

Godly Living: The Value of Work

Colossians 3:23 (NIV) Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

1. Follow God's lead in work and rest

Genesis 2:2-3 (CEV) By the seventh day God had finished his work, and so he rested. (2) God blessed the seventh day and made it special because on that day he rested from his work.

Exodus 23:12 (CEV) Work the first six days of the week, but rest and relax on the seventh day. This law is not only for you, but for your oxen, donkeys, and slaves, as well as for any foreigners among you.

2. Words and promises have their place but God is interested in your actions

Ephesians 4:28 (NLT) If you are a thief, quit stealing. Instead, use your hands for good hard work, and then give generously to others in need.

2 Thessalonians 3:10 (Msg) Don't you remember the rule we had when we lived with you? "If you don't work, you don't eat."

Proverbs 1:23 (Msg) Hard work always pays off; mere talk puts no bread on the table.

Proverbs 18:9 (Msg) Slack habits and sloppy work are as bad as vandalism.

3. Work that pleases God

Proverbs 16:13 (NLT) The LORD demands accurate scales and balances; he sets the standards for fairness.

1 Thessalonians 4:11-12 (NIV) Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business and to work with your hands, just as we told you, (12) so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.

1 Corinthians 15:58 (NLT) So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless

Romans 12:13 (NIV) Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically. Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying. When God's people are in need, be ready to help them.

Hebrews 6:10 (NLT) For God is not unjust. He will not forget how hard you have worked for him and how you have shown your love to him by caring for other believers, as you still do.