

# Labor

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*Servants, respectfully obey your earthly masters but always with an eye to obeying the real master, Christ. <sup>6</sup> Don't just do what you have to do to get by, but work heartily, as Christ's servants doing what God wants you to do. <sup>7</sup> And work with a smile on your face, always keeping in mind that no matter who happens to be giving the orders, you're really serving God. <sup>8</sup> Good work will get you good pay from the Master, regardless of whether you are slave or free. <sup>9</sup> Masters, it's the same with you. No abuse, please, and no threats. You and your servants are both under the same Master in heaven. He makes no distinction between you and them.* Ephesians 6:5-9 (MSG)

*A little extra sleep, a little more slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest <sup>11</sup> then poverty will pounce on you like a bandit; scarcity will attack you like an armed robber.* Proverbs 6:10-11 (NLT2)

## 1. SIX DAYS we labor.

*"Six days you shall labor and do all your work,* Exodus 20:9 (NASB)

*"Six days you are to do your work, but on the seventh day you shall cease from labor so that your ox and your donkey may rest, and the son of your female slave, as well as your stranger, may refresh themselves.* Exodus 23:12 (NASB)

*'For six days work may be done, but on the seventh day there is a sabbath of complete rest, holy to the LORD; whoever does any work on the sabbath day shall surely be put to death.* Exodus 31:15 (NASB)

## 2. Work with the right ATTITUDE.

*Servants, do what you're told by your earthly masters. And don't just do the minimum that will get you by. Do your best. <sup>23</sup> Work from the heart for your real Master, for God, <sup>24</sup> confident that you'll get paid in full when you come into your inheritance. Keep in mind always that the ultimate Master you're serving is Christ. <sup>25</sup> The sullen servant who does shoddy work will be held responsible. Being Christian doesn't cover up bad work.* Colossians 3:22-25 (MSG)

## 3. We work so we can SHARE.

*He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have something to share with one who has need.* Ephesians 4:28 (NASB)

*For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either.* 2 Thessalonians 3:10 (NASB)

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