

# The Christ-Centered Pharmacist

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“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.”

*-Colossians 3:23*

# How do you feel about work?

- ▶ How do you like your job?
- ▶ What is the reason you go to work?
- ▶ What purpose do you have in being there?

Do we think....



It's not that I hate my job... Just that sometimes on my way to work I daydream about getting hit by a bus so I don't have to go...

some  cards  
user card



"IF YOU WORK, YOU NEED THIS BOOK!"

—TIMOTHY FERRISS, #1 *New York Times* bestselling  
author of *The 4-Hour Workweek*

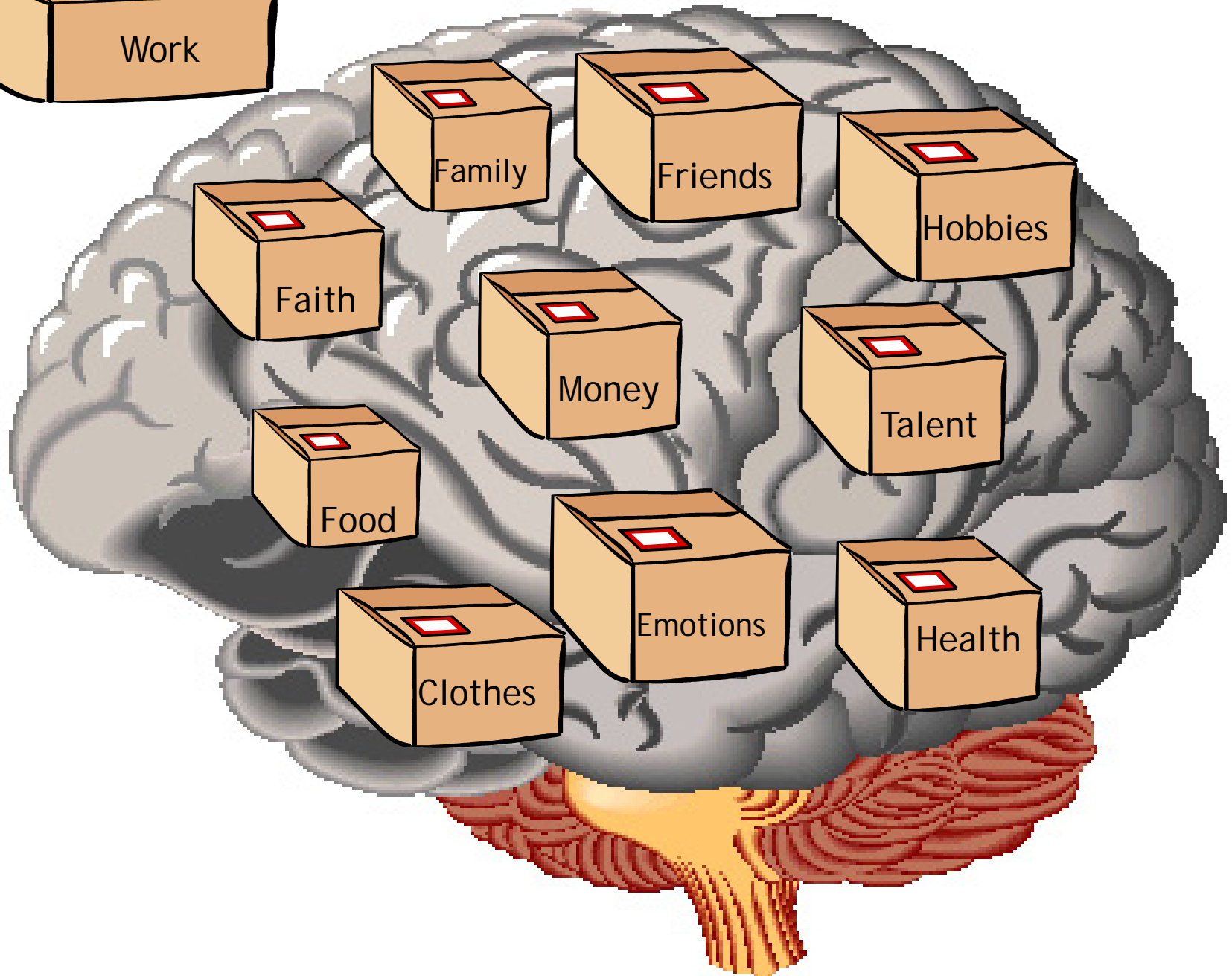
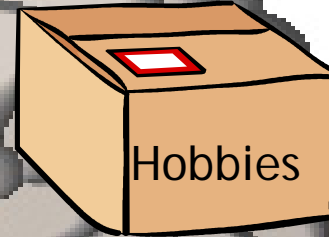
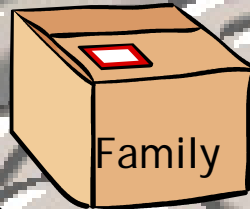
WHY  
**WORK  
SUCKS**  
AND HOW TO FIX IT

