

Proverbs- Work Study Guide

Bottom Line: Connecting Your Work to God's Work

1. Share some of the reasons why we go to work every day. Why is it important for us to work?
2. Read Genesis 1:31 a: *"And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good..."*. Discuss the concept that God creates, cares and commissions as shown in the creation account. How does seeing God in this way change the way we view our work? (see also Genesis 2:15; Ephesians 2:10).
3. Read Genesis 2:2: *"And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done."*
Discuss the concept that you will accomplish more in 6 days than in 7. What does your work/rest balance look like currently?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 10:31: *"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."*
Share examples of ways that we can bring glory to God by the way we conduct ourselves at work.
5. How I Work
 - a. Work Humbly- Proverbs 22:4
"The reward for humility and fear of the Lord is riches and honor and life."
Share examples of how humility in the workplace has produced income and favor in your life.
 - b. Work Wisely- Proverbs 22:29
"Do you see a man skillful in his work? He will stand before kings; he will not stand before obscure men."
Share some of your journey with each other on how you have been able to find your "best fit" and how you have sharpened your skills.
 - c. Work Hard- Proverbs 10:4
"A slack hand causes poverty, but the hand of the diligent makes rich."
Discuss the things that keep you motivated at work. How can an understanding of the gospel keep you passionate about being in the workforce?

Proverbs- Work

Proverbs 1:7

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge."

Bottom Line: Connecting Your Work to God's Work**I. God's Design**

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A. Work is Godlike

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Genesis 1:31a

"And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good..."

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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 keep it."

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Ephesians 2:10

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

B. Rest is Godlike.**Genesis 2:2**

"And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done."

C. Work is Cursed.**Genesis 3:16-19**

"...through painful toil...by the sweat of your brow..."

D. Work is Redeemable**1 Corinthians 10:31**

"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

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Gospel- Jesus- Blessed—Broken---Given

Matthew 5:16

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

II. How I Work**A. Work humbly****Proverbs 22:4**

"The reward for humility and fear of the Lord is riches and honor and life."

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1. Humble People Recognize God's Authority

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Proverbs 3:34

"Toward the scorners he is scornful, but to the humble he gives favor."

2. Humble People are Team Players**Proverbs 15:22**

"Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed."

3. Humble People Don't Lash Out at Others**Proverbs 14:17**

"A man of quick temper acts foolishly, and a man of evil devices is hated."

B. Work wisely**Proverbs 22:29**

"Do you see a man skillful in his work? He will stand before kings; he will not stand before obscure men."

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Ecclesiastes 10:10

"If the axe is blunt, and one does not sharpen the edge, he must use more strength; but wisdom helps one to succeed."

C. Work hard**Proverbs 10:4**

"A slack hand causes poverty, but the hand of the diligent makes rich."

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