

God's Principles on Work

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I. Work Was _____

A. God gave mankind a job from the beginning

Gen. 2:15 "The LORD God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it." (NLT)

B. Work is connected to our _____ in life

Ecc. 3:22 "So I saw that there is nothing better for people than to be happy in their work. That is why we are here!..." (NLT)

Phil. 2:13 "For God is working in you..." (NLT)

I Cor. 12:6 "God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us." (NLT)

Eph. 3:20 "Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think." (NLT)

II. Work Has Been _____

Gen. 3:17-19 "Since you listened to your wife and ate from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat, the ground is cursed because of you. All your life you will struggle to scratch a living from it. It will grow thorns and thistles for you, though you will eat of its grains. By the sweat of your brow will you have food to eat until you return to the ground from which you were made. For you were made from dust, and to dust you will return."(NLT)

A. Sin causes our work to be more difficult

B. Sin causes our work to be less _____

III. Work Is _____

Col. 3:23 “Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people.” (NLT)

A. Our work becomes an opportunity to serve God

I Cor. 3:13 “But on the judgment day, fire will reveal what kind of work each builder has done. The fire will show if a person’s work has any value.” (NLT)

B. Our work becomes an opportunity to be _____

Matt. 5:14-16 “You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.” (NLT)

IV. Work Should Be _____ **Not** _____

Ecc. 5:18 “It is good for people to eat, drink, and enjoy their work under the sun during the short life God has given them, and to accept their lot in life.” (NLT)

A. View work as _____ rather than evil necessity

B. Embrace the benefits of work rather than the limitations

II Thess. 3:11 “Yet we hear that some of you are living idle lives, refusing to work and meddling in other people’s business.” (NLT)

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