

Labor Day 2019 Sunday PM Devotional

Being made in God's image means that we follow in His example as much as is possible, and so, **we are to work throughout our life... but also rest!**

Sunday evening, Sept. 1, instead of meeting at the church building, our elders are encouraging us to share this brief, simple devotional on “**work**” with family or friends, wherever you are gathered. Read and share with each other any or all of these Bible readings, quote, or questions. Ask everyone - child, youth or adult - to comment on what the texts mean to them and to share their answers to the questions.

Scriptures:

By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground. Genesis 3:19

A human being can do nothing better than...find satisfaction in his work. This too, I see, is from the hand of God, for without Him, who can eat or find enjoyment? Ecclesiastes 2:24-25

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. 1 Corinthians 15:58

Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal. John 6:27

We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. John 9:4

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3:17

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men. Colossians 3:23

By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. Genesis 2:1

An Interesting Quote:

“Since the Garden of Eden everyone has worked or depended on someone else's work for their survival. Work sets a person's lifestyle—where you live, when you sleep and eat, the time with family, even your dress.”

From Christian Ethics in a Postmodern World by James P. Eckman

Questions:

In your own words, why is work important?

What type of work do you find most enjoyable?

When do you usually look forward to work? When is work hardest?

When do you rest best? Where do you rest best?

Do you think of Labor Day as a celebration of work, or of rest?

If you also want to **sing** a hymn, here are the lyrics of a verse of “We'll Work 'Til Jesus Comes:”

*O land of rest, for thee I sigh!
When will the moment come
When I shall lay my armor by
And dwell in peace at home?*

Refrain:

*We'll work till Jesus comes,
We'll work till Jesus comes,
We'll work till Jesus comes,
And we'll be gathered home.*

Feel free to sing any other appropriate hymn about work or rest.

Pray and thank God for our hands, mind & skills that each of us has to work.