

John 10:22-42, “Our Job as a Christian.”

What are we doing?

Education: 17	Non-Profit/Gov.: 9
Manufacturing: 16	Health Care: 8
Retail: 8	Retired: 11
Domestic Eng.: 17	B2B: 11
Service: 16	Farming: 1
Financial Services: 4	Total: 118

Funny Job Descriptions:

- Take numbers on pieces of paper, rearrange them and put them on different pieces of paper: Tax Accountant
- Ensure that stupid people stay in the gene pool: Lifeguard
- Spend most of the day looking out the window: Pilot
- Make people spend far more than they estimated: Building Inspector
- Copy and paste the Internet: Student
- Stand around and get yelled at for hours: Baseball Umpire
- Make people feel bad about their work: Quality Assurance Tester
- Repeatedly fix what you repeatedly break: IT Technician

Let’s talk about our spiritual job description ...

A. Our Spiritual Job Description.

According to Jesus, you only have two, and only two, duties as a believer: Listen and follow.

John 10:27, My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

Listen: “Hear with understanding.”

Pay attention >> think about it >> “get it.”

Listening requires filtering auditory stimulus.

Follow: “Move with directed purpose.”

Locate >> move >> repeat.

Can it be THAT SIMPLE? Listen and follow? Yes! But what about going to church, praying, tithing, witnessing, being kind ... etc.? Aren’t these Christian duties also? As you listen to Jesus do you suppose He’d ever lead you to pray, give, or love?

B. Our Spiritual Job Security.

How long will you have this job, “Christian”? As long as you want it!

John 10:28-29, I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one can snatch them away from me, ²⁹ for my Father has given them to me, and he is more powerful than anyone else. No one can snatch them from the Father’s hand.

- Where does eternal life from come? We receive it, it is given to us by Christ. Since we did not *earn* it by good works, you cannot lose it by *bad living*.
- Would Jesus ever take it away? No. He said, “they will never perish.” Actually, it is not even Jesus’ to take away ... Jesus only passed along the gift that the Father gave to Him, “for my Father has given them to me.” Jesus is the steward of saved souls, given to Him by God.
- Could someone/something ever remove us from God’s care? No. “No one can snatch them from the Father’s hand.”

KEY VERSE: Philippians 1:6, And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.

Consider this, a job’s enjoyment is often times dependent on the kind of boss you have, right? Well, what kind of Boss do we Christians have?

C. Our Spiritual Job Boss.

John 10:27, 29-31, My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me ...

²⁹ My Father ... is more powerful than anyone else ... “The Father and I are one.” ³¹

Once again the people picked up stones to kill him.

How cool is it that our Boss is:

- Keenly aware of our deepest needs? (v. 27, “I know them”)
- On our side? (Psalm 23, “he leads us to green pastures...)
- Will never leave us? (John 10:11-12, The Good Shepherd does not run away)
- Loves us? (John 10:15, Jesus sacrifices His life for us)
- Intercepts our adversary? (v. 31)
- Is all-powerful? (v. 29)
- Jesus! (v. 30)

[If you are a boss/manager ... this is a great model for you to follow!]

MAIN POINT: Jesus cannot be defeated! His purpose is to give us eternal life and once we receive Christ we cannot lose that salvation.

A closing prayer ... "Dear God, we are glad to be under Your employ and supervision. You're an awesome life-Boss and we ask you to help us listen more carefully to Your Word. Help us follow you closely. Finally, thank You for holding us so tightly that nothing at all can snatch us out of your loving hands. In Jesus' name, amen."