

come to work late and leave early; and call out sick whenever they like having a day off.

But when they say that they are satisfied with the way they do their job, they don't really mean satisfied; they mean that the way they do their job is acceptable to them. They really derive no gratification, pleasure, or contentment from their work; i.e., it does not satisfy them. But they are willing to settle for a low level of quality.

What should a Christian do? Christians should do their work in such a way as to bring glory to God!

As Christians we can make a significant difference in our own spheres of influence. We can do our work in such a way that we will be satisfied with it, so that we will be an example to others; and so that we will please God. We can strive for excellence. And even if our example is not approved and followed by our co-workers or neighbors, we will still be satisfied, and God will be pleased!

Some time ago my daughter Patty began a new job in a personal care facility as a nurse's aide. One day during a break a young man came over to sit down on a seat near Patty. He said, "Patty, do you remember me? We were in high school together." Patty didn't recognize him at first, but then she remembered him. But what a change! Patty told me, "Dad, in high school he was a druggie, I mean a real druggie. He was really a mess! So when I saw him I hardly knew him at first."

Well, this young man told Patty that his mother had died during the past year, and that this had really affected him. In fact, this experience had been instrumental in his becoming a genuine born-again Christian! Later, Patty found that the other aides didn't like him, called him a nerd, and didn't want him around; and she discovered why. It was because he showed up at work on time, did a good job, carefully observed the rules, and didn't steal time from his employer. It made the others look bad! He was