

A photograph of a sunset over a beach. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, shimmering reflection on the water and the wet sand. The sky is a mix of soft orange and grey. In the foreground, the dark silhouettes of palm trees and other foliage are visible on the left side of the frame. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

Relationships In the Workplace

Genesis 1:28

And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. And God blessed them; and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth. Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it.

A serene sunset scene over a beach. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a bright, golden glow across the sky and reflecting off the water. The waves are gently lapping at the shore, and the sand is visible in the foreground. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

**The aspects to be
covered in the
session:**

1. Fundamental biblical reasons for respecting our earthly bosses

2. Relationship with your co-employees

3. Receiving feedback and correctly processing it

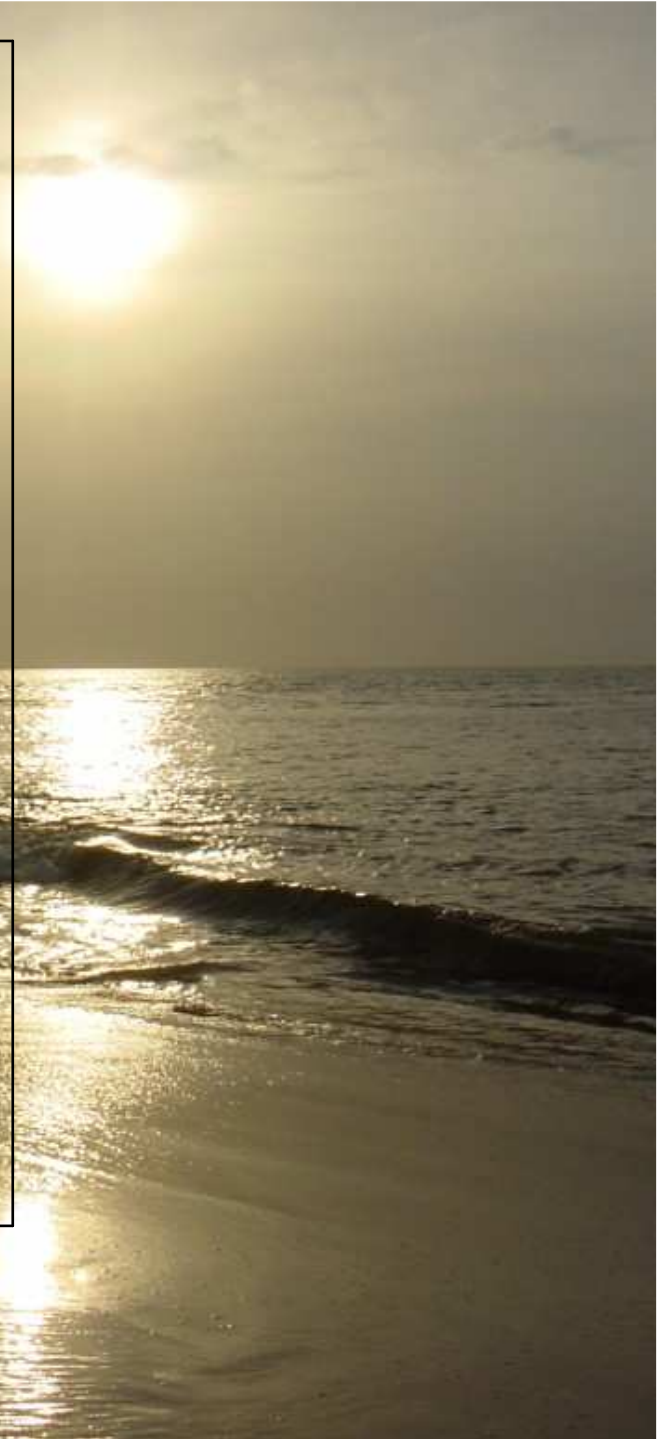
a. Let the word speak for itself

Ephesians 6v5-8

Slaves (employees), *obey* your earthly masters (employers) with *respect* and *fear*, and with *sincerity of heart* (Not to manipulate), *just as* you would obey *Christ*. Obey them not only to win their favour when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ (what does a slave of Christ look like?), *doing the will of God from your heart*. *Serve wholeheartedly*, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, because (the why) you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is a slave or free. (Promotion comes from the Lord and God will move the heart of man on your behalf).

