

SCRIPTURE: TITLE:

INTRO: RYTHMS of creation. Night & Day. Wake & Sleep. Rain & Shine. Winter & Summer. Tides. Eat.

Thesis: "Work Hard & Rest Well. For the Glory of God and the Good of yourselves and others."

I. WORK HARD

- A. Bezalel (Contractor). Oholiab (Foreman/Runner).
- B. "ALL MEN." Every ability you have is given by God for God. His Glory and Good of all.
- C. Even those on "disability" have abilities.
- D. We were made to work. Before sin entered the world we were designed to work. There's a dignity in working. A humanness to working. Manly in the sense that He designed all mankind to work. Male & Female. It's why a lack of work leads to depression and a lack of self-worth. Meaninglessness. **"Made by our Maker to be Makers." Depressed or Entitled.**
- E. **Doctrine of Vocation.** They were **"called by name"** and **gifted by the Spirit of God.** God called you to a specific place with specific abilities/gifts. Stewarding your gifts means serving your King in His Kingdom for His Glory and the Good of His People/Citizens. Earth is the Lord's.
- F. **Instead of** "What do you do?" "Line of work?" "Job?" "Do for a living?" **"What's your calling?"**
- G. **Sacred vs. Secular.** Priesthood of all believers. **Jesus said "I came to be about my Father's Business."** **Serving God is Serving Others.** We're all about the Father's Business when we recognize our gifts/abilities are from Him, we serve Him first and we love our neighbors also.

ILLUSTRATION: Martin Luther. Shoemaker/cobbler. **"Make good shoes and sell at a fair price."**
> Trash Man Route. Parable? Bins thrown around. Lid open. Rain. In Road. Christian. **"Love the changes!" "I'm a Christian now and I want to serve Jesus and love people in my work."**

APPLICATION:

- 1. **Glory of God.** You are reflecting Him as a Maker & Mender. Serving Him primarily. Not others.
- 2. **Good of Yourselves (You need it).** Dignity. Purpose. Fulfillment. Joy. Health. Design. *Not personal happiness or prosperity, but seeing my role in the bigger picture of God's redemptive & creative work.*
- 3. **Others.** Serving. Loving. Helping. Protect. Stewarding.

ILLUSTRATION: Sewage Plant worker Ray Cortese Church. "Are you kidding me?" Kenya, 1 million/1 mile. Vick's vapor rub. Kids drinking out of trench. Cups. **Sanitation. Drinking Water. 60% of disease.** **You're about the Father's business. "You're in the Sewage & Sanitation Ministry."** C.W. Septic. We basically have the same job: **"Trying to help people deal with all their crap." IMAGO DEI.**

ALL KINDS OF WORK: Shanez. Worship Leader. Contractor/Business Owner. Diaper Changer. Chef. *No single line of work is MORE sacred or dignified, but it's how you recognize the work you're called to.*

II. REST WELL (*Devil doesn't take a day off. God did. I think He's a better example to follow.*)

- A. **Just talking through all that makes you tired,** doesn't it? A little?
- B. **Sabbath.** God Rested. Created. Worked. Rest and Refreshed. Why does God need that?
- C. **Why Sunday?** *"Jesus finished His earthly work on Friday, Rested on the Sabbath/Saturday and Rose on Sunday."* Same Pattern & Purpose, different day. **Still 10, not 9 Commandments.**
- D. **Jesus Died for our Sabbath Breaking.** *If it's a command, then it's a sin to break it. Jesus died.*
- E. **Rest & Worship & Remember & Hope.** Limitations. You're not God. Look to the One who is. Praise Him for Who He is, For what He's done and for what He's promised to do. Hope. Expect.
- F. **Stop. Slow Down. Rest. You need it. Others need it of you.** Angry. Tired. Frustrated. Overwhelmed. Discontent. Dissatisfied. **A gift. A blessing. A command, yes. B/c we need it.**
- G. **Overworked. Tyrannical/Abusive.** We do it to ourself, call it **Work Ethic.** Why treat yourself that way? Pride. Ego. Recognize/admit limits. **"I can't." "Ran out of time." "I didn't" "I couldn't"**

ILLUSTRATION: Imagine someone saying **"I'm gonna stop sleeping each night."** I can get a lot more work down. Make more money. Realized I'm losing about 50% of my time just sleeping and doing nothing! What a waste! That's not good! See how long that lasts. **FINITE. Sleep=daily Sabbath. Sunday=weekly.**

APPLICATION:

- 1. **Glory of God.**
- 2. **Good of Yourselves (You need it).**
- 3. **Others (You are more loving. More attentive. More present. More available. More patient. Regret.)**