order is a powerful step in making things clear.

1. Create a 'Make It Clear' website.
2. Add objects that make things clearer and add a note to each object to explain why. Here are a few:

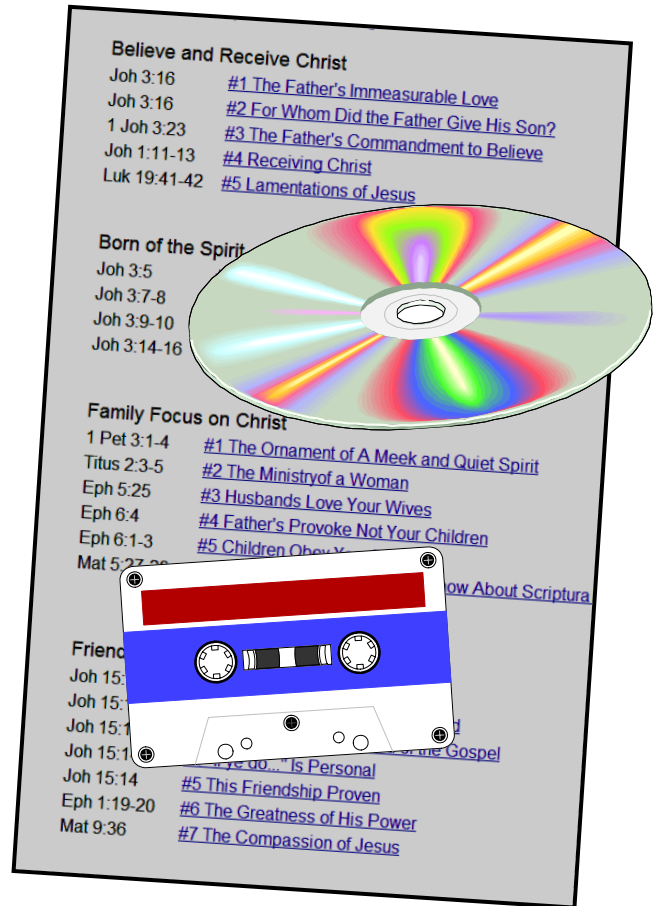


Three important things we need to be very clear about is:

1. Whether we have trusted Christ to be saved according to the scripture.
2. Have we practiced our presentation of how to be saved so we can share that clear and simple message of how to be saved?
3. Do my actions and speech always make it clear to others that I want my Christian testimony to be something that they would want also?

Website # 5 – Church Catalog

1. Help the church show the pastor that his messages are so needed that you'd create a webpage catalog of them to be ordered, shared, and enjoyed again.
2. Pretend that you are adding a 'shopping cart' page that surfers can order resources on-line.
3. Use this website project as a kickoff to building a tape and CD ministry to shut-ins, missionaries, etc.
4. Identify the mailing costs for church members to send cd's to friends and others.
5. As you organize the resources you'll see them as groups of 3 or 4 that could be 'packaged' into series that with a bit of ribbon would make wonder gifts to others... maybe that person you've been trying to get to listen to the wonderful messages and music your church provides each Sunday.



Website # 6

Let all things be done decently and in order. 1 Corinthians 14:40

In the English we see just 9 words that pack a powerful punch. These inspired words Apostle Paul included in a letter he sent to the church in Corinth that was having some communication/cooperation problems to say the least. We would be out of order if we were to use the 'decently and in order' regarding our website design mission however the 'all things' gives us license. We'll be sure to not skip over that powerful little word 'and'.

'In order' easily suggests to us one of ORDER's 5 most common meanings;

1. the ARRANGEMENT of ...
2. a COMMAND of a leader
3. a PURCHASE AGREEMENT
4. a GROUP like 'species'
5. a QUIET respect in a meeting

Consider the other uses of 'order' to see if there is one you might improve upon.

Carefully remember the AND of the verse above.