Colossians 3v22-24

“Slaves (employees), *obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and win their favour, but with sincerity of heart and reference to for the Lord. Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward.*”



A sunset over the ocean with a palm tree silhouette on the left. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright reflection on the water. The sky is a mix of orange and grey. The palm tree is dark against the lighter sky.

1 Timothy 6v1

“Those who are under the yoke of slavery (employment contract) should consider their masters worthy of full respect, *so that God’s name and our teaching may not be slandered.*”

Christian bosses

Those who have believing masters (not necessarily perfect) are *not* to show *less* respect for them because they are brothers. Instead, they are to serve them even better, because those who benefit from their service are believers, and dear to them.

A photograph of a sunset over the ocean. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, golden glow that reflects on the water and the wet sand of a beach. The sky is a mix of soft yellows and oranges. In the foreground, the dark silhouettes of palm trees are visible on the left side.

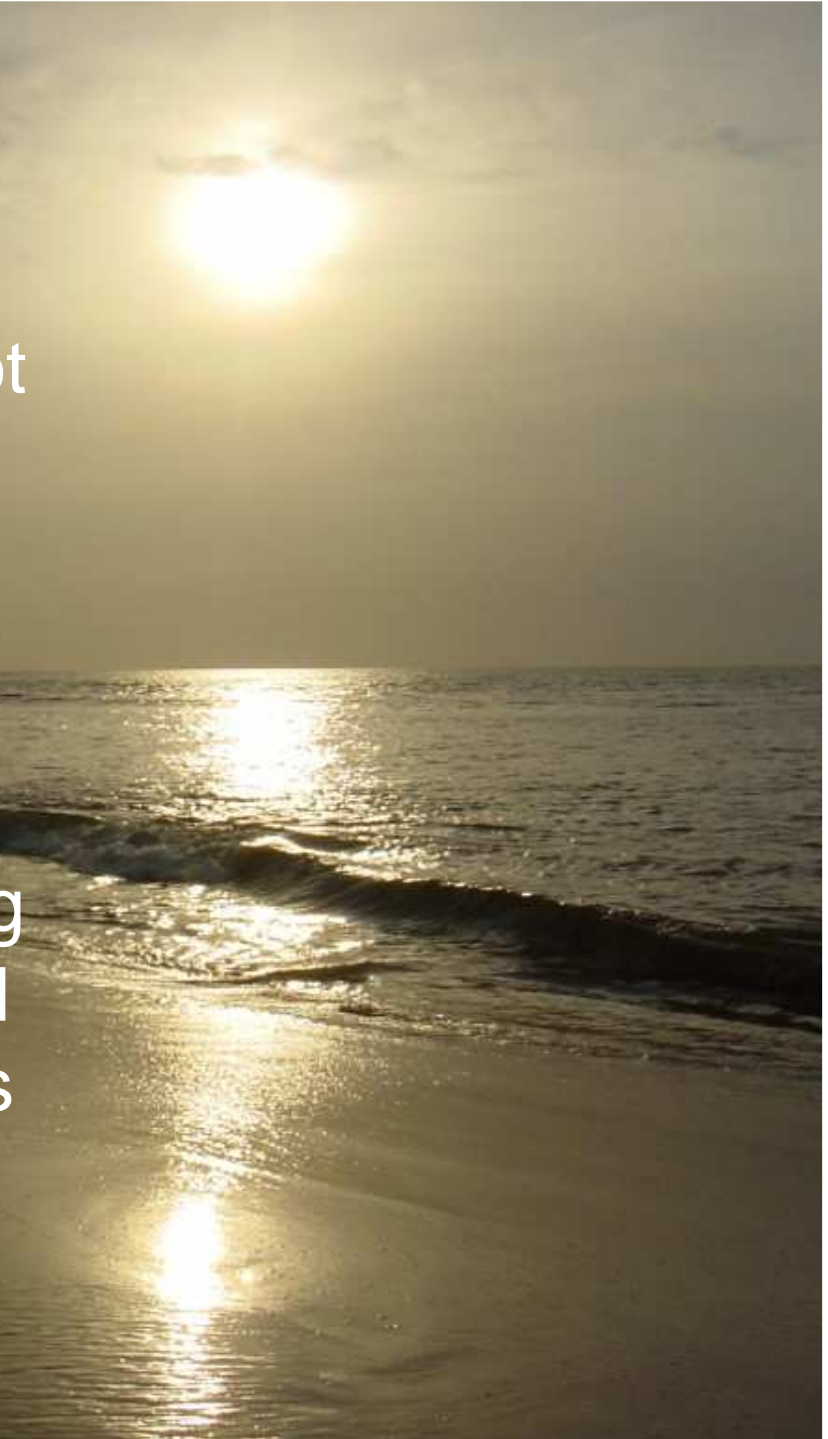
Titus 2v9

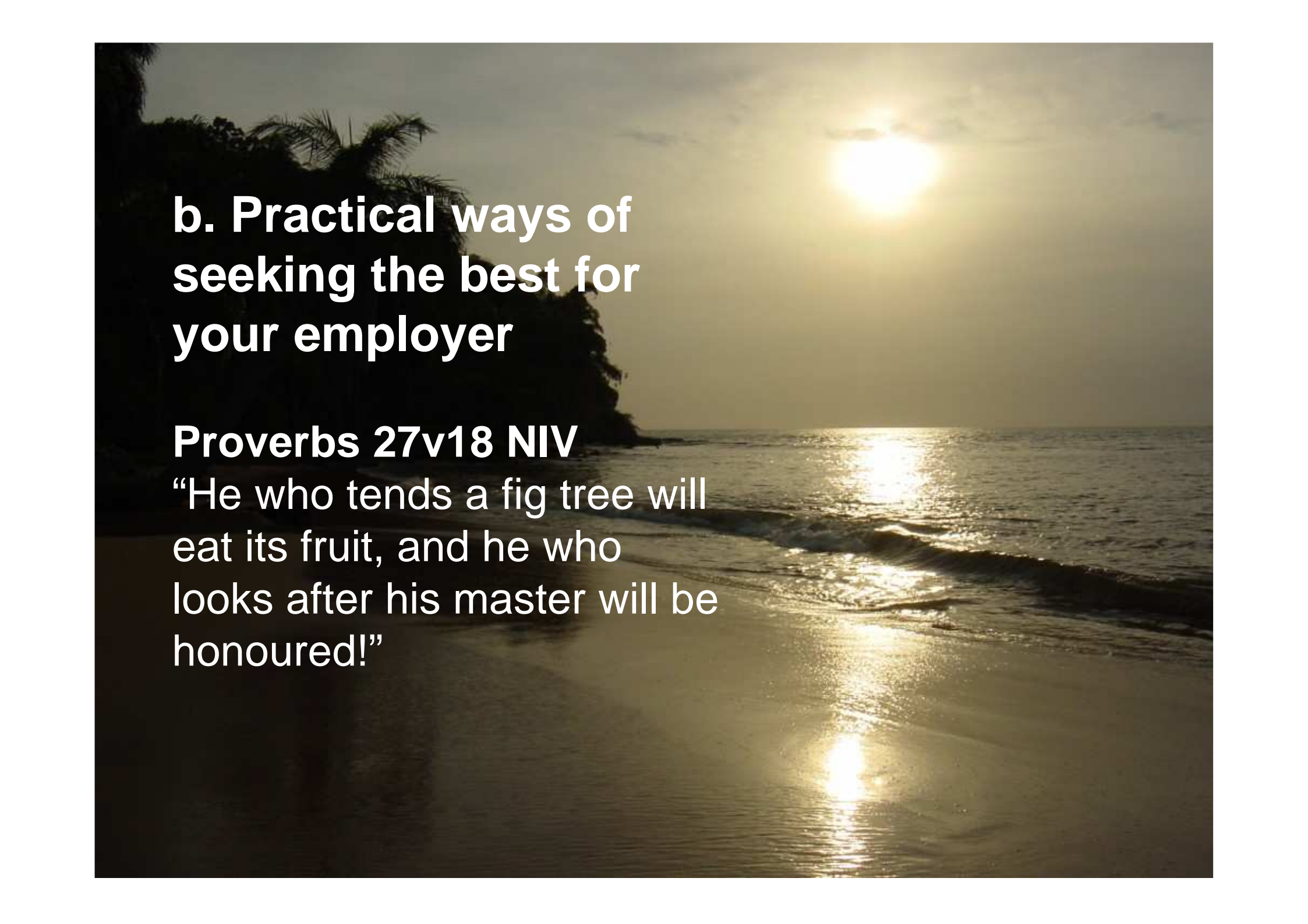
“Teach slaves to subject to their masters in everything, to try (to make an effort) to please them, not to talk back (not to be disrespectful) to them and not to steal (appropriate resources especially their time) from them but to show that they can be fully trusted, so that in every way they will make the teaching about God our saviour attractive. (that the driving force, the core of the issue)”

Rude and Harsh bosses

1Pet 2v18-25

“Slaves, submit yourselves to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh. For it is *commendable* (Kingdom is exhibited) if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God (It is often through such masters that character is developed and the spirit of excellence is attained).”



