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# STEWARDSHIP OF WORK

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GOD'S METHOD OF PROVIDING HIS MONEY TO US <sup>1</sup>

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## INTRODUCTION

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- What are some of the common perspectives and feelings that people have about their jobs?
- What are some of the perspectives you have had or currently have about work?

**Agree/Disagree: Work is a necessary evil because we live in a sinful world**

- Work is a ..... ordinance. Therefore it is part of God's design for *all humans*
- Work is ..... as a result of the fall
- Work is ..... as a result of Christ's life, death and resurrection (Matt 11:28)

**Agree/Disagree: The vocation of pastor or missionary is the most God-honoring profession**

- We wrongly divide ..... vs. ....
- "Puritan Work Ethic":
  - ..... to Christ
  - ..... to Humanity
  - ..... on God's Grace
- Main issue: **All of life is .....** , **including career.** We must see all of life as *worship*.

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## WHY DO YOU WORK?

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**1. To ..... and ..... Christ**

1 Corinthians 10:31, **Colossians 3:23-24**

- a. Every ..... task has ..... value
- b. .... of life belongs to Christ
- c. I ..... the Lord Jesus through my work (Eph 2:10)

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<sup>1</sup> Adapted from Community Bible Church, Adult Training Seminar, Kevin Schoonhoven, 17/2/2019

d. .... vocations are ..... from God. Principles to help choose:

- i. Personal desires & interests? (Psalm 37:4)
- ii. Providential opportunities and leading? (Proverbs 3:5-6)
- iii. Wise counsel from qualified counselors? (Proverbs 15:22)
- iv. Education and skills? (Genesis 25:27, 1 Samuel 16:16)
- v. Natural talents and giftedness/ spiritual gifts? (Exodus 31:1-6)

e. .... is needed to balance all our priorities

**2. To ..... for your Own**  
**Proverbs 13:22, 2 Thessalonians 3:8-12**

- a. Is this role for man or woman, or both? (1 Tim 5:8).
- b. What happens when roles are reversed? (Titus 2:3-5)

**3. To ..... the Ministry of the Local Church**  
1 Corinthians 16:1-2, Proverbs 3:9-10, 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

**4. To meet the ..... of others**  
**1 John 3:17, Matthew 10:42**

- a. Labor so that you have something to share (Eph 4:28)

**5. To ..... society**  
Matthew 22:37-40

- a. Who is your neighbor?
- b. What does God think of people who are lazy? Why? (1 Thess 4:10-12)
- c. Is Christian sharing to be limited to one group? Why? (Gal 6:10)
- d. Does the bible encourage dependence/welfare as a way of life?

**6. To ..... to unbelievers**  
2 Cor 5:18-20

- a. Verbal witness (2 Tim 2:24-25)

- b. Lifestyle witness (Titus 3:1-2)
- c. What mission advantage does a career person have over a full-time church worker?
- d. What are your unique gifts/situations that allow you to be a witness?

**7. To ..... Christ-like .....**

Romans 8:29

- a. Faithfulness - Galatians 6:9-10, Proverbs 12:24
- b. Submission or Humility – Ephesians 6:5-6, Romans 13:1-2
- c. Purity of Devotion – Matthew 6:33
- d. Contentment – Philippians 4:11-13, 1 Timothy 6:8
- e. Thankfulness – 1 Thessalonians 5:18, Proverbs 10:22, Deuteronomy 8:17-18
- f. Trust and Faith in God – Psalm 37:3, 23-26
- g. Diligence & Discipline – Proverbs 10:4-5, Proverbs 13:4

**Apply:** What should I do if I am working as hard as I can but I just cannot make ends meet with my money?

## WARNINGS ABOUT WORK

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- 1. .... **Work** (Prov 6:6-11, 2 Thess 3:11-12)
- 2. .... **Work** (1 Tim 6:6-10, Mark 8:36)
- 3. .... **Work** (Prov 28:20, Prov 10:4, 26, Prov 21:17)
- 4. .... **Work** (Proverbs 15:27, Proverbs 28:6)
  - a. Illegal & Illegitimate professions (eg.?)
  - b. Questionable professions (eg.?)
  - c. Unwise professions (eg.?)
- 5. .... **Work** (Rom 12:3)

## WISDOM FOR WORK

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1. Be Gracious in Speech (Colossians 4:6, Prov 15:1)
2. Prepare to Give Answers for Your Hope (1 Peter 3:15)
3. Plan for the Future (Proverbs 21:5)
4. Keep Your Plans Submitted to God (James 4:13-16)
5. Pray for Your Supervisors (1 Timothy 2:1-2)
6. Express Appreciation for Work (1 Corinthians 4:7)
7. Be Ambitious for Maximum Impact for Christ  
(2 Corinthians 5:9-10, Hebrews 12:1-2)
8. Be Ready to Give an Account  
(2 Corinthians 5:9-10, Luke 12:16-21)

What's **Your** Mission Statement?

**Recommended Reading:**

Your Work Matters to God by Doug Sherman & William Hendricks,  
Your Job – Survival or Satisfaction by Jerry White,  
The Callings by Paul Helm