

Work, Laziness

1. At the dawn of history God called man to work as his servant. Gen. 2:15. Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.

2. Be a workman approved of God. 2 Tim. 2:15. Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

3. Do everything to the glory of God; perform your work in a way that glorifies him. 1 Cor. 10:31.

Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. **Col. 3:17.** And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

4. An industrious housewife and mother pleases the Lord and delights her husband. Prov. 31:10–31.

5. Christians must work in order to give to others; never steal. Eph. 4:28. Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.

6. Be a faithful worker so that you will be a good witness to outsiders and not be dependent on others. 1 Thess. 4:11–12. ... that you also aspire to lead a quiet

life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you, that you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and that you may lack nothing.

7. Be on guard against idleness. 2 Thess. 2:6–15. 2

Thess. 3:7–10. For you yourselves know how you ought to follow us, for we were not disorderly among you; nor did we eat anyone's bread free of charge, but worked with labor and toil night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, not because we do not have authority, but to make ourselves an example of how you should follow us. For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat.

8. Earn your own bread. 2 Thess. 3:12. Now those who are such we command and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread.

9. The ant provides a lesson for lazy, careless people.

Prov. 6:6–11. Go to the ant, you sluggard! Consider her ways and be wise, Which, having no captain, Over-seer or ruler, Provides her supplies in the summer, And gathers her food in the harvest. How long will you slumber, O sluggard? When will you rise from your sleep? A little sleep, a little slumber, A little folding of the hands to sleep—So shall your poverty come on you like a prowler, And your need like an armed man.

10. It's a disgrace to be lazy. Prov. 10:5. He who gathers in summer is a wise son; He who sleeps in harvest is a son who causes shame.

11. One who chases fantasies lacks judgment. Prov. 12:11. He who tills his land will be satisfied with bread, But he who follows frivolity is devoid of understanding.

12. Mere talk leads to poverty. Prov. 14:23. In all labor there is profit, But idle chatter leads only to poverty.

13. The way of the sluggard is hard. Prov. 15:19. The way of the lazy man is like a hedge of thorns, But the way of the upright is a highway.

14. The shiftless man goes hungry. Prov. 19:15. Laziness casts one into a deep sleep, And an idle person will suffer hunger.

15. Being lazy has its sad results. Prov. 20:4. The lazy man will not plow because of winter; He will beg during harvest and have nothing.

16. Do not love sleep. Prov. 20:13. Do not love sleep, lest you come to poverty; Open your eyes, and you will be satisfied with bread.

17. A shiftless sluggard will come to poverty. Prov. 24:30–34. I went by the field of the lazy man, And by the

vineyard of the man devoid of understanding; And there it was, all overgrown with thorns; Its surface was covered with nettles; Its stone wall was broken down. When I saw it, I considered it well; I looked on it and received instruction: A little sleep, a little slumber, A little folding of the hands to rest; So shall your poverty come like a prowler, And your need like an armed man.

18. The sluggard finds excuses not to work; he rationalizes his behavior. Prov. 26:13–16. The lazy man says, “There is a lion in the road! A fierce lion is in the streets!” As a door turns on its hinges, So does the lazy man on his bed. The lazy man buries his hand in the bowl; It wearies him to bring it back to his mouth. The lazy man is wiser in his own eyes Than seven men who can answer sensibly.

19. The sleep of a laborer is sweet. Eccles. 5:12. The sleep of a laboring man is sweet, Whether he eats little or much; But the abundance of the rich will not permit him to sleep.

20. In the parable of the talents Jesus teaches us to serve him faithfully with the talents he gives to us. Matt. 25:14–30.

21. One who fails to provide for his family denies the faith. 1 Tim. 5:8. But if anyone does not provide for his

own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

22. We must learn to work so that we may provide for daily necessities and live productive lives. Titus 3:14.

And let our people also learn to maintain good works, to meet urgent needs, that they may not be unfruitful.