

# ST APPOINTMENTS

MAKING OPPORTUNITIES KNOCK ON YOUR DOOR

## Personal development: Why work?

How many people do you know who are happy with their jobs? Perhaps you are one who is working just to survive and make ends meet, deriving little satisfaction from your employment. Those who find fulfillment, joy and contentment in their work do exist, but they are not the majority. One thing is sure: to be fulfilling and ultimately satisfying, work needs a long-range goal and an overall opportunity for personal development.



The many books, articles and reports that address the state of various national workforces testify to the fact that something is fundamentally wrong with the modern approach to working life. Note this comment from an anonymous essay on the Internet: "Work as we know it tends to make us unhappy because we do so much of it, because it is so repetitive, because we don't get to choose what we do, and because what we are doing is often not in the best interest of our fellow human beings." Many of us could echo that observation.

Of course, a number of factors contribute to the sense of well-being we can draw from our employment. Similarly there are specific causes for the dissatisfaction that workers experience. Identifying them may provide some helpful insight.

### HARD QUESTIONS

Do we have the courage to ask ourselves whether it's possible that people weren't intended to live and work as we do today? Of course, there are implications behind such a bold question; namely, that we did not evolve from a primeval life form but were created by a divine Being. Could it be possible that work has become such a burden today because we are not "working" in the way the One who created us intended?

Let's take a moment to put aside any preconceived notions we might have and explore this line of thinking to see whether there is a relationship between the purpose of human existence and where we are today in terms of work. The Bible simply says that man was created in the image and likeness of God. Religion and the Bible describes the human form but also addresses the purpose of life. In the first chapters of the Bible God reveals Himself not as a singular entity but in a family relationship - Elohim in Hebrew. In the first chapter of John's Gospel we learn that Jesus Christ was known as "the Word" before He came in human form. As the Word He was with God and He was God. So, long before the earth and human life existed, there were two Beings who have always existed.

Humankind was created to have a physical relationship with God that would develop into an eternal, spiritual family relationship - to become "sons of God," as the New Testament expresses it: "For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God" (Romans 8:19). Whereas animals were made after their own kind, man was made after the God kind, a unique creation with a unique purpose.

Having created the physical human form complete with a conscious mind, God gave humans stewardship over the earth. The Garden of Eden was a perfect environment and provided the training ground for what man was to do as the human population increased and more of the earth's surface was inhabited. Adam and his descendants were given dominion over the various animal life forms. Regarding the environment, he was told to "tend and keep it," or nurture and preserve it.

Humanity was set to work, living as a physical entity. But unlike animals, during their lifetime humans were to take on the mind and character of the One who had created them, to develop in His likeness. To facilitate this development of character, God gave humans work to do and guidelines for how that work was to be performed.

Unfortunately, the story we see in the first few chapters of Genesis is that almost from the very beginning people refused to work in compliance with the way of life God set before them, choosing instead to "do their own thing." Adam and Eve were driven from the Garden of Eden and allowed to decide for themselves the way of life they wanted to live. Mankind had refused the fruit of the tree of life, which would have provided a continuing close relationship with the Creator and the environment He had created.

The original concept of work was bound up in a family-oriented relationship with the environment such that we could realistically refer to it as a way of life. God intended work to be part of our way of life. Our efforts were to be directly tied to the support and development of His family through stewardship of land and animals. In modern parlance we would say we are to take ownership, or responsibility, for the environment in which we live and for the positive development of home and family. This supplies purpose to human efforts and results in a great sense of fulfillment.

Ownership is a vital key to worker satisfaction. In the context of our personal labor, it means we will be doing things that we feel are productive and useful. This can be accomplished to some degree even in today's urban environment. Obvious examples are starting our own business or working in a small partnership where the various tasks undertaken lead to the construction of the whole. If we look at the Garden of Eden model, the key to worker satisfaction would be ownership of land. Not just a suburban lot, but land enough to require the effort of all family members in providing for the family unit. In the original model there was no urbanization or specialization as we know it today.



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Applications are invited for Male Commissioned Officers in the Electronics Engineering Branch in the Regular Force of the Sri Lanka Air Force.

### PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

1) BSc Degree in Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering or NDT in Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering or Higher National Diploma in Engineering (Electronics Stream) or Diploma in Technology (Electronics / Telecommunication Engineering) from Open University of Sri Lanka or National Diploma in Engineering Science (Electronics / Telecommunication Stream) or equivalent qualifications or

2) Should have completed the academic studies in Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering or Computer Engineering at a University recognized by the UGC. (Should have obtained the Transcript from the respective university which confirms the successful completion of degree programme and awaiting for convocation)

### OTHER ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- \* Nationality : Must be a citizen of Sri Lanka.
- \* Civil Status : Married and Unmarried
- \* Age : Not more than 30 years as at 20 July 2009
- \* Height : 5' 5" and above
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- \* Full name (As per National Identity Card)
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- \* Post applied
- \* Permanent address
- \* Nearest Police Station to permanent address
- \* Present postal address
- \* Date of birth
- \* Height
- \* Telephone number
- \* Professional qualifications
- \* Work experiences (Organization, duration & job description)
- \* Achievements in sports / extra curricular activities
- \* Details of previous service in the Armed Forces if any
- \* Other achievements of note

I hereby certify and declare that the details furnished above are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Date.....  
Signature of Applicant

\* For further details see Government Gazette Number 1605 of 05 June 2009.

\* The envelop should be marked "APPLICATION FOR COMMISSIONED OFFICER IN THE ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING BRANCH" on the top left corner. Applications should be forwarded under registered cover to reach "CHIEF RECRUITING OFFICER, SRI LANKA AIR FORCE, EKALA, KOTUGODA" on or before 1200 noon on 12 June 2009.

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