

30th July 2007



helping people work well

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Wake Up Call

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Part Five - The Road to Compassion (based on Deuteronomy 22:1-4)

WakeUpCall is taking a break during the month of August. See [archives](#) if you would like to read past editions. HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

LAST CHANCE to post your TopTip on 'Being Good News'? Click [here](#) for details.

Would you like to post a Birthday Greeting for WorkNet's tenth birthday? See News below

The Roads Best Travelled

Part Five - The Road to Compassion

Have you noticed that work affords you many opportunities to watch people struggle? You can be carrying on your own business and come across someone who has stalled in their career or just doesn't seem to be able to solve a problem. It is as if they have tripped up, fallen over, or simply cannot carry the responsibility they have.

This may of course be a crisis moment which, although extremely difficult, will not last long - especially if the right help is at hand. At other times it may be a habitual difficulty which has a chronic expression.

The image on the road of compassion is that of a man whose means of production (an ox or donkey) has fallen. The owner is struggling to lift the animal up to its feet. It is a picture of a workload that is too hard for one person. It is an incident where the owner will suffer severe loss and damage to his business, and it may even be a threat to his livelihood if this situation continues.

Before we jump to a conclusion, it is worth pointing out that these real world situations are not always simple. Suppose helping will delay you for an important meeting and damage your day? Suppose helping will cover up a mess, which will come back to contaminate you. Suppose the kind of help needed is to be brutally honest and encourage a person to a radical course of action?

What if helping damages not only your day but your career, finances and prospects? Sometimes help is no help at all and just perpetuates struggle.

The road to compassion is lined with signposts. In the original account, the signpost simply says, 'do not ignore it'. It is the avoidance of involvement which is challenged. The type of help needed will be determined by the type of problem encountered. The writing on the signposts stays the same however, 'do not ignore'. There are a whole variety of slogans written about the consequences of 'when good people do nothing'. The road to compassion is a road where people don't climb to the summit and leave others to die in the snow. It is a road where people do get involved - even if it costs and even if the cure is painful. It is the same road that brought a Carpenter to a wooden cross.

Work well,

TopTips

&

Birthday



see News below

If you would like some help reviewing your life, work or career path, we offer one-to-one coaching sessions for just such purposes. Please email comms@worknetuk.org for details.

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Here is some Biblical background for this week's Wake Up Call

Deuteronomy 22 v 1-4

¹ If you see your brother's ox or sheep straying, do not ignore it but be sure to take it back to him. ² If the brother does not live near you or if you do not know who he is, take it home with you and keep it until he comes looking for it. Then give it back to him. ³ Do the same if you find your brother's donkey or his cloak or anything he loses. Do not ignore it. ⁴ If you see your brother's donkey or his ox fallen on the road, do not ignore it. Help him get it to its feet.

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- **New 'WorkTalk TopTips' pages.** At the end of each month we will be working on a new resource to create a series of WorkTalk TopTips combining WorkNet members' insights with Geoff Shattock's WorkTalk TopTips. Click [here](#) to post your TopTip.
- **What is your Top Tip for 'Being Good News'?** Being good news is about giving and receiving encouragement, giving and receiving hope, sharing faith, and representing your faith well at work. You are invited to share your TopTips on Being Good News at work. Thank you for taking part and have fun!
- **WorkNet is ten years old** this year and we would love to hear from you as to how you have received a blessing or encouragement through the ministry over these last ten years. Have you found a particular WakeUpCall helpful? Have you received ministry at a New Wine conference? Have you used WorkTalk individually or in your group? Have you had Sunday ministry in your church? Have you had training as an individual? We would love to hear birthday greetings and news from you about your experiences. Please visit our new [Birthday Greetings](#) page and post your greeting. Don't forget to also visit the [TopTips](#) page and post a tip about 'Pressure and Stress'.
- **WAKE UP CALL [ARCHIVES](#) HAS BEEN UPDATED THERE ARE NOW OVER 230 PAST EDITIONS**
- **Worktalk DVD set - Available NOW - Order your copy of the WorkTalk DVD set now click [here](#) to order**
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- **Wake Up Call tips** - please **don't reply** to your Wake Up Call we do not monitor that address.

If you want to **contact** WorkNet [follow this contact link](#).

If you want to **unsubscribe** or **change** your profile (email or other details)-follow the **update your profile** links on the left hand side of your Wake Up Call -we are generally unable to update your profile for you but have made it very easy for you do do it online. Note it is really important that you update your profile **if you change your email address** otherwise will **not get your weekly support** Thank you.

Also remember to have a look at the Bible sections for the biblical background to your Wake Up Call

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