'Decently' is also a fascinating word that covers more than one attribute of the things we do, such as:

1. Conforming to a standard
2. Modesty
3. Adequate
4. Respectable
5. Kindness

Ponder for a few minutes each of the elements of 'decently'.

List some instances you demonstrated your abilities with each of these 5 elements.

1. Make a website on a wall that goes through the above process.
2. Have others add their instances they did well and then
3. make a 'webpage' of those instances where improvement needed to be made.
4. Make a final webpage list of interesting matches between the two lists of 'decently' and 'order'.

What's wrong with this picture?

A website on a wall is constructed in a logical flow of images and pages. All looks well until a late entry posts her page that is printed in a language not familiar to the other observers. In fact there appears to be some words others might find offensive.

What's wrong? _____

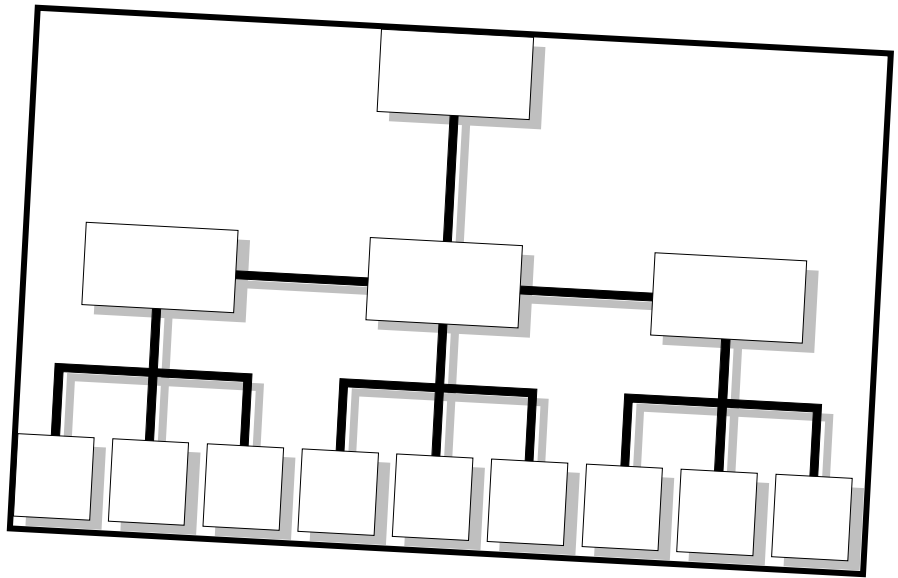
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Website # 7 – Backwards Website

Because the backbone of a website is order, it makes a wonderful place to create an organizational chart.

The church is most often thought of just as a 'spiritual organization'. But so many behind-the-scenes functions required by Bible directives are needed for it to remain strong.

1. Think of your church as a business that has budgets, offerings, inventories, tax reporting, records etc.
2. Add positions that will help show who reports to who.
3. Maybe add photos and names so that church members can pray for those efforts not readily noticed.
4. Look for areas that maybe could use a helping hand or special encouragement with a card or phone call.
5. Be sure to include janitorial, legal records, groundskeeping, maintenance, ministries to the missionaries, home bound, and needy.
6. The Appendix includes some verses that show God's Word has much to say about master-servant relationships as unto the Lord. Read them, but more importantly share them with others.



Pasting the sheet on your boss' office door may not be entirely understood. (grin)

Appendix

1. Website Worth

At the end of the tour of all the Computer Missions Fair scenes, everyone gathered in the auditorium. There were a few testimonies from the visitors of all the new things they had learned. Little Betty stood up and blurted out, "I brought in a computer mouse!" The mother of the little 5-year-old blushed a bit but was proud just the same that her little one was taking an active part in missions. Her father wanted to sneak out of the service and see if he still had a mouse on his computer at home.

Harry (some folks referred to him as "hang-back Harry") walked to the microphone and began reading a report he had prepared.