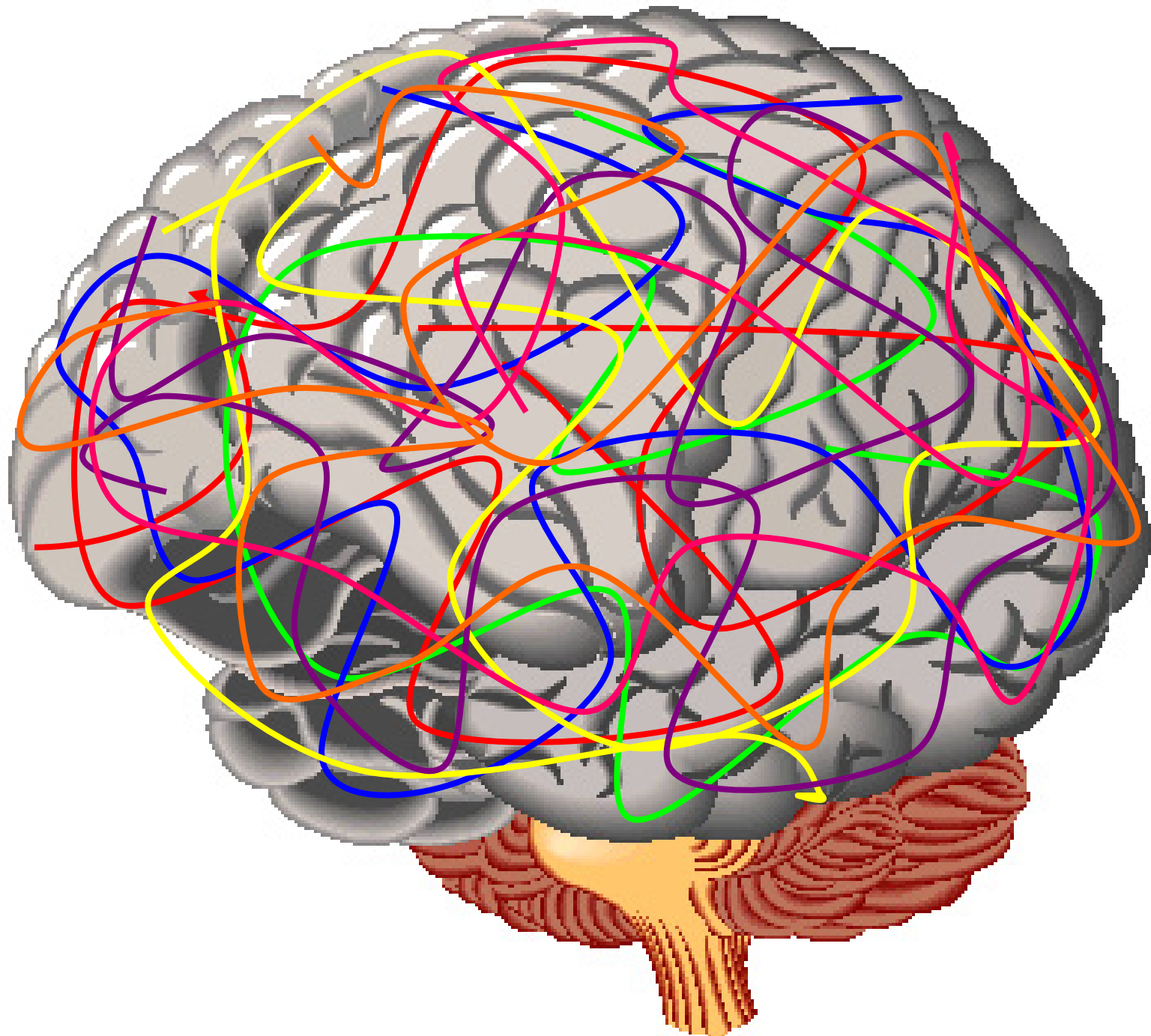
No schedules,  
no meetings, no joke—  
the simple change that can  
make your job terrific

