

Labor day

Whom do you work for???

Work as if you are working for the Lord

BOTTOM LINE:

We need to do all work as if working for the Lord

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn why we need to do work as if we were working for God.

KEY PASSAGE:

Colossians 3:23-24, Work for the Lord.

MEMORY VERSE:

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.” - Colossians 3:23 (NIV)

“Work at everything you do with all your heart. Work as if you were working for the Lord, not for human masters.” - Colossians 3:23 (NIRV)

SUMMARY:

Work isn't always easy, but it doesn't have to be a drag. God wants us to work as if we are working for him. Work can be a chance to praise God with our actions and share the good news of Jesus with others.

OBJECT LESSON:

Five Dollar Bill

Who wants to make five bucks today?

I want to do a little test to see what five bucks means to you. How many of you would...

Make your bed for five bucks?

Clean your room for five bucks?

Vacuum the whole house for five bucks?

Cut the grass for five bucks?

Vacuum the whole church for five bucks?

Seems like everyone would clean their room for five dollars, but fewer of you would do a larger job for the same amount. We'd all like to make a bunch of money for doing very little, but the reality is most of the time we do a lot for very little - if anything at all. Work is exciting when there are big dollars attached, but it's downright dreadful when you don't get anything out of it.

No matter what you get or don't get for your work, it's important that we do all work as if we were working for the Lord. Jesus has already given us far more than we could ever earn - forgiveness of sins and eternal life. Working for the Lord is a small sacrifice compared to what Jesus gave for us.

What's more, when we do work for the Lord, we have a tremendous opportunity to be a witness for Christ. When people see a child or an adult doing menial work with a smile, they notice the difference Christ can make in their lives. It's a great way to show people why they need Jesus without even saying a word.

Work isn't always fun. It usually isn't. But it never has to be a chore. Remember what Jesus did for you and make your work a thank you gift for his amazing love.

DRIVE IT HOME

This week we will all have opportunities to work for God. You will go to school and be given work. You will come home afternoon and find work to do. Some of you have work to do at practice for sports or music, and some may even have opportunities to make money. These are all great opportunities to apply what we've learned today and do our work for the Lord!

Whatever your work week looks like, start praying now that God will give you a cheerful heart. Ask God to teach you how to work for him - to do your best without complaint, and to go the extra mile. Tell God you want your work to be a thank you for all he has done, and ask God to use you to share his gift with others.

Work isn't easy, but it doesn't have to be dreadful. Give your work to God. Work for him, and not just for people. Show God your gratitude, and let your joy be seen your actions!

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER

Dear God,

Forgive us for the times we have a bad attitude about work. Teach us to work as if we are working for you.

In Jesus' name,

Amen