"Website presence on the Internet is seen (and heard) by almost every country on the earth, aboard military ships, submarines, and in space. There are large numbers of individuals who have no computer or Internet at home, but use the one at their library, business, or school."

"Quadriplegics surf the net using "head mice" that sense the movement of the person's head and sends the signals to the computer. The totally blind use screen readers that convert screen text into audible speech and send it to the user's earphone as Tommy and Rascal demonstrated. The information available on the Internet seems to know no bounds. It's accessible almost for free at any time."

"We must be careful that our efforts don't just entertain or amaze. Whether our website is for our own testimony or for that of our church, the rules are much the same. Every God-honoring website must include content from each of the three main categories. Those categories are Billboarding, School, and Evangelism. Gwen Richards will tell us about Website Billboarding." He took his seat as Gwen approached the microphone.

2. Billboarding Is Just The Start

Gwen began reading from her small index cards. "The minor content of a website should be what I call 'billboarding.' This would include details about the church's salvation message, schedule of services, staff, structure, and certainly a map of location. This makes it easier for visitors to know a bit about you even before they pull into the parking lot. These details will remain much the same from month to month. Please notice I referred to this as MINOR content."

"Sad to say, most church websites stop here, when this is just scratching the surface. All too often though, very poor first impressions of a church are made by the disrepair of websites. There are some rather straightforward similarities between a website and a healthy church." Gwen continued her presentation as Toni uncovered each topic on the overhead projector transparency.

- . • The scriptures must be the backbone of the website content and format.
- . • The website must edify the role of, and be answerable to, the local church.
- . • Church websites must have a church-approved leader called a Webmaster.
- . • Church websites have a strong ministry by and for all ages.
- . • Church websites seek to understand the needs of its users.
- . • Church websites train to those needs with simplicity.
- . • Church websites evangelize according to the Great Commission without compromise.

3. Website School

Grampa Johnson took rickety steps up to the microphone. He must have thought the mike was a snake from appearances, but he moved closer at pastor's urging.

He smiled just a bit at all the expectant eyes watching him and spoke. "Well, I ain't lettin' these youngins have all the fun! To head off on the right foot I'm gonna read from Ephesians chapter 4 starting at verse 12. If you got your Bible, don't make me have to tell you twice to get it open and check me out."

For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the

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measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: so says Ephesians 4:12-15

"My part is about Website School. That was one of the purposes Harry told us a website had to have. Or have you forgotten already?" Pastor covered his face with his hand and felt the dignity of the pulpit had just plunged through the basement.

Grampa Johnson continued, "One of the major uses of a website must be to train other churches, missionaries, and remote people. We must provide lessons and learning tools that can be used to educate and build up others. A website is a perfect place to provide truths in small packages that might include diagrams, pictures, maps, etc. A good place to start is to make small lessons from our church's statement of faith."

"One big responsibility of the church website is to teach children and parents the pitfalls and provisions of computing. The website school should provide Bible principles and truths to be used by others who haven't got a Bible. This might include games that teach Bible principles."

"God has given us these computer gadgets as a powerful tool to help carry out the Great Commission. We can use the strong natural attraction of computers to provide exciting ways to learn and share the Gospel of Salvation. We can tailor the presentation in a variety of ways as we've seen in the rooms of this Computer Missions Fair."

"By the way Pastor, I'm lookin' forward to the next one of these Mission Fairs. I sure hope you ain't gonna make us wait a whole year for the next one." The pastor quickly helped Grampa away from the microphone and down the platform steps before Grampa committed the church to preventing World War III, or worse.

Pastor returned to the microphone with a bit of a strained sparkle in his eye. You were not sure if he was just glad to have survived Grampa's speech or amazed at the enthusiasm over the Computer Missions Fair. His sweeping gaze covered most of the onlookers as he took sort of a mental breath.

