

# Your Work Is Important (NIV)

## Work Is Important To God

### God works

**Genesis 2:2-3** *By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. <sup>3</sup> Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.*

### God has given us work

**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.*

### We are co-workers with Christ

**1 Corinthians 3:9** *For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building.*

## Why We Work

### We work to provide what we need

**2 Thessalonians 3:10** *For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat."*

### We work to provide for our families

**1 Timothy 5:8** *Anyone who does not provide for their relatives, and especially for their own household, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.*

### We work to have something to give

**Ephesians 4:28** *Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.*

### A radical way to look at work

**Acts 20:35** *In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'*

**Proverbs 22:9** *The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.*

## Our Work Can Be Worship

### We give our whole life over to God including our jobs

**Romans 12:1** *Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.*

### "Whatever you do"

**Proverbs 16:3** *Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.*

**1 Corinthians 10:31** *So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.*

**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.*

**Colossians 3:23-24** *Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, <sup>24</sup> since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.*

## Work with an attitude of excellence, integrity and honesty

### Our work is a witness to others

**1 Peter 2:12** *Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.*

*"If it falls to your lot to be a street sweeper, sweep streets like Michelangelo painted pictures, sweep streets like Beethoven composed music ... Sweep streets like Shakespeare wrote poetry. Sweep streets so well that all the host of heaven and earth will have to pause and say: Here lived a great street sweeper who swept his job well."*

*~ Martin Luther King Jr.*

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