

An Honest Day's Work for God's Stewards

Part 7 on Biblical Financial Stewardship

I. Stewards work hard and faithfully at their jobs.

A. Work: Work is God's will and He honors and directs it.

1. All work is spiritual – Realize that work is actually a “spiritual” stewardship, not a “secular” necessary evil (Genesis 2:15; 3:19; Exodus 20:9).
2. God enables us to succeed at work – Thank God for the ability to work and earn (Deuteronomy 8:17-18).
3. God rewards faithful work – Hard work and excellence pays off (Ecclesiastes 5:12, 18-19; Proverbs 14:4; 22:29).
✓ Balance: Overwork shows a lack of trust in God's provision (Psalm 127:3).

B. Laziness: Life will discipline laziness.

1. If we don't work, we shouldn't eat (Proverbs 10:26; 20:13 21:25; 2 Thessalonians 2:10-11).
2. “Get rich quick” schemes, gambling etc. are bad stewardship which leads to hunger (Proverbs 28:19, 20).

II. Stewards work and live in complete integrity.

A. Integrity is required of employees because God is their real boss (Colossians 3:22-24).

1. Respect and obey bosses because you are really obeying God (Colossians 3:22-24; Ephesians 6:5-8; 1 Peter 2:17-20).
2. Be completely honest as an employee (Proverbs 18:9)

B. Integrity is required of employers because God is their real boss too (Colossians 4:1).

1. Pay wages fairly and promptly (Colossians 4:1; James 5:4).
2. Treat employees with kindness (Ephesians 6:9).
3. Treat customers in complete honesty (Proverbs 11:1;16:11)
4. Pay taxes honestly (Romans 13:5-7)

C. Integrity is required of consumers (Proverbs 20:14).