



work

Work

- **activity involving mental or physical effort done in order to achieve a purpose or result:**
- **a task or tasks to be undertaken; something a person or thing has to do**

Genesis 2:2-3 (KJV) — 2 And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. 3 And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

Genesis 2:15 (KJV) — 15 And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

Genesis 3:17–18 (KJV) — 17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; 18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;

Psalm 8:3 (KJV) — 3 When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;

**Psalm 33:4 (KJV) — 4 For the word
of the LORD is right; and all his works
are done in truth.**

1 Kings 18:27 (KJV) — 27 And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked.

Psalm 107:8 (KJV) — 8 Oh that men
would praise the LORD for his
goodness, and for his wonderful
works to the children of men!

John 4:34 (KJV) — 34 Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.

John 5:17 (KJV) — 17 But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work.

John 5:36 (KJV) — 36 But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me.

John 9:4 (KJV) — 4 I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.

John 10:37-38 (KJV) — 37 If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. 38 But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him.

John 17:4 (KJV) — 4 I have glorified thee
on the earth: I have finished the work which
thou gavest me to do.

Jesus is our example. There are many who dwell with interest upon the period of His public ministry, while they pass unnoticed the teaching of His early years. But it is in His home life that He is the pattern for all children and youth. The Saviour condescended to poverty, that He might teach how closely we in a humble lot may walk with God. He lived to please, honor, and glorify His Father in the common things of life. His work began in consecrating the lowly trade of the craftsmen who toil for their daily bread. He was doing God's service just as much when laboring at the carpenter's bench as when working miracles for the multitude. (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 74.4a)

And every youth who follows Christ's example of faithfulness and obedience in His lowly home may claim those words spoken of Him by the Father through the Holy Spirit, "Behold My Servant, whom I uphold; Mine Elect, in whom My soul delighteth." Isaiah 42:1. (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 74.4b)

Jesus came to our world and lived as He expects His followers to live. If we are self-indulgent, and too lazy to put forth earnest effort to cooperate with the wonderful work of God, we shall meet with loss in this life, and loss in the future, immortal life. (*The Review and Herald*, April 8, 1890, par. 6)

1 Corinthians 10:31 (KJV) — 31 Whether
therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye
do, do all to the glory of God.

Ecclesiastes 9:10 (KJV) — 10 Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.

Matthew 13:55 (KJV) — 55 Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas?

Mark 6:3 (KJV) — 3 Is not this the carpenter,
the son of Mary, . . .

Luke 2:52 (KJV) — 52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

John 7:46 (KJV) — 46 The officers answered,
Never man spake like this man.

Exodus 20:8–9 (KJV) — 8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. 9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:

2 Thessalonians 3:10–11 (KJV) — 10 For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat. 11 For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies.

Matthew 5:16 (KJV) — 16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.









2 Kings 3:11 (KJV) — 11 But Jehoshaphat said, Is there not here a prophet of the LORD, that we may enquire of the LORD by him? And one of the king of Israel's servants answered and said, **Here is Elisha the son of Shaphat, which poured water on the hands of Elijah.**

The son of a wealthy farmer, Elisha had taken up the work that lay nearest. While possessing the capabilities of a leader among men, he received a training in life's common duties. In order to direct wisely, he must learn to obey. By faithfulness in little things, he was prepared for weightier trusts. (*Education*, p. 58.3)

Proverbs 12:24 (KJV) — 24 The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute.

Proverbs 6:6–8 (KJV) — 6 Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise:
7 Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler,
8 Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest.



Hebrews 6:12 (KJV) — 12 That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

2 Thessalonians 3:10–11 (KJV) — 10 For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat. 11 For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies.

Exodus 20:10 (KJV) — 10 But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

Mark 6:31 (KJV) — 31 And he said unto them, Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while: for there were many coming and going, and they had no leisure so much as to eat.

