

# appnotes

**September 22-26, 2014**

At Parker Hill, we believe that independent Bible study is critical to the growth of every believer, regardless of where we are in our journey of faith. Regular Bible study, reflection, and prayer should be a daily part of our lives. We created AppNotes to help you cultivate that habit of daily study and to provide a way for Sunday's teaching to resonate through the week. We also provide these AppNotes Monday–Friday on our Facebook page ([facebook.com/parkerhill.org](https://www.facebook.com/parkerhill.org)) where you can like, share, and engage in discussion.

**Read Matthew 20:20-28**

**DAY 1** So much of our life is spent trying to climb the corporate ladder. Even the disciples weren't exempt from trying to climb up the ranks. Jesus uses this opportunity to teach His disciples that God's basis for promotion is far different from the world in which we live. Whoever wants to be great in the eyes of the world must become a servant. In other words, true biblical leadership isn't about power and prestige; it's about caring for, and serving, those whom God has put under us. Even Jesus didn't come to be served but to give up His life to serve others. How are you leveraging your position to benefit others rather than yourself?

**Read Genesis 24:17-27**

**DAY 2** When Isaac was on his journey he met his would-be wife, Rebekah. Although she was beautiful, it was her work ethic that truly impressed Isaac. Isaac took it as a sign that she would be a good wife. In fact, she was so worth the wait that Isaac worked for her dad for fourteen years just to be able to marry her! People are watching you everyday. Are you known for being a hard worker or a team player that is willing to go the extra mile? If you want to make a good impression, don't try to flatter your way to the top or put on an appearance of being important, instead let your work ethic be a sign of your integrity.

**Read Genesis 39:1-18**

**DAY 3** Talk about a job you don't want! Joseph was sold into slavery by his brothers and then purchased by an Egyptian named Potiphar. It would have been easy for Joseph, a spoiled boy accustomed to living the easy life, to refuse to work. He could have found endless excuses that would explain how overqualified he was for this position. He could have justified how he couldn't work for a man like Potiphar, but that's not what happened. Joseph remembered who His real boss was and worked hard to please him, even when it cost him his job and put him behind bars. Don't make excuses for not working hard; work hard to please the One who is ultimately in control.

### **Read Luke 14:1-11**

**DAY** Jesus shares an important lesson that we can easily translate into our careers. In today's world people feel entitled. Every person thinks they deserve a promotion and a raise just for showing up and punching in. The more we try to promote ourselves or come across as important, the greater the risk we run for being embarrassed and rejected. Rather than taking the seat of honor and feeling entitled, work hard and be content with where God has you right now. As you work hard and practice contentment you will be rewarded and get what you deserve. It may happen in this life, but it is guaranteed in eternity.

**4**

### **Read 1 Samuel 12**

**DAY** You don't become a leader overnight. You need to develop your character over time. Take David, for instance. Most people remember David for slaying a giant or for his role as a great warrior and king. Yet David's road to fame didn't happen in a moment. Long before David was a king he took care of sheep. It's a job he took seriously. He didn't brush it off as meaningless or insignificant. David worked to please God in the big things and in the small things and proved that if you can be trustworthy with a little, you can be trusted with a lot. Are you being faithful with what you have right now? If not, don't expect greater things to come.

**5**