Cali Ressler *and* Jody Thompson

Creators of the Results-Only Work Environment

FOREWORD BY BRAD ANDERSON, CEO, BEST BUY







# Thoughts from Matthew Henry

- ▶ Genesis 2:7
- ▶ Man was made of the small dust, such as is on the surface of the earth. The soul was not made of the earth, as the body: pity then that it should cleave to the earth, and mind earthly things. To God we must shortly give an account, how we have employed these souls; and if it be found that we have lost them, though it were to gain the world, we are undone for ever! Fools despise their own souls, by caring for their bodies before their souls.



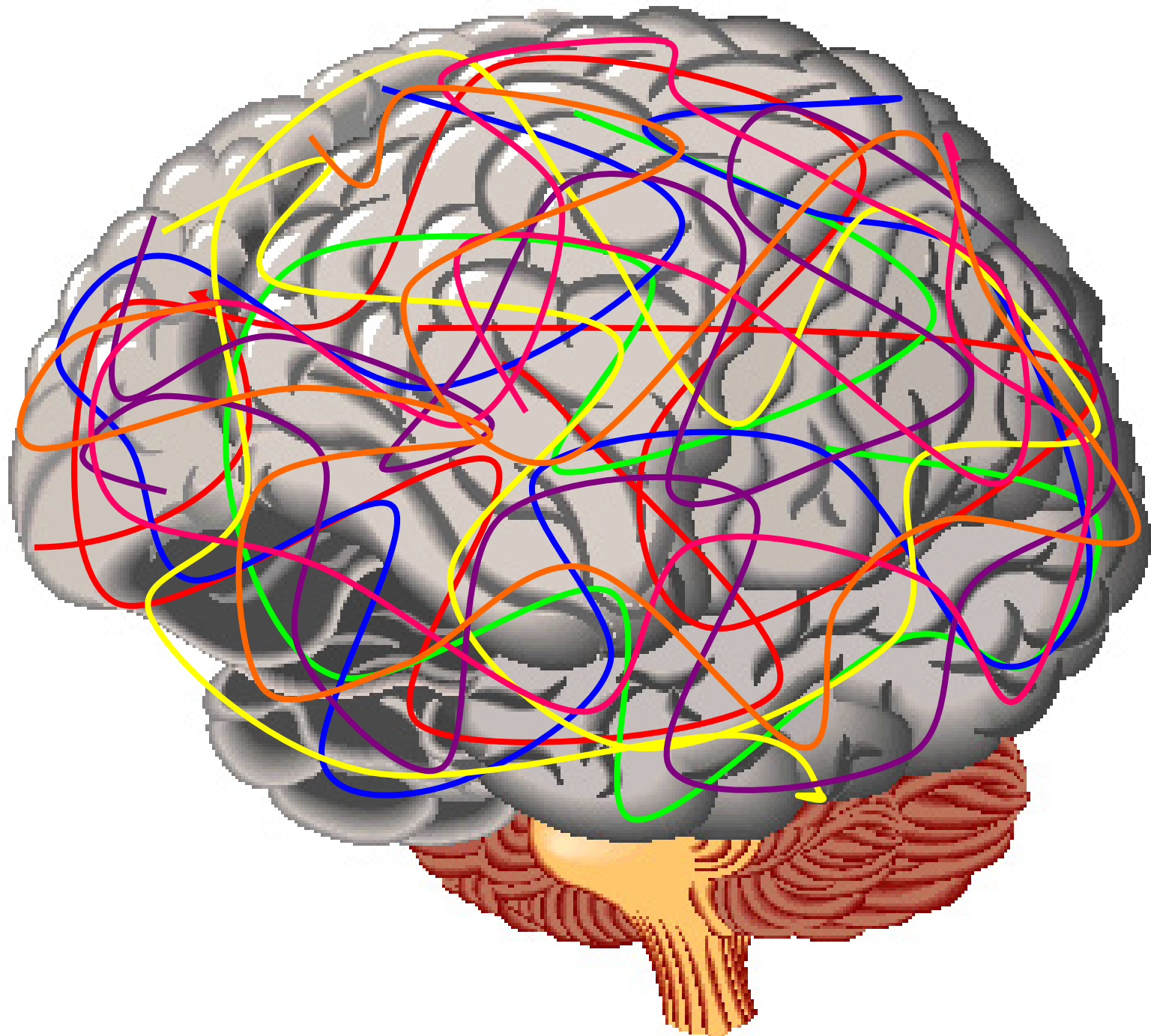
# Could it be?

