

Wisdom and Work

Work

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We were created to work (*Genesis 2*)

Genesis 2:15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

“bring it to its potential”

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Genesis 2:15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

A gift from God:

- It is a means for glorifying God our creator
- It is a means of providing value or fulfilment to life
- It prevents us from idleness
- It is a means of providing for the needs of life
- It is a means of serving mankind

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Genesis 2:15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

Sin didn't produce a situation that results in us needing to work.
Sin cursed what God had already instituted.

Wisdom and Work

We respond to work in broken ways (*Proverbs 6 & 26*)

Idleness

Proverbs 6:6-11 Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest.

How long will you lie there, you sluggard? When will you get up from your sleep? A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest - and poverty will come on you like a thief and scarcity like an armed man.

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Idleness



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We respond to work in broken ways (*Proverbs 6 & 26*)

Idleness

I'M NOT LAZY
I JUST REALLY ENJOY
DOING NOTHING.



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Wisdom and Work

We respond to work in broken ways (Proverbs 6 & 26)

Idleness

Proverbs 26:13-15 A sluggard says, "There's a lion in the road, a fierce lion roaming the streets! (13)



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We respond to work in broken ways (*Proverbs 6 & 26*)

Idleness

Proverbs 26:13-15 As a door turns on its hinges, so a sluggard turns on his bed. (14)



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We respond to work in broken ways (*Proverbs 6 & 26*)

Idleness

Proverbs 26:13-15 A sluggard buries his hand in the dish; he is too lazy to bring it back to his mouth. (15)



The sluggard buries his hand in the dish; he is too lazy to bring it back to his mouth.

---Proverbs 26:15

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We respond to work in broken ways (*Proverbs 23*)

Idolatry

Proverbs 23:4-5 Do not wear yourself out to get rich; do not trust your own cleverness. Cast but a glance at riches, and they are gone, for they will surely sprout wings and fly off to the sky like an eagle.



Wisdom and Work

Our God focused attitude

We are to be diligent

Definition: careful and persistent work or effort



Wisdom and Work

Our God focused attitude

We need to understand our vocation

Q. How do I choose my vocation?

Let God Lead

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Our God focused attitude

We need to understand our vocation

Q. How do I choose my vocation?

Let God Lead

Q. Are there jobs that a Christian shouldn't have?

- **Jobs that do not honour God**
- **Jobs that you do for the wrong reason**
- **Jobs that don't maximise your talents**

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Our God focused attitude

We need to understand our vocation

Q. But my job isn't very important

It doesn't matter what your vocation is – if you are filled with the Spirit of God, you will accomplish more than you can imagine for Him

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Q. Isn't it better to work for God than for man?

Jobs within the church and within society are both needed. They are both sanctified by our Christian faith

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Our God focused attitude

Our work should be a service to God

Our testimony to our workmates

Our devotion to God

***Colossians 3:23* - Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. Remember that the Lord will give you an inheritance as your reward, and that the Master you are serving is Christ.**

Wisdom and Work

The Final Say . . .

God created you to glorify Him and enjoy Him

*Colossians 3:17 - And whatever you do, whether in word or deed,
do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving
thanks to God the Father through him*

*Work can be a beautiful, engaging act of worship. It
is a way to devote our daily routines to God.*