A photograph of a sunset over a beach. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, golden glow that reflects on the water and the wet sand. The sky is a mix of soft orange and pale blue. In the foreground, the dark silhouettes of palm trees are visible on the left side. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

b. Practical ways of seeking the best for your employer

Proverbs 27v18 NIV

“He who tends a fig tree will eat its fruit, and he who looks after his master will be honoured!”



b. Practical ways of seeking the best for your employer:

1. Look for ways to add value to the normal business.
2. Defend the bad and untrue rumours about your employer.
3. Go the extra mile at your current job.
4. Seek for more opportunities to increase your employers' revenue.
5. Pray for your employer and the business at large.

c. Few small things that makes a big difference, especially to bosses:

Small things:	Big difference and values they covey:
Be on time all the time	Faithfulness
Keep appointments diligently	Loyal and committed in your work
Return phone calls promptly	Honour others
Complete the paperwork (administration) thoroughly and timely	Loyalty
Prepare for meetings	Take your role serious and respect other people's time.



Few small things that makes a big difference, especially to bosses:

Small things:

Big difference and values they covey:

Do not leave little requests from your master unfinished

Faithfulness

Avoid complaining but recommend solutions to issues

Commitment

In everything maintain a cheerful disposition, a confident and optimistic outlook.

Present, you want to be at work and grateful of the opportunity to work there.

A photograph of a tropical beach at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, shimmering reflection on the water and the wet sand. The sky is a mix of soft pinks, oranges, and blues. On the left, the dark silhouettes of palm trees and other tropical vegetation are visible against the bright sky. The overall mood is peaceful and serene.

**d. Kingdom qualities
to cultivate**

A photograph of a sunset over a beach. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, golden glow that reflects on the water and the wet sand. The sky is a mix of soft yellow and grey. In the foreground, the dark silhouettes of palm trees are visible on the left side.

- Faithfulness or Loyalty

Robert Frost once wrote, “The world is full of willing people, some willing to work, the rest willing to let them.”

Proverbs 25v13

“Like the coolness of snow at harvest time is a trustworthy messenger to those who send him, he **refreshes** the spirit of his master.”



- Be teachable

Proverbs 9v9 “Instruct a wise man and he will be wiser still; teach a righteous man, and he will add (increase) his learning.”

Proverbs 13v1 “Pride only breeds quarrels, but wisdom is found in those who take advice”

Proverbs 15v31 “He who listens to a life-giving rebuke will be at home among the wise”

- Honour your word and avoid over-promising

Proverbs 25v14 Like clouds and wind without rain is a man who boasts of gifts he does not give.

Proverbs 25v19 Like a bad tooth or a lame (unsteady) foot is reliance on the unfaithful in times of trouble

2. Relationship with your co-employees




A photograph of a sunset over a beach. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, golden glow that reflects on the water and the wet sand. The sky is a mix of soft orange and pale blue. In the foreground, the dark silhouettes of palm trees are visible on the left side, framing the scene. The overall mood is peaceful and serene.

a. The importance of building strong relationships with your co-workers

- Daily interaction
- Healthy environment can result in contentment at work
- Minister the gospel through conduct (exhibiting the culture of the Kingdom of God) and words (declaring the gospel of salvation).

A photograph of a sunset over a beach. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a bright, golden glow across the sky and reflecting on the water and sand. The beach is in the foreground, and the ocean extends to the horizon. On the left side, there are silhouettes of palm trees and other vegetation. The overall mood is peaceful and serene.

b. Key principles to build authentic relationships at work with your co-workers



**i. Celebrate their victories
their great work and
offer support in tough times**

Romans 12v15 Rejoice with those rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.

A serene sunset over a beach. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a golden glow across the sky and reflecting on the water. Waves are gently breaking on the shore. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

ii. Be a peacemaker and take the first step in resolving conflict.