- ▶ Our attitude as a Christ-centered pharmacist should be to care for souls?
  - ▶ As a pharmacist, do we even think that way?
  - ▶ Are we taught that way?
  - ▶ How do you care for souls in a pharmacy?



People may hear your words  
but they **FEEL** your attitude

- John Maxwell



# A Question to Consider...

- ▶ Are you a pharmacist who just happens to be a Christian?
- ▶ Are you a Christian who just happens to be a pharmacist?
- ▶ What's the difference?

# A “Calling”

- ▶ What are Christians called to?
- ▶ Ephesians 4:1
- ▶ Galatians 1:15
- ▶ Romans 12:4
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 1:26-27
- ▶ Romans 11:29
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 1:9

The word "calling," or in its Latinate form "vocation," had long been used in reference to the sacred ministry and the religious orders. Today, the term has become commonplace, another synonym for a profession or job, as in "vocational training." But behind the term is the notion that every legitimate kind of work or social function is a distinct "calling" from God, requiring unique God-given gifts, skills, and talents. God himself is active in everyday human labor, family responsibilities, and social interactions.

## **The Doctrine of Vocation**

**Gene Veith**



# Instead...

- ▶ God works through people!
  - ▶ God heals through people
  - ▶ God blesses through people
  - ▶ God provides through people
  - ▶ God moves the hearts of people to provide for others

# What about Pharmacy?

- ▶ Is pharmacy a sacred calling?
- ▶ Express love through pharmacy?
- ▶ Shouldn't we practice differently?
- ▶ HOW?

# Genesis 3:17-19

- ▶ We live in a fallen and sinful world
- ▶ We are self-absorbed, not loving
- ▶ Others are self-absorbed and can lack caring
- ▶ Christians: exert love into our vocations not because we have the power in ourselves, but because the power of God!

# Mark 12:28-31

- ▶ Love the Lord your God and love your neighbor as yourself.
- ▶ Who is my neighbor?
- ▶ Whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for me
- ▶ Love the unlovable
- ▶ Serve difficult people
- ▶ Who has God placed in your path---that is your neighbor!

# You Are Unique

- ▶ We are individuals
- ▶ We are different from others
- ▶ We have a unique calling in every stage of life
- ▶ Talents, interests, likes, dislikes
- ▶ Finding your calling goes hand in hand with finding your God-given talents and your God-given personality

God created us with a purpose in mind!

# Goals for your life

- ▶ You cannot be anything YOU want to be
- ▶ A design
- ▶ God is the Creator
- ▶ We are the Created
- ▶ You did NOT create yourself
- ▶ Can the Created tell the Creator what it is designed to do?

**But who are you, a human being, to talk back to God? "Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, 'Why did you make me like this?" Romans 9:20**

# Proverbs 16:9

- ▶ Who establishes a man's steps?
- ▶ Our life is about God's purposes, not our own
- ▶ We must work, plan and scheme, but Christians are utterly dependent on God
- ▶ Our vocations are no different
- ▶ Christ-centered = all things centered around Christ

# Romans 8:28

- ▶ Bad things happen
- ▶ Circumstances are beyond our control
  - ▶ But can lead us to where God is calling
- ▶ God works through means
- ▶ You cannot be called to something that does not call you!
- ▶ We must pay attention to how God is calling us through other people and through the ordinary circumstances of life
- ▶ God's calling = our desires



# What to do?

- ▶ Ask Him:
- ▶ Change my desires to match your will!
- ▶ I want my will to be your will!
- ▶ I want to live out YOUR calling!



