



**PURSUING GODLINESS
PART THREE: LOVING LABOR**

Ephesians 4:28

1. _____ Your Greed

Is there anything more greedy than a willingness to steal? It doesn't matter what kind of theft it is, there must be a departure from all manner of selfish greed.

*"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and the plate, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence."
~ Matthew 23:25*

2. _____ to Work

Hard work is still a virtue in the Kingdom of Christ. The discipline of determination needs to be relearned, for there is in your life the needed testimony of a hardworking soul.

For you remember, brothers, our labor and toil: we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. ~ 1 Thessalonians 2:9

3. _____ to Share

Working hard does not alleviate greed... selfless generosity does. For most, hard work is to produce a life of leisure. For the Christian, hard work ought to bear the fruit of compassion.

"In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" ~ Acts 20:35

1 JOHN 3:17-18

**BUT IF ANYONE HAS THE WORLD'S GOODS AND SEES HIS BROTHER IN NEED, YET CLOSES HIS HEART AGAINST HIM, HOW DOES GOD'S LOVE ABIDE IN HIM?
LITTLE CHILDREN, LET US NOT LOVE IN WORD OR TALK BUT IN DEED AND IN TRUTH.**



**PURSUING GODLINESS
PART THREE: LOVING LABOR**

**Additional Scripture References
(And Rabbit Trails Bible Study)**

John 12:6

He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it.

Psalms 50:16-18

But to the wicked God says: "What right have you to recite my statutes or take my covenant on your lips? For you hate discipline, and you cast my words behind you. If you see a thief, you are pleased with him, and you keep company with adulterers."

Jeremiah 6:13

"For from the least to the greatest of them, everyone is greedy for unjust gain; and from prophet to priest, everyone deals falsely."

Proverbs 14:23

In all toil there is profit, but mere talk tends only to poverty.

1 Corinthians 15:10

But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.

2 Thessalonians 3:10

For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat.

Colossians 3:23-24

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

1 Timothy 5:8

But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

Psalms 37:21

The wicked borrows but does not pay back, but the righteous is generous and gives.