



## Work as a Response

- Work is a response, not an identity.

Colossians 3:23-24 (NIV)

*Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, <sup>24</sup> since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.*

Romans 12:1-2 (NIV)

*Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.*

- Work is worship.
- God is the foundation of our work.
- God gave work as a gift, not a noose.

Genesis 1:26-28 (NIV)

*Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."*

*<sup>27</sup> So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. <sup>28</sup> God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."*

Genesis 2:15 (NIV)

*The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.*

Proverbs 6:6-11 (NIV)

*Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! <sup>7</sup> It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, <sup>8</sup> yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest. <sup>9</sup> How long will you lie there, you sluggard? When will you get up from your sleep? <sup>10</sup> A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest— <sup>11</sup> and poverty will come on you like a thief and scarcity like an armed man.*

- Working hard reflects the King.
- Working hard reveals our love for the King.

Colossians 3:17 (NIV)

*And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

- Working hard reflects the love of the King to others.
- Working hard must be balanced with restorative rest.

Psalms 127:1-2 (NIV)

*Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain. <sup>2</sup> In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat— for he grants sleep to those he loves.*