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I HATE MY JOB

OH PLEASE!

What is your attitude about  
work?

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the right side of the slide, creating a modern, layered effect. The text is centered in the upper half of the slide.

# Previous Students Facebook Posts...

- ▶ 645 pm: patient comes in to pick up her meds, note on bag says lorazepam zero refills note in computer says denied needs appt. So why the #\*@! do you wait till now to come in especially if you dropped them off several days ago and you know we close @ 7. And no I won't loan you any...don't care what someone else did in the past. Now leave!!!
- ▶ I hate pharmacy. I hate that a good pharmacist is defined by how fast he can click the "verify" button while being fortunate enough to avoid dispensing errors. What is wonderful about my ordeal is that I have been a pharmacist for less than a year and i don't know how much more I can handle. Is there a way out that doesn't involve completely going back to school for something else entirely?

- ▶ Easter Sunday is clearly the BEST day to bring prescriptions written 2+ weeks ago to be filled and/or complain about me not giving you some pills because you ran out and don't understand why I can't call your doctor right now for refills. Sure, I'll participate in your stare off contest. I guarantee I will win too! I'm a world champion! Jesus needs to go ahead and come on back. The world has gotten too crazy!
- ▶ I started seeing the reality of what I was getting into even while still in pharmacy school when I had my first introductory rotation. I started seeing the cloud of darkness even as an intern. But like many other pharmacy students, by the time the realization hits, I was already deep into my 6-figure debt to not see it through the end of the tunnel. The question is, is there an end to the tunnel?

# Our Vocation = SERVICE

Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

-Matthew 20:28

# Christ-centered pharmacist

- ▶ Attitude is different
- ▶ Work is done in faith
- ▶ Watching/Expecting divine appointments
- ▶ Serving SOULS
- ▶ Purpose is different
- ▶ Not for self
- ▶ Significance level is different
- ▶ Doctrine of vocation helps them to see the ordinary labors of life as meaningful!



H O P E

*Bring it!*

# Sickness, pain, worry, suffering

- ▶ In need of hope
- ▶ Hope for healing
- ▶ Hope for physical and mental relief/comfort
- ▶ They want to feel better
  
- ▶ Often:
  - ▶ Health is not restored
  - ▶ Comfort is not given
  - ▶ Physical healing doesn't come
- ▶ Then what?



# Praying for/with Patients?

- ▶ Prayer/Meditation = Complementary Medicine
  - ▶ Benefits to our health
  - ▶ Patients/coworkers eternity is on the line
  - ▶ And there we are! Placed by God!
- 
- ▶ We need to have courage and share about Jesus

# Your Story

- ▶ Evidence or proof provided by the existence or appearance of something
- ▶ Your witness
- ▶ Your story
- ▶ First hand account of what God has done in your life

# What moves us?

- ▶ Not how much a person knows
- ▶ But what they have experienced



# Your Story

- ▶ You have a story about the power of God in your life
- ▶ Your experience with the living God
- ▶ How He has been at work
- ▶ How has he been alive in your life
- ▶ Your story encourages others
- ▶ Can you share your story....in a pharmacy?

# Sharing your story

I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

~Romans 1:16

► But....are we ashamed?



# The Christ-Centered Pharmacist

- ▶ Has the right attitude about work/vocation/calling
- ▶ Doesn't make good health their god
- ▶ Understands that God fulfills His purpose through people
- ▶ Surrendered everything to Christ
- ▶ Humility as one created
- ▶ Service-minded/dies to self
- ▶ Seeks to have their desires = God's will
- ▶ Lives as one who has hope
- ▶ Prays/studies
- ▶ Not ashamed to share Jesus

“Whatever you do, work at it with all  
your heart, as working for the Lord,  
not for men.”

*-Colossians 3:23*