

WHY SHOULD I WORK SO HARD?

Answering Life's Toughest Questions

Part 7

"What does a man get for all his hard work?" Ecclesiastes 2:22

➤ THE LAZY WORKER

"The fool won't work and almost starves, but feels it's better to be lazy and barely get by than work hard." Ecclesiastes 4:5

➤ THE WORKAHOLIC

"Here's a man... who is always working, never satisfied with the wealth he has. For whom is he working so hard and denying himself any pleasure? This is useless... and a miserable way to live."

Ecclesiastes 4:8

I. THE ROAD TO SUCCESS:

1. WORK _____

"Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might..." 9:10

2. WORK _____

"A good reputation is better than expensive perfume" 7:1

3. WORK _____

"If the ax is dull and its edge unsharpened, more strength is needed, but skill will bring success." 10:10

4. WORK _____

"There is a right time and a right way to do everything..." 8:6

5. WORK _____

"Two are better off than one, because together they can work more effectively. If one of them falls down, the other can help him up."

4:9-10

6. WORK _____

"Keep on sowing your seed, for you never know which will grow -- perhaps it all will!" 11:6

II. THE REMEDY FOR WORKAHOLISM:

"R.E.L.A.X."

➤ READJUST _____

"I've learned why people work so hard to succeed: it is because they envy the things their neighbors have." Ecclesiastes 4:4

"What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? What can a man give in exchange for his soul?" Mark. 8:36

"In spite of all our hard work, there's nothing we can take with us." Ecclesiastes 5:15

➤ ENJOY _____

"All of us should eat and drink and enjoy what we have worked for. It is God's gift." Ecclesiastes 3:13

"It's better to have only a little, with peace of mind, than be busy all the time with both hands ..." Ecclesiastes 4:6

➤ LIMIT _____

"Only someone too stupid to find his way home would wear himself out with work!" Ecclesiastes 10:15

"You have six days in which to do your work, but the 7th day is to be a day of rest dedicated to Me." Exodus 20:9-10

"It's senseless for you to work so hard from early morning until late at night ... for God wants his loved ones to get their proper rest." Psalm 127:2

➤ ANTICIPATE _____

"Don't worry, saying, 'What shall we eat... or drink... or wear?' For pagans run after these things, and your Heavenly Father knows you need them." Matthew 6:31-32

➤ EXCHANGE _____

(Jesus) "Come to me, you who are tired from carrying your heavy loads, and I will give you rest ... The yoke I'll give you is easy and the load I'll put on you is light." Matthew 11:28, 30

Next Sunday:

HOW DO I FACE THE FUTURE?

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