

“I’m Your Boss!”

John 17:1-5

Let’s play “name that boss!” (And, would you work for this boss?)

- Bill Gates.
- Donald Trump.
- Al Capone.
- Barak Obama.
- Bruce Springsteen.
- Mary Barra (GM).
- “Michael Scott” from The Office.
- Gordon Ramsay from Hell’s Kitchen.
- “M” from James Bond.
- Tony Danza from “Who’s the Boss?”
- Jesus.

Today we’re going to talk about how to be a successful team member for “KOG Enterprises,” the “Kingdom of God.” Getting on God’s payroll, working for Him while you pass through this earth, is a great way to invest your life in a way that really matters.

## **How to Get on God’s Payroll**

### **1. Follow Jesus’ example.**

John 17:1, After saying all these things, Jesus looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son so he can give glory back to you.”

- “these things” are the claims we’ve been covering. [see bulletin insert]
- Now, “the hour has come.” It’s crunch time for Jesus.
- The goal of Jesus while he was on earth is the same goal required to get on God’s payroll: “Give God glory.”
- ILLY: Glory is “making your boss look good!”

## 2. Yield to Jesus' authority.

John 17:2a, "For you have given him authority over everyone ..."

- Everyone is under the authority of Jesus.
  - Some people yield to that authority, they are "on the payroll."
  - Some people are ignorant of that authority, they can get a job with Jesus if they network with the right people (maybe you and me?).
  - Some people resist and reject His authority, they think they're a better boss than Jesus.
- Let me ask you, is being under the authority of someone else a good thing? That depends entirely on the character, wisdom, and intention of "someone else"!
  - Character. Is the boss honest, wholesome, and worthy of respect?
  - Wisdom. Does the boss "have a clue"?
  - Intention. What motivates this boss, does he/she have my best interest in mind? Does this boss want me to win?
- ILLY: How would Jesus act on "undercover boss?"

## 3. Receive eternal life.

John 17:2b-3, "... He gives eternal life to each one you have given him. <sup>3</sup> And this is the way to have eternal life—to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the one you sent to earth."

- To get on the payroll means we get to meet and personally know the Boss!
- Jesus gives eternal life to everyone who will receive it. There's no "drug test" or "entrance exam" or "advanced degree and experience required" to get on God's payroll. It's as simple as this"

"Dear God, I believe you are the only true God and that Jesus Christ was sent to earth for me. I yield to Your authority. Amen."

That's it. Pray that, and you're on the payroll.

#### **4. Complete the work God gives you.**

John 17:4, “I brought glory to you here on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.”

- Of course, being on the payroll means there is work to do!
- Here’s the job description: Matthew 28:19-20, “Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. <sup>20</sup> Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”
  - Make disciples = help people get on the payroll.
  - Baptize them = immerse them in God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.
  - Teach them to obey = by your example and words mentor newcomers.

PAYDAY: John 17:5, “Now, Father, bring me into the glory we shared before the world began.”

A closing prayer ... “Dear God, we want to help advance Your work while we’re still here. Show us daily how to yield to Jesus and make Him look good. In Jesus’ name, amen.”