



Stand Firm

The Value of Work

2 Thessalonians 3:6-15

God doesn't want us to be idle or be busybodies while we wait for Christ's return. Instead, we are to work hard, settle down, and earn a living as we support His work in this world. We must never tire of doing what is right and good.

I. The value of work

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

II. Staying busy for Christ

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

*"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart,
as working for the Lord, not for men."*

-Colossians 3:23 (NIV)



Sit and think on it



Working Hard or Hardly Working?

Describe your first paid job. How long or how hard did you work at it? What did you do with the money you earned? Are you more in danger of being a workaholic or a workabhoric? Do you see work as a blessing or as a curse? Why?

Read: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15

How might a misunderstanding of Paul's earlier teaching in his previous letter (1 Thess. 5:1-3) have led to the problem of idleness?

Why would Paul see idleness as a serious problem then (1 Thess. 4:11-12) and now (2 Thess. 2:13-17)?

Why were idle believers such a danger during Paul's day? How are they a danger today?

How do you suppose the idle Christians impacted the life of the believing community? How did they impact the life of the watching world? How would the church's credibility and witness have been impacted?

What model does Paul leave for the believers in Thessalonica to follow (v.7-13)? When it comes to your life in general and your work life in specific, would you say you are a good example to follow?

Read: Colossians 3:23

How is your perspective on work affected by the above verse? What changes would take place in how you approach your work if you regarded Jesus as your boss / the one you were ultimately working for?

When we work, we honour God by supporting our lives and by supporting the Gospel. In what way is your life reflecting this truth?