

Practical Wisdom on Work

Steve Brooks // August 23, 2020

Proverbs 8:22, 26-30

Wisdom calls us to work LIKE God.

Wisdom calls us to work WITH God.

Sermon questions

1. Read **Genesis 2:15**. Why do you suppose God did not make a self-sustaining world for Adam and Eve, but expected them to “work” it?
2. Read **Colossians 3:23-24**; **Titus 3:1-2, 8, 14**; and **Revelation 22:12**. Is it ever OK to do good works with the expectation that God will reward you?
3. Read **Romans 7:4**. Believers have resurrection power in Jesus Christ in order to bear fruit for God. Often when we do something “for” someone, we are meeting a need of theirs. When we do something “for” God, are we meeting a need in God? What does it mean to “bear fruit for God”?

4. Read **Psalm 127:1-2**. Pastor Steve defined “work” as not only your job where you get your wage or salary, but also all the activities you do in your life. How do you determine what is God’s responsibility and your responsibility when you do your work?

5. Read the following verses from Proverbs and answer these two questions: What is the point of the proverb? How does it apply to work in your life?

Proverbs 10:4

Proverbs 14:23

Proverbs 18:9

Proverbs 22:29

Proverbs 28:19

6. Read **Colossians 3:17**. Doing something “in the name of the Lord” means doing something in a way that honors and pleases Him. Think about what God has called you to do – wash dishes, cut the grass, lead a Life Group, get to work on time, study for a test, etc. The “ordinary” nature of these activities often makes doing them “in the name of the Lord” just a cliché. So this coming week, before you begin your work, sincerely pray:

“Lord, help me to wash the dishes *for You*.”

“Lord, help me to cut the grass *for You*.”

“Lord, help me to lead a Life Group *for You*.”

“Lord, help me to study for my test *for You*.”

Then, share with a friend or your group how this discipline changed your heart and motivation.

Read the Bible this year

Pastor Brad encouraged us to read the Bible in 2020. Here's some help getting started. Each day this week read from the Old and New Testament. Or, if you prefer, read just from one testament. Enjoy!

- **Psalms 89-90; Romans 14**
- **Psalms 91-93; Romans 15**
- **Psalms 94-96**
- **Psalms 97-99; Romans 16**
- **Psalms 100-102; 1 Corinthians 1**
- **Psalms 103-104; 1 Corinthians 2**
- **Psalms 105-106; 1 Corinthians 3**