4. Evangelism as Website Talent Tithers

"A church website is an inexpensive place to apply talents and burdens for the lost. God has richly blessed every church and individual with talent(s) to be developed and used for the Master. I call this talent tithing, whether it pertains to playing the piano, creating a database of light bulbs for the trustees, or detailing the plans for a Jell-O battle or a super sixties project."

"One of the virtues that has disappeared in our youth is creativity. Their games on the court, stadium, or computer screen push them to be competitive, but not creative. Little do they realize this is just the opposite of what their future employers will look for in them. Their games should deal more with problem solving."

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Appendix

Starter List For Discovering Tons Of Principles God Has Said He'd Honor As You Read And Practice.

Review them often and share them with family and friends:

Duty of Employers (Masters)

Prompt Payment of Wages, De. 24.15. At his day thou shalt give *him* his hire, neither shall the sun go down upon it; for he is poor, and setteth his heart upon it: lest he cry against thee unto the Lord, and it be sin unto thee.

Consideration for Employees, Jb. 31.13. If I did despise the cause of my manservant or of my maidservant, when they contended with me; *14. What then shall I do when God riseth up? and when he visiteth, what shall I answer him?

Refraining from Threats, Ep. 6.9. And, ye masters, do the same chings unto them, forbearing threatening: knowing that your Master also is in heaven; neither is there respect of persons with him.

Just Dealing, Col. 4.1. Masters, give unto *your* servants that which is just and eual; know-Ing that ye also have a Master in heaven.

Le. 19.13. Thou shalt not defraud thy neighbour, neither rob *him*: the wages of him that is hired shall not abide with thee all night until the morning. (De. 24.15)

Exacting Service without Wages, Je. 22.13. Woe unto him that buildeth his house by unrighteousness, and his chambers by wrong; *that* useth his neighbour's service without wages, and giveth him not for his work;

Failing to Pay a Living Wage, Mal. 3.5. And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in *his* wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger *from his right*, and fear not me, saith the Lord of hosts. (Lu. 3.14)

Fraudulent Withholding of Wages, Ja. 5.4. Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth.

EMPLOYEES (Servants)

Faithful, Ps. 123.2. Behold, as the eyes of servants *look* unto the hand of their masters, *and* as the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress; so our eyes *wait* upon the Lord our God, until that he have mercy upon us.

Pr. 17.2. A wise servant shall have rule over a son that causeth shame, and shall have part of the inheritance among the brethren.

Pr. 25.13. As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to them that send him: for he refresheth the soul of his masters.

Pr. 27.18. Whoso keepeth the fig tree shall eat the fruit thereof: so he that waiteth on his master shall be honoured.

Mt. 24.45. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season?

Obedience, Ep. 6.5. Servants, be obedient to them that are *your* masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ;

Faithfulness, Col. 3.22. Servants, obey in all things *your* masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God:

Respect for Masters, 1 Ti. 6.1. Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honour, that the name of God and *his* doctrine be not blasphemed.

Desire to Please, Tit. 2,9. *Exhort* servants to be obedient unto their own masters, *and* to please *them* well in all things; not answering again;

Patience in Hard Places, 1 Pe. 2.18. Servants, *be* subject to *your* masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward. (excerpt from Thompson Chain Reference KJV Bible)

Appendix

Salvation Question:

If you died tonight, do you KNOW if you'd go to heaven?

Salvation Steps:

| | |
|--|---|
| == A == Acknowledge you are a sinner | ALL have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23 |
| == B == Believe the shed Blood of Jesus Christ is the only way to be saved. | The wages of sin is death* but the GIFT of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 6:23 |
| == C == Confess to God you know you are a sinner and call upon Him to come into your heart. | For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. Romans 10:13 |

Salvation Assurance:

According to the above, we are not saved or kept according to our feelings or "believer's" water baptism. Our assurance is in the finished work of Jesus Christ.

Baptism is our act of obedience in a ceremony that shows others what has happened inside our heart and soul.

*This death is far worse than ceasing to breathe. It actually means 'separation from God', which would be the real Hell.

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