

What the Bible Says About Working

2 THESSALONIANS 3, VERSE 10

For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, **that if any would not work, neither should he eat.**

ECCLESIASTES 9, VERSE 10

Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.

COLOSSIANS 3, VERSE 23

And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

PROVERBS 16, VERSE 3

Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established.

INFORMATION

The Bible provides strong instruction for his people that we should work and not be lazy. Working, is a God sanctioned and encouraged activity. The Lord also declares that there is a blessing in working. As with all things, there is always the chance that we will use work for something other than what it was meant. The Bible provides basic guidelines that are intended to provide the right approach to working. The first three verses above tell us the importance of work, and that is to work to eat, to work unto the Lord, and to work with all our might. The fourth verse tells us that when we commit our work to the Lord (not ourselves, or to others), that our thoughts will be established. What does that mean? When we work diligently and mightily, we will discover ideas to better accomplish things. Other ideas will also come regarding personal progress and achievement. When those ideas are accompanied by a commitment to the Lord, our ideas will be realized.

WHAT IT MEANS TO OUR FAMILY

Working is a responsibility and a privilege. Everyone should work, including the young, the middle aged and old alike. The type of work we undertake will vary at different times in our lives, but it will still be work. Let us not be slow to execute our individual responsibilities; instead, let us do them unto the Lord, with all of our might. Whether it be jobs at home or jobs away from home, let us work using the best of our abilities, so that we may please God.

Relevant Passages

Psalm 92:12-14

The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. 13 Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. 14 They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing;

Proverbs 6:6-11

Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: 7 Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, 8 Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest. 9 How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? 10 Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: 11 So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.

Proverbs 14:23

In all labour there is profit: but the talk of the lips tendeth only to penury.

Luke 2:49

And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?

1 Corinthians 10:31

Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

1 Thessalonians 4:11-12

And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you; 12 That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing.

1 Timothy 5:8

But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.