Matthew 7:22–23 (KJV) — 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?
23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

John 6:28–30 (KJV) — 28 Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God? 29 Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent. 30 They said therefore unto him, What sign shewest thou then, that we may see, and believe thee? what dost thou work?

John 8:39–41 (KJV) — 39 They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham. 40 But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham. 41 Ye do the deeds of your father. . . .

Philippians 2:12–13 (KJV) — 12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. 13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

**Philippians 2:14 (KJV) — 14 Do all things
without murmurings and disputings:**

It is not spiritual laziness that will bring us near to God, but Christian devotion, personal piety, intelligent advancement in the knowledge of Christ. We shall be filled with the fruits of righteousness. There is a higher standard for us to reach. The world has too much of our thought, and the kingdom of heaven too little. (*The Review and Herald*, May 17, 1906, par. 10)

God has no use for lazy men in His cause; He wants thoughtful, kind, affectionate, earnest workers. Active exertion will do our preachers good. Indolence is proof of depravity. Every faculty of the mind, every bone in the body, every muscle of the limbs, shows that God designed these faculties to be used, not to remain inactive. . . . Persons who have not acquired habits of close industry and economy of time should have set rules to prompt them to regularity and dispatch.

(Testimonies for the Church, vol. 4, p. 411.1)

There is a sad neglect of reading the Bible and searching it with humble hearts for yourselves. Take no man's explanation of Scripture, whatever his position, but go to the Bible and search for the truth yourselves.

After hearing Jesus, the Samaritans said, "Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard Him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world." (*Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, p. 155.1a)

There is the mine of truth. Sink the shaft deep, and you will possess that knowledge which is of highest value to you. Many have become lazy and criminally neglectful in regard to the searching of the Scriptures, and they are as destitute of the Spirit of God as of the knowledge of His word. We read in the Revelation made to John, of some who had a name to live while they were dead. Yes, there are many such among us as a people, many who claim to be alive, while they are dead. (*Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, p. 155.1b)

My brethren, unless the Holy Spirit is actuating you as a vital principle, unless you are obeying its prompting, depending on its influences, laboring in the strength of God, my message to you from God is: “You are under a delusion which may prove fatal to your souls. You must be converted. You must receive light before you can give light. Place yourselves under the bright beams of the Sun of Righteousness.” Then you can say with Isaiah, “Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.” You must cultivate faith and love. “The Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither His ear heavy, that it cannot hear.” Seek the Lord. Rest not until you know that Christ is your Saviour. (*Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, p. 155.1c)

Laziness and indolence are not the fruit borne upon the Christian tree. No soul can practice prevarication or dishonesty in handling the Lord's goods and stand guiltless before God. All who do this are in action denying Christ. While they profess to keep and teach God's law, they fail to maintain its principles.
(*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, p. 337.4)

The love of ease, and, I may say, of physical laziness, unfits a man to be a physician or a minister. Those who are preparing to enter the medical work or the ministry should train brain, bone, and muscle to do hard work; then they can do hard thinking. (*Special Testimonies*, series B, no. 1, p 28.3)

There is but one genuine cure for spiritual laziness, and that is, work; working for souls who need your help. Instead of strengthening souls you have been discouraging and weakening the hearts and hands of those who would see the cause of God advance.

(Testimonies for the Church, vol. p. 235.2)

But if you are under the control of slow, dilatory movements, if your habits are of a lazy order, you will make a long job out of a short one; and it is the duty of those who are slow, to reform, and to become more expeditious. If they will, they can overcome their fussy, lingering habits. In washing dishes, they may be careful, and at the same time do quick work. Exercise the will to this end, and the hands will move with dispatch. (*The Youth's Instructor*, September 7, 1893, par. 7)



*yours faithfully
Ian MacLaren*

Heaven, is not a
Trappist monastery.
Neither is it
retirement on
pension. No, it is a
land of continual
progress.

*Jesus was a carpenter
from Galilee,*

*And he's doing a construction
job inside of me. — Bobby Giles*