

A TOPICAL STUDY OF THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

Lesson 5

SECTION : WHO AND WHAT I AM
TOPIC: YOU AND YOUR OCCUPATION

INTRODUCTION

Work is a necessary and instructive part of life. God ordained work as an important part of our lives - whether we are paid for it or not. Our occupations are also a wonderful way for each of us to be godly examples to those we work with *and* for.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

The Book of Proverbs categorizes 6 kinds of workers - three of the wrong kind and three of the right kind. Look up and comment on some or all of those listed below. Use different translations to help you get a clearer perspective of what the verses mean.

WRONG TYPES OF WORKERS

The Sluggard (Read Proverbs 24:30-34) . These 6 characteristics are also found in Proverbs:

1. Slow Starter (Proverbs 6:9-10) _____
2. Restless (Proverbs 13:4; 21:25-26) _____
3. Defensive (Proverbs 26:16) _____
4. A Quitter (Proverbs 12:27) _____
5. Costly (Proverbs 18:9) _____
6. Full of excuses (Proverbs 20:4; 22:13) _____

The Deceiver (Proverbs 11:18)

1. Empty and purposeless life (Proverbs 13:11a; 15:27; 21:6) _____

2. Unhappy ending to life (Proverbs 9:17; 20:17) _____

3. No loyalty (Proverbs 25:19) _____

The Greedy Worker (Proverbs 28:22)

1. Finds security in money (Proverbs 11:28) _____
2. Never has enough (Proverbs 23:4-5) _____
3. Greed burns him in the end (Proverbs 28:19-20) _____
5. Extremely selfish (Ecclesiastes 5:10-15) _____

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RIGHT TYPES OF WORKERS - As we studied the negative character traits of workers, it is easy to conclude that these represent the non-Christian. Unfortunately, many Christians also have these characteristics. Our jobs must be the next most important priority following our relationships with God and our family. As we continue looking at verses in Proverbs, we will focus our attention on three other types of workers - the right kinds. As Christians, we should seek to have these traits.

Diligent

Proverbs 10:4 _____
Proverbs 12:27 _____
Proverbs 14:23 _____

Thoughtful

Proverbs 12:10 _____
Proverbs 28:15-16 _____

Skillful

Proverbs 22:29 _____

SCRIPTURE RESEARCH

This part of your homework gives additional Biblical references for this topic. Look up and comment on *at least* one verse in each topic:

GOD'S WORK

Genesis 2:2 _____
Deuteronomy 32:4 _____
Psalms 8:3-4 _____

GOD'S PLAN FOR OUR WORK

Genesis 2:15 _____

GOD'S RECOGNITION OF OUR WORK

Hebrews 6:10 _____
Revelation 2:2 _____

WAGES FOR OUR WORK

Leviticus 19:13 _____
Luke 3:14 _____
I Corinthians 3:8 _____
2 Thessalonians 3:10-12 _____
I Timothy 5:17-18 _____
2 Timothy 2:6 _____

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SCRIPTURE REACTION

What kind of worker are you - in your home and/or in your job. Which scriptures that you just searched and researched best describe you and your attitude toward work? Why?

SCRIPTURAL ACTION

What actions do you now need to incorporate into your life to fulfill your responsibility to these scriptures? What plans need to be made and what steps need to be taken to bring you into proper alignment with God's Word? Enter your prayer for this plan in the prayer journal section of your notebook.

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SCRIPTURE CHALLENGE

This part of homework is provided for those who want a deeper understanding of this topic. Many Bible characters were involved in various occupations. Fill out the chart below. Be creative! Use your concordance for help.

Bible Character	Occupation	Observations
ex: David	Shepherd	Preparation for leading

Meditate on and memorize the following scripture:

*"And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us;
and establish thou the work of our hands upon us;
yes, the work of our hands establish thou it."
Psalms 90:17*

