

Kick[↑]Start!



DEVOTIONALS for the Workplace

MERIC DALE WALKER

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101 DEVOTIONALS
for the Workplace

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Dedicated

To Mrs. Monica Walker, my wife, who for decades has demonstrated an unflinching commitment to godliness and has been an outstanding example of principled conduct that reflects Christlikeness in the workplace, and to the countless others whose lives demonstrate that being a child of God produces the best workers.



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Above all, I thank God for His inspiration, from whom every word and every thought ultimately flows. I am grateful as well to the many friends, colleagues, and fellow workers in mission who continually encourage me to write.

I have written these pages with sincerity, and the reflections shared here are true.

A Word Before We Begin

On June 6, 1892, Ellen G. White published an article in the *Signs of the Times* that included the striking statement: “Yet there will be no one saved in heaven with a starless crown.”

By this statement, Sister White was not suggesting that our salvation is earned through meritorious works. Rather, she was emphasizing that when a person truly accepts Jesus Christ into their life, transformation follows—and that transformation becomes visible to those around them.

The context of her words makes this clear:

“The Lord would have you make it manifest in your manner, in your dress, and in your spirit that you are blessed. He would have you show that the line of demarcation between the world and the followers of Christ is a distinct line. If the people of the world do not see that you are different, they will not be influenced by your profession of religion, and you will not win souls to the service of God. Yet there will be no one saved in heaven with a starless crown. If you enter there, there will be some soul in the courts of glory who has found an entrance through your instrumentality.”

One of the places where people of the world are most likely to encounter Christians is in the workplace. The daily life of a Christian at work therefore provides a powerful opportunity for living witness.

It is within this context that *KickStart 101* becomes especially meaningful. This inspiring collection of workplace devotionals explores many opportunities for believers to reflect Christ through everyday professional activities.

In assembling this extensive collection of devotional reflections, Pastor Meric Walker demonstrates how ordinary workplace routines can rest upon a spiritual foundation when they are viewed through the lens of Scripture. Careful attention to the messages contained in these devotionals will help Christians in the workplace clearly demonstrate the distinct line that emerges from a loving relationship with Jesus Christ.

—Professor, The Honourable Alvin G. Wint

*Emeritus Professor of International Business
University of the West Indies*

Introduction

This book has the potential to change your life.

It can transform the way you approach your profession. It can inspire a culture of excellence in your workplace. Above all, it is grounded in values and centered on people.

KickStart 101 brings together workplace activities and everyday items, using them not merely as illustrations for professional lessons, but as starting points for discovering essential spiritual values that support a truly balanced life.

The book presents 101 workplace operations and objects as illustrations for practical and meaningful lessons relevant to a wide variety of professional environments. It is structured as a countdown, beginning with illustration number 101 and moving backward, building curiosity about what ultimately occupies the number one position.

What exactly are these items? They are listed in the Table of Contents, where each topic appears with its corresponding number on the left and the page on which the chapter begins on the right.

Each chapter averages about 400 words—roughly two pages—and can be read in approximately six minutes. Every devotional begins with a Bible passage, set apart in italics from the main body of the text, from which a practical application is later drawn.

The chapters often begin with a thought-provoking question or a challenging observation. These opening reflections invite readers to consider real-life workplace dilemmas while encouraging thoughtful reflection about possible solutions. Most importantly, each devotional moves toward a spiritually meaningful application and concludes by returning to a biblical foundation.

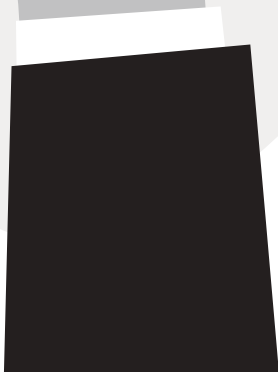
This book is designed to begin your workday.

The devotionals do not need to be read in numerical order, since each one stands independently and does not rely on the previous chapter. Readers are free to select topics based on personal interest.

