## [Salt and Light in the Workplace](http://www.journeychristiannews.com/index.php/singles/535-salt-and-light-in-the-workplace)

“I hate my job. I hate it. So many horrible people. So many problems. I just want to quit.” Those were some of the comments a single friend made recently while I was traveling in Texas. She was desperately struggling with her job. She really wanted to quit, but she was concerned about the economy as well as all the financial responsibilities she had as a single adult. She couldn't take the chance of going without work. So instead she complained … to everyone.

As I listened to her, I knew the Lord wanted me to say something to her. God gave me two words – assignment and alignment.

First, I asked my friend if she thought God placed her in that work environment. Maybe He wants her to be the "light" there in the midst of such darkness; maybe He has work for her to do. After all, work isn’t about receiving a paycheck. God owns all the money and we work for Him. Colossians 3:23 says, “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord” (NIV). Our work is about reaching others for the Kingdom. Sometimes God calls us to leave our jobs, sure, but in this case, the Lord told me He had placed my friend there for a purpose.

So how can a person be salt and light in a wretched workplace?

1. Make sure you are aligned personally with the Lord. Confess to God that you have not trusted Him. Ask Him for peace and contentment in your work environment. Ask God to show you His will in every part of your life, even the parts you don't like.

2. Start praying for your employer, each coworker, and the business itself. Ask God what can you do to be a better employee. Pray for the salvation of your colleagues. Pray that God will open the door to build relationships with non-believers and believers who are weak in their faith.

3. Ask God to introduce you to other believers so that you can join forces in praying for your employer/employees. Arrive at work early and pray together, at lunch or after work. Start a Bible study with other believers and invite non-believers. Be sure to remind each other of why God has placed you there. You are the light in that dark work environment. That business and the employees need the Lord.

4. Be mindful of too much complaining. Complain to God, vent to trusted friends for support and prayer. Never gossip. It can lead you to slowly fall victim to the enemy and become part of the problem at your job.

5. Be patient. This is your ministry, not just a job. Trust God to open doors and to change lives, including yours. Be excited – God has placed you in this environment and given you this amazing assignment. Keep the focus on Jesus and He will take care of the rest. “But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded” (2 Corinthians 15:7 NIV).

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