

September 1 | Sunday

Labor Day: Worth the Work

Read [1 Corinthians 15:57-58](#)



2 | Mon – Work | Read [Genesis 2:2-3](#) / [Ephesians 2:10](#)

For some people, *work* is a four-letter word, something that is often unpleasant. Everyone knows you have to work to get a paycheck but it is a rare person who wakes up Monday morning excited to get to work. What does God think about *work*? Do you realize that God invented it *and* modeled it for us in the beginning? Unfortunately, one result of sin is that work has become more difficult than God intended. How do *you* feel about the work you do, both the paid and the unpaid?

3 | Tue – Integrity on the job | Read [Genesis 39:1-23](#)

Joseph is an example of how God wants you to view your job, especially if it is not something you like. Even though Joseph was a slave, his hard work gave him such favor with his wealthy master that he was given complete oversight of all the matters of the estate. When Joseph was tempted and refused to compromise, he was falsely accused and thrown in jail. Even there he did not give up but continued to do good work. Can God trust *you* to do the right thing when it might cost you your job? (Note - see Joseph's next job offer.)

4 | Wed – Influence | Read [Colossians 1:9-12](#) and [3:23-24](#)

No matter what kind of job you have, you will find more fulfillment when you understand who your real boss is. Although you may report to a person, ultimately you are accountable to God for how you use your time, skills and resources, both on the job and in your personal life. The way you work, the words you use, the attitudes you display will influence everyone around you. What kind of influence will that be?

5 | Thu – God is still at work | Read [Philippians 1:6](#)

Although God rested after creating the world in the Genesis story, He continues to work in every human heart, including yours. You may get discouraged when you think about your failures or the ways you feel inadequate but remember God is creating the image of Jesus in you. That will not be complete until the day you go to heaven but you can be sure He won't give up. Is there something you need help to change in yourself right now?

6 | Fri – The devil is at work too | Read [1 John 3:8](#)

Not only is God still at work, but the devil is also. Do you recognize when he is messing with your mind and heart? Everything he does is designed to damage your trust in God's love and faithfulness. He will attack God's goodness and smear God's character by pointing out all the injustice you see and experience. Jesus came to destroy all the works of the devil but it is your choice whether to listen to the enemy's lies or confront him with the truth.

7 | Sat – Feel like giving up? | Read [1 Corinthians 12:5-6](#) / [2 Corinthians 9:8](#) / [Phil. 4:13](#)

Are you tired and ready to give up? Whether you work in a secular job or in ministry, you do not work alone. God has and will continue to provide all you need to do the work He's called you to do. Paul describes it well in Colossians 1:29 as he pressed on, not in his own strength but with the energy Christ so powerfully worked in him. The God who never gets tired *does* understand your strength is limited and, in kindness, will lend you His.