

SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...

The Value of Hard Work

With Ryan Dawson - Lead Pastor
March 13, 2022



- **Proverbs reveals that God values work.**

Proverbs 21:5 (NLT) "Good planning and hard work lead to prosperity, but hasty shortcuts lead to poverty."

Proverbs 13:4 (NLT) "Lazy people want much but get little, but those who work hard will prosper."

Proverbs 12:11 (NLT) "A hard worker has plenty of food, but a person who chases fantasies has no sense."

Proverbs 31:13-18

Why does God value work?

- **Work is something that God does so it has dignity.**

Genesis 2:1-2 (NLT) "So the creation of the heavens and the earth and everything in them was completed. ² On the seventh day God had finished his work of creation, so he rested from all his work."

John 5:17 "But Jesus replied, "My Father is always working, and so am I."

- **Work is part of God's design for humans within the created order.**

Genesis 1:27-28 (NLT) "So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. ²⁸ Then God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground."

- **Work is how we serve the world as God's representatives.**

"Work has dignity because it is something that God does and because we do it in God's place, as his representatives." — Timothy J. Keller, Every Good Endeavor: Connecting Your Work to God's Plan for the World

How do we approach work in a way where it promotes human flourishing?

- **Pursue excellence & integrity in your work.**

Proverbs 22:29 (NLT) "Do you see any truly competent workers? They will serve kings rather than working for ordinary people."

Proverbs 14:23 (NLT) "Work brings profit, but mere talk leads to poverty!"

Proverbs 21:25

Proverbs 12:24 (NLT) Work hard and become a leader; be lazy and become a slave.

Proverbs 10:9 (NLT) "People with integrity walk safely, but those who follow crooked paths will be exposed."

- **Establish healthy work/rest rhythms.**

Proverbs 6:10-11 (NLT) A little extra sleep, a little more slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest—¹¹ then poverty will pounce on you like a bandit; scarcity will attack you like an armed robber.

Proverbs 23:4-5 (NLT) "Don't wear yourself out trying to get rich. Be wise enough to know when to quit. ⁵ In the blink of an eye wealth disappears, for it will sprout wings and fly away like an eagle."

Genesis 2:3 (NLT) "And God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy, because it was a day when he **rested** from all his work of creation."

"To practice Sabbath is a disciplined and faithful way to remember that you are not the one who keeps the world running, who provides for your family, not even the one who keeps your work projects moving forward."— Timothy Keller, Every Good Endeavor: Connecting Your Work to God's Plan for the World

Sequoia Message Archives "Begin By Stopping" - Dec. 29, 2019

- **Find your identity in Christ, not your work.**

Proverbs 1:7

Colossians 3:23-24 (NLT) "Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. ²⁴ Remember that the Lord will give you an inheritance as your reward, and that the Master you are serving is Christ."

Big Idea: Work with all your heart as working for Christ, as you rest in God's grace.

"Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful with a few things. Now I will give you charge of many." Matthew 25:23 (NIV)

The Translation of the Bible Scriptures used in today's 10:10 service are from the New Living Translation (NLT), and the New International Version (NIV).



Sequoia Impact Communities are where we
live out our identity as a
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To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

The Value of Hard Work
#10 of 12 - March 13, 2022

- 1) Last week we looked at Our Search for Intimacy. How has God been speaking to you? How did your action step go? What has God been impressing on your heart as it relates to trusting Him with your sexuality?
- 2) Take time to have one person explain and the practice the 3 Circles Gospel Presentation or share their testimony.
- 3) Read Proverbs 21:5, 22:29, 23:4-5, 12:24, and Colossians 3:23-24. What is the **Context** for these passages? Where is this taking place in the book as a whole (what comes before or after)? Who is the writer and who are the recipients? Where does it fit in the Bible? What's the theme of this chapter, or passage? What's the historical and cultural context?
- 4) **Observation:** What "jumps out" in these passages? What interesting details do you observe? What questions come up about the passages? What do you notice about "work" in these passages?
- 5) **Meaning:** What was the meaning for the original recipients? What meaning is inferred in this passage for us and what does this tell us about God's design for work?
- 6) Read Matthew 25:23. How is this vision helpful for us as we consider our work?
- 7) **Application:** How is God speaking to you through these verses and through this message? (Take some time for Listening Prayer). How do these verses call on you to change the way you live?
- 8) What steps can you take to honour God through your work? What will you do this week as a result of this teaching? What aspect of this teaching do you need to pass on to others?



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