



## Group Leader Guide “How You Act At Work Matters” - 90,000 September 28-29, 2019

### Group Creed

We come together as a Group with the goal of Spiritual Formation; encouraging one another to become the same kind of person that Jesus is, so that we can live out every part of our lives inside of His Kingdom.

### // Message Summary

This week, **Jesse DeYoung** continues the series on work called **90,000** as he talks about how we, as Christians, should act at work. He sums it all up in one phrase: Be great at what you do. God modeled excellence in His creation (**Genesis 1:31**). Jesus modeled excellence in His miracles and teaching (**Mark 7:37**). Likewise, you are called to be excellent in what you do (**Colossians 3:23-34**). By being great at what we do, not only do we create excellent products, art, architecture, services, etc., we ultimately bring glory to God and serve Him in moving the creation project forward.

### // Biblical Context: Word Study

**Colossians 3:23: ψυχή (*psuché*)** translated as “with all your heart” or “heartily.” A noun meaning “breath,” “life breath,” and/or “soul.” When the Hebrew Bible was translated into Greek, the translators used this word when translating Genesis 2:7, which talks about God breathing life into Adam. It can be a metaphor for all of life itself, but the *psuché* was also viewed as the seat of the senses, desires, affections, and passions—all the *immaterial* parts of a person’s natural life.

### // Biblical Background: The Wedding at Cana - John 2:1-12

**Cana:** The most likely site for this small town is the site of **Khirbet Qana**, located about 8 miles north of Nazareth, Jesus’ hometown. This would have been a long walk, but close enough for the hosts of the wedding to know Jesus and His family well enough to invite them.

**Weddings:** Jewish wedding celebrations at this time could last days (ideally seven). People would come for some or all of it, so gauging how much supplies were needed could be tricky. This explains why they may have run out of wine. However, the stigma that would have come with that would have still been devastating to this family had they not found a solution quickly.



1st-century stone water jars from Jerusalem ([bibleplaces.com](http://bibleplaces.com))

**Stone Jars:** The stone jars mentioned were specifically for Jewish rites of purification. They would use the water stored in these to become “ceremonially clean.” Nothing else was allowed to be stored in them except this ceremonial water. Jesus technically violated custom by using these jars to create the wine. Since the wedding hosts would have suffered damage to their honor and dignity by running out of wine, this can be seen to represent Jesus as valuing the honor of the host above even ritual purity customs. So, Jesus made an abundance of really good wine, and He did it not only to provide for everyone there but also to bring value and dignity to someone in need.

### // In Preparation

Leading this group may not be a part of your day job, but it is still a part of your *work*. So, with that in mind, and this week’s message, how can you make group GREAT? How can you set up group this week to do it with an added level of excellence?

Maybe you could provide some refreshments, or *better* refreshments. Perhaps you have some good stories or discussion topics that will really add to the group’s experience. Whatever it is, just try to think of something that can really up the experience and meaningfulness for the people in your group.

Also remember, this isn’t just to make yourself look like a great group leader. Don’t even draw outright attention to what you are doing. Just provide an excellent group for people, and if they comment, give the glory to God. In doing this, not only will God get the glory, but you will model for your group members how to work with excellence!

### // References

Zodhiates, Spiros. *The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament*. AMG Publishers, 1994.

Currid, John D., and David W. Chapman. *ESV Archaeology Study Bible: English Standard Version*. Crossway Books, 2017.

Keener, Craig S Ph.d. *IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament*. Intervarsity Press, 2014.



**Discussion Questions**  
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**// Bible References**

John 2:6-10, Colossians 3:23-24

**// Community Questions**

1. What is the worst wedding you have ever been to?

**// Core Questions**

1. Describe someone you have known personally that you were attracted to because of their greatness. What was it about them that drew you in? What did you hope to learn from them?
2. Do you view being a Christian in the workplace as more of how you treat people and less of how you approach your actual work? Can it be both?
3. Are you actively trying to be great at your job? Or, do you tend to phone it in and just get through the day?
4. How might being great at your job bring glory to God?
5. What does “bringing glory to God” mean?

**// Challenge**

This week, be GREAT at your job. Try to do everything with a level of excellence that you haven't utilized before. Take one step this week to really up your game. That may be learning something that will be helpful to you. It may be doing something the hard way instead of taking shortcuts. It may mean giving a customer some extra attention with a problem they are having. If asked why you are working so much harder or better, use that as an opportunity to point to God and the inspiration He brings in doing excellent work.