

Food for Thought

For the week of March 29, 2015
(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. A good goal for us to shoot for in our job is to work in such a way that your boss wants to hire more people like you. The following Proverbs give principles for how to work in a way that moves us towards that goal. As you read them, jot down what each one says about work and how that principle could be applied in your work, school, or home environment.

Proverbs 10:4

Proverbs 14:23

Proverbs 22:29

Proverbs 31:17

2. There are many reasons why people work hard. Financial gain, prestige and popularity can all be enticing reasons to put extra effort into our careers or assignments. While hard work is important to God, he's also concerned about our motivation for doing so. How does 1 Timothy 6:6-11 help us keep the right perspective of our hard work?

3. This week we looked at Colossians 3:17 and saw how the quality of our work represents God to those around us. After re-reading Colossians 3:17, assess how you're doing on your job in the areas below. Rate yourself on a 1 to 5 scale (5 being the highest).

Focus
Teamwork
Flexibility
Follow-through
Attention to detail

Looking at how you rated yourself, are there any areas you would like to improve on?

How does the way you work represent Christ in regards to honesty, integrity, commitment to serve and putting others first?

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1. A good goal for us to shoot for in our job is to work in such a way that your boss wants to hire more people like you. The following Proverbs give principles for how to work in a way that moves us towards that goal. As you read them, jot down what each one says about work and how that principle could be applied in your work, school, or home environment.

Proverbs 10:4

*Lazy hands make for poverty,
but diligent hands bring wealth. [NIV]*

Proverbs 14:23

*All hard work brings a profit,
but mere talk leads only to poverty. [NIV]*

Proverbs 22:29

*Do you see someone skilled in their work?
They will serve before kings;
they will not serve before officials of low rank. [NIV]*

Proverbs 31:17

*She sets about her work vigorously;
her arms are strong for her tasks. [NIV]*

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1 Timothy 6:6-11

But godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. 8 But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. 9 Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. 11 But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. [NIV]

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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. [NIV]*

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