Mathew 5v9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the sons of God.

Proverbs 25v21-22 – Be consistently good

If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink. In doing so, you will heap coals on his head and the Lord will reward you.

A photograph of a sunset over a beach. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow and reflecting on the water. The sky is a mix of orange and grey. In the foreground, there are dark silhouettes of palm trees on the left side.

iii. Be a listener

iv. Build on areas of common ground

v. Mention spiritual matters early

Colossians 4:5-6 (TLB)

Make the most of your chances to tell others the Good News. Be wise in all your contacts with them. Let your conversation be gracious as well as sensible, for then you will have the right answer for everyone.

A photograph of a sunset over a beach. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, golden glow that reflects on the water and the wet sand. The sky is a mix of soft yellow and grey. In the foreground, the dark silhouettes of palm trees and other vegetation are visible on the left side of the frame. The overall mood is peaceful and serene.

3. Receiving feedback and correctly processing it

a. The Importance of Feedback

Proverbs 27v23

Be sure to know the condition of your flocks, give careful attention to your herds; for riches do not endure forever, and a crown is not secure for all generations. When the hay is removed and new growth appears and the grass from the hills is gathered in, the lambs will provide you with clothing, and the goats with the price of a field. You will have plenty of goats' milk to feed you and your family and to nourish your servant girls.



A photograph of a sunset over a beach. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a bright, golden glow across the sky and reflecting off the water. The beach is in the foreground, and the silhouettes of palm trees are visible on the left side.

Personal growth

“If you are not growing, you are dying”
by Dr. David Molapo

“Work to learn and not to
earn”
by Robert Kiyosaki.

“Continuous growth equals
lifetime investment which
has the capacity to yield
unquantifiable rewards”



A way to measure progress

Appraisals Encourage productivity and diligence

2 Thessalonians 3v10b If a man will not work, he will not eat.

Proverbs 10v4

Lazy hands make a man poor,
diligent hands bring wealth

Proverbs 12v24 Diligent (careful and persevering in caring out work) hands will rule, but laziness ends in slave labour.

A photograph of a sunset over a beach. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, golden glow that reflects off the water and the wet sand. The sky is a mix of soft yellows and oranges. In the foreground, the dark silhouettes of palm trees and other vegetation are visible on the left side of the frame. The overall mood is peaceful and serene.

b. Biblical purpose of appraisal feedback

A tool used to reward productivity and hard work.

It is a method to give the diligent authority and influence.

The principle of sowing and reaping

A photograph of a sunset over a beach. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, golden glow that reflects on the water and the sand. The sky is a mix of soft orange and pale blue. In the foreground, the dark silhouettes of palm trees and other vegetation are visible on the left side of the frame. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

**c. Motives and methods
may not be godly**

Fallen world system

**We need biblical safeguards to protect
ourselves against any destructive
appraisal.**

d. Discerning constructive feedback to an unhealthy one

Ephesians 4v29

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listens

- Constructive feedback
- Unhealthy feedbacks

A serene sunset scene over a beach. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a bright, golden glow across the sky and reflecting off the water. The beach is visible in the foreground, and the silhouettes of palm trees are visible on the left side of the frame.

Attitude towards constructive feedback

Proverbs 9v9

Instruct a wise man and he will be wiser still; teach a righteous man, and he will add (increase) his learning.

Attitude towards unhealthy feedback

Guard your heart and reject the confession made over your life. Proverbs 4v23

Remind yourself who you are in Christ. 1 Corinthians 5v17

Communicate with your boss by humbling yourself and pointing out where the line was crossed and do your best to do this in love. Ephesians 4v25-27

Seek to improve and excel to refuse him/her the reason to make you feel inferior and worthless.
1 Thessalonians 4v11-12

Remember you are not perfect and mistakes do happen, therefore, do not personalise things

Forgive the person and do not harbour any bitterness. Ephesians 4v32

Conclusion

Genesis 1:28

And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. And God blessed them; and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth. Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep.

A photograph of a sunset over a beach. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a bright, shimmering reflection across the water and onto the wet sand. The sky is a mix of soft orange and grey. On the left side, the dark silhouettes of palm trees and other vegetation are visible against the lighter sky.

Conclusion

**Let us go and change the world for
His eternal glory!**

Amen and Amen!