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## SERMON OUTLINE

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### God-focused at my Work

Selected Proverbs

- I. **Understand God's Plan** for work.
  - A. God worked and then “rested” (Genesis 2:1-3).
  - B. Adam worked before there was sin (Genesis 2:5, 15).
  - C. Work became painful after sin, but it still honors Him (Genesis 3:17-19; Colossians 3:22-24).
- II. **Pursue God-focused Satisfaction** at work.
  - A. Work requires costly effort.
    - 1. Work is hard and messy (Proverbs 12:11; 14:4; 14:23).
    - 2. Work is an endless necessity (16:26).
  - B. Work produces satisfying rewards.
    - 1. Enjoy provision and wealth (6:6-11; 10:4; 12:11; 28:19)
    - 2. Enjoy advancement (12:24).
    - 3. Enjoy completing and achieving (12:27; 13:4)
- III. **Pursue God-focused Success** at work.
  - A. Work hard consistently (13:11; 31:13, 15, 17, 18, 27).
  - B. Plan well to improve effectiveness (21:5).
  - C. Develop your skills – Excellence and efficiency (22:29).
  - D. Prioritize your tasks at work (24:27).
  - E. Avoid meddling and gossip at work (26:17-22, 30:10).
  - F. Address the temptations of laziness.
    - 1. Laziness brings poverty (6:11; 10:4; 19:15, 24; 20:13), shame (10:5), servitude (12:24) trouble (15:19), loss to employer (18:9)
    - 2. Lazy people sleep a lot (20:13; 24:33-34) and make a lot of excuses (22:13).
  - G. Balance your work and rest (23:4).
- IV. **Stay focused on God's plan** for work – 3 Tests
  - A. Do I consider pleasing God to be my real job at work (Colossians 3:22-24)?
  - B. Do I believe God deserves the credit for my success at work (Deuteronomy 8:17-18)?
  - C. Is my faithful work a good witness for Christ (Titus 2:9-12; 1 Thessalonians 4: 11-12)?

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Open Door Bible Church 6-17-12

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