For that reason, it may be helpful for readers to keep a personal copy and mark each chapter in the Table of Contents as they complete it.

—Meric Dale Walker

START



The Best Career Choice

*“Counsel in the heart of a man is like deep water,
But a man of understanding will draw it out”*

(Proverbs 20:5).

It is a common practice across nations, cultures, and religions to wish others—especially family members, friends, and colleagues—a “Prosperous New Year,” either shortly before or soon after the new year begins.

Our prosperity and progress in life are often shaped by wise decisions—whether they are choices we make ourselves or the thoughtful decisions of others who guide and support us. For this reason, we should always desire that those around us, and even those beyond our immediate circle, make wise choices throughout the year.

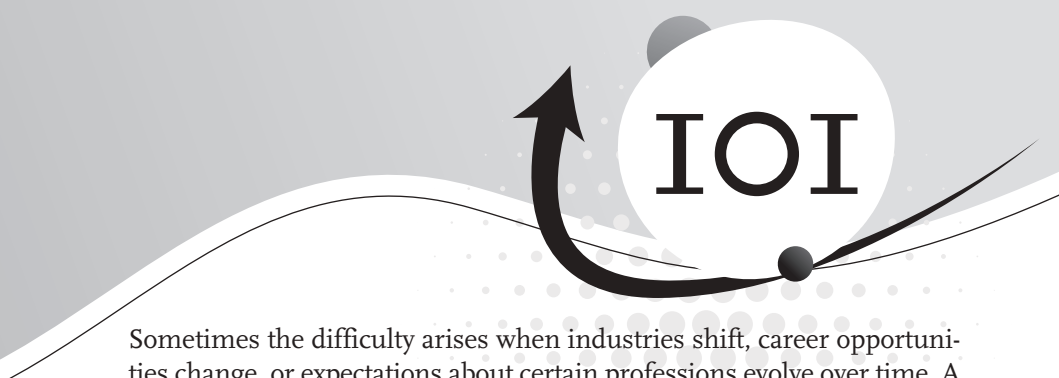
But are we truly deliberate and thoughtful in the choices we make? How do we choose our careers? Do we pursue a career because of its prestige and financial rewards, or because it aligns with our deeper purpose in life?

A career is something we will likely engage in day after day for many years. Therefore, it should be something we can embrace with conviction and commitment.

Have you surrendered your career choice to the wisdom of God?

The words of Proverbs offer meaningful insight into this question: “Counsel in the heart of a man is like deep water” (Proverbs 20:5). This passage can apply to the deep reflection that accompanies decisions about life purpose and career direction. The image of “deep water” suggests that discerning our path in life is not always simple.

Choosing a career can be difficult, especially when one’s education prepares them for several different professions. It can also be challenging when a person has many interests or admires role models across various fields.



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Sometimes the difficulty arises when industries shift, career opportunities change, or expectations about certain professions evolve over time. A young person may even say, “The things I once liked, I no longer enjoy.”

Yet Proverbs continues: “But a man of understanding will draw it out” (Proverbs 20:5).

What does this mean? It suggests that through wisdom and thoughtful reflection, a person can uncover the deeper purposes that lie beneath the surface of their desires and ambitions. True understanding leads us beyond simply choosing a career that brings satisfaction—it helps us discover a calling that brings fulfillment.

Critical thinking, wise counsel, and earnest prayer should therefore go hand in hand when making career decisions. Career choices should not be based merely on convenience, circumstances, or the expectations of others.

Instead, they should emerge from a deep sense of personal calling and conviction.

Choose a career that is right for you, and strive to do it well. Scripture reminds us: “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going” (Ecclesiastes 9:10).

Above all, consider the greatest calling ever lived. Jesus described His mission in these words: “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost” (Luke 19:10).

*“Do you see a man skillful in his work?
He will stand before kings”*

(Proverbs 22:29, ESV).

