

In any firm, there are many different jobs. This is also true in our Father's business.



Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-28

What does this tell us about our place in the body of Christ?

- We are all different.
- We are all needed
- We need to cooperate not compete
- We operate as a whole
- we are arranged according to Gods order
- we are should not look down on others roles
- Unpresentable parts require special treatment -greater honour.



Are you about your Father's business?



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FREEDOM

Christian Church

My Father's Business



What were Jesus first actual recorded words?

You will find the answer in Luke 2:49.

What is the context?



The NIV says "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" the KJV says "I must be about my Father's business?" (The word house/business is assumed in Greek, a literal translation would be, "I must be about that of my father". In the [no noun] of my father. (This verse is fundamental to Jesus ministry. His job was to be about His Father's affairs, his interests, his house, his business. This is one of the verses that defines Jesus ministry.

But Christ is faithful as a son over God's house. And we are his house... Hebrews 3:6



Read Hebrews 3:3-6

According to this passage, what is God's house?

How did Moses behave in God's house?

How must we behave in God's house?



For us, this verse is also important. It presents us with:

- A Calling We too are to be about our Father's business.
- A Challenge You need to be about your Father's business.
- A Test Are you about your Father's business?



How many of us are about our Father's business?

Is His business spiritual or physical?



For Jesus what was His Father's business?

Read 1 John 3:8, John 12:27, Luke 10:22, Acts 10:38, Matthew 20:28, Luke 4:18



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For us what is the Father's business?

What parts of these are core, what parts are peripheral?



Our Father has a business.

We need to understand what that business is.
We need to be involved in our Father's business.



Each of these passages warn or exhort us about this.
What does each of them have to say about being involved in our Father's business?

- Matthew 25:24-26
- 2 Timothy 2:4
- 1 Corinthians 9:16
- Philippians 1:21
- 1 Corinthians 4:2
- Luke 12:48
- Jeremiah 48:10



By definition, a Christian is someone who is about their Father's business. How well we know our Father's business and how well we do it are indicators of our maturity as Christians. Being a Christian is not just about me and God. We have to be active in our Father's business. This means reaching the world around us.



Read Matthew 5:14-16
How does this parable apply to us?



What is likely to happen if our faith is introverted? (i.e. just about God and us)

Our faith is a personal thing and it needs to be about God and us. But when it is just about God and us it tends to become stagnant and often deviant or aberrant. We get caught up on minor things, we get pedantic and our faith seems to end up in a blind alley. (Pedantic = obsessed by rules, and insists on following the exactly right way of doing things. Concentrating on the small picture).



Being about our Father's business has collective and individual implications.
What is our Father's business for the Church?
What is our Father's business for the individual?
How much do they overlap?



Are their public and private parts of our Father's business?
What are they?



How much are we about our own business?
What is our own business?
Is it also important?
What happens if we are only about our own business?

How will you recognise your Father's business?



What are the likely results of being about our Father's business?
What are the likely results of neglecting our Father's business?



Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for in the grave, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom. Ecclesiastes 9:10
What does this mean for you?

Do you need to have a specific call or ministry to be about your Father's business?



Sometimes this stands in our way rather than helping us. We seem to wait until a calling falls from heaven onto our lap instead of doing the things that we see. Not having a calling becomes an excuse to be inactive.
Some people have long lists of things they won't do for God.
Some people neglect the things they can do because they are not important enough, not what they want or not rewarding enough.



If you have no idea what your calling is what should you do in the meantime?

Is our Father's business the same for every individual?



How are you going to recognise your Father's business?
You might start by looking at things and asking is this my Father's business.