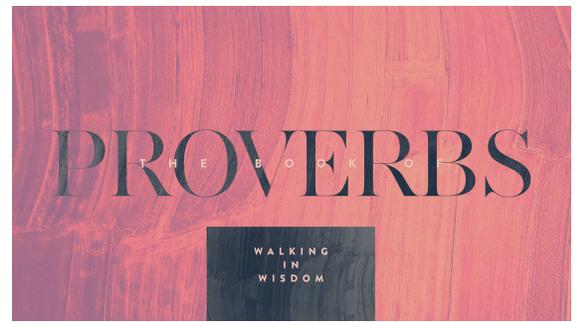




Diving Deeper: A Gather Group discussion guide
or personal devotional guide



The Work of Wisdom

Introduction: . The book of Proverbs instructs us in several areas of life that leads to blessings. The value of work and the foundation of a good work ethic is often repeated in this book. This study will examine the proper perspective of how we should view work.

Text: Proverbs 24:30-34

Discussion:

1. Icebreaker: Write/Discuss of the time that you got your first job. Does your feelings about work differ now then what it did then?
2. Genesis 2:15 What did God give for Adam to do? What does this say about the value of work? Was this before the fall or after the fall of man?
3. Read Proverbs 16:3,9. What does it mean to commit your work to the Lord? We are to make plans for our future and set goals and have dreams, but we are to commit them to the will of God. Have you committed your works to God?
4. Proverbs 27:1 Read James 4:13 How does this truth change your perspective on life?
5. Read Prov. 21:5 & 12:11. What are these verses saying?
6. Read Prov. 12:27, 13:4, 13:11, 20:4, 10:5. What are these verses saying and what wisdom do you learn about work?
7. Read Prov. 10:26, 18:9—What does this say about being lazy?
8. Read Prov. 22:9—Promotion comes to those who are skillful in their trade. How can you sharpen your skills?
9. Read Prov. 11:1, 20:10, 20:23, 16:30, 11:3 What do you learn through these truths?
10. Read Prov. 11:10-11, 22:22-23. When those in position of power are followers of Jesus, it goes well for those under them. A godly boss should be a great place to work. Godly workers ought to bring blessing to their boss. Godly leaders should bring blessing to their city. How do you see this truth in the world today? Look at North Korea and other countries who have ungodly leaders and compare them to nations that have a Christian foundation. Which country would you prefer to live and why?
11. Read Prov. 11:30. What is one of the most important task for the believer? How can you obey this verse in your life?

Think About it:

Work was ordained of God in the beginning of creation. Work is not a curse, but a blessing. If we want to value work and see the value of work we must have the right perspective. When we see our work as “holy” work that is committed to the Lord, then we will be motivated. We should set goals and make plans and pursue them with complete trust in God’s providence over our life. The book of proverbs teaches us to work hard. There is no excuse for laziness. We are to be productive with our life. We are to be honest in our work and live a life of integrity. Our work ought to be helpful. The blessing and wealth we receive should not be to just bless us, but to be a blessing to our family, church, and community. We must also realize that we have a heavenly work. Our life should reflect the gospel of Christ and our mouths should share the message of hope. Our time at work should be one that honors the Lord and helps to invite others to his grace.

Moving Forward:

Read one chapter of Proverbs each day. Make a list of everyone who works with you or for you. Make it your goal to pray for everyone on that list before you go to work each day. Make an effort to see your work as holy to the Lord. Commit your day to him and allow the Holy Spirit to use you to bring good to all around you. Be encouraging and shine bright for the Lord this week. Look for those around you who need a word of encouragement or help and be that person to come alongside and bless them. Thank God for your job and that he has provided a way to supply your needs. Work in wisdom this week!

