

4 Road to Financial Freedom Student Guide

Work: A Good Thing!



Focus Scripture: Colossians 3:22-24

Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to win their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord. 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 a inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

Scripture's Perspective on Work

1. We are created in God's **image** and Scripture shows God to be a worker.
Then God said, "Let us make man in our image...and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth..." Genesis 1:26
2. Work is God's plan for us to **provide** for our families.
We gave you this rule: "If a man will not work, he shall not eat." 2 Thessalonians 3:10
3. We need to find the **balance** between laziness and "workaholism". Neither is healthy.
Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Ephesians 5:15-16

Recommended reading: Andy Stanley's *Choosing to Cheat*, Henry Cloud's *Boundaries*

4. Life needs to include adequate **time** for work, sleep, family, relationships and recreation.

Sometimes the most holy thing you can do is to take a nap!

Six days you shall labor, but on the seventh day you shall rest; even during the plowing season and harvest you must rest. Exodus 34:21

5. Our trust in God should keep us from **over-**allegiance to work due to fear of losing our job.
But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Matthew 6:28-34
6. We owe it to both God and our employer to be **productive** when we are "on the clock".
Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might. Ecclesiastes 9:10

To not give our best at work is the equivalent of stealing.

7. Our relationship with Christ should make a **significant** impact on our work.

If we are the only Bible some people read, then what do our co-workers think of Christ?

Our Christianity should be evident in four areas at work:

- Our commitment
- Our pursuit of excellence
- Our honesty
- Our relationships.

Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves. Philippians 2:3

8. Believers should carry **Christ** into the work place.
Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. 1 Peter 3:15
9. **Employers** have responsibilities too!
You shall not oppress a hired servant who is poor and needy... Deut 24:14-15

Every good and perfect gift is from above... (including work!) James 1:17