

BE RESPONSIBLE PART 1

This series is about engaging the world by engaging ourselves.

First we said a futile mind (i.e. a worthless mind, a mind that adds no value) is made obvious in a person's ability (or inability) to tell the truth. A liar has a futile mind that adds no value to Jesus or His kingdom. So if you know someone who lies a lot then you know someone who has yet to lay aside their old self and be renewed into the new self, by the renewing of their mind.

Last week we asked "***Do we have a right to be angry?***" and we looked at a song about a girl whose boyfriend cheated on her and she became very angry. So does she have the right? Yes she absolutely does have the right to be angry; however, it is **WHAT SHE DOES WITH HER ANGER** that is important and what she did was sinful. That is why **Ephesians 4:26-27** tells us to "be angry, but do not sin". So we can see that we have the *right*, but we are not to react in a certain way. A girl whose boyfriend cheats on her does not give her the right to break his truck with a Louisville slugger, or carve her name in the back of his seats. – that is wrong, sinful, destructive, and creates evil.

In addition, someone who does not have a renewed mind will not know how to deal with anger and thus use it be prideful, hurting and blaming others and they do not realize their wrongdoing. This creates a world of havoc and evil reactions; instead of **TAKING ACTION** and looking to confront and reconcile.

This brings us to the next verse:

Ephesians 4:28 He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have *something* to share with one who has need. (NASB)

So there is a lot in this verse so we need to tear it apart.

First we must note the command, "*He who steals must steal no longer*". This command is systematic of our salvation as noted in the previous verses in the chapter:

Ephesians 4:22 -23 ... in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, (NASB)

As a little refresher of what we know about Ephesus:

- This church did not have a lot of theological issues
- Paul wanted to take these Christians from "Junior Varsity" to "Varsity" by telling them "grow up" and be like brothers and sisters, who live close to one another and have one another's back in unity and fellowship. So Paul is reminding them what is righteous and not righteous so the Ephesians can "fine tune" their Faith.

- Because if we don't "fine tune" our faith and we don't put off the old life and put on the new life...then how can we say are a part of God's family? This same concept works in families. When you see a family that has a member who are cut off, excluded or ostracized, they are not considered "Part of the family". Just like a "Christian" – if a "Christian" says they are a part of this family and yet fail to contribute their portion they are illegitimate children. [**Hebrews 12:8**]
- That is why Paul is writing this, so we will "grow up" and not exclude the body but work to unify the body of believers so we can all work to our fullest extend glorying in the name of Jesus.
- And it all starts with stop lying to yourself, recognizing your old life, laying it aside, and being renewed in the spirit of your new mind.

So now we have these Christians living in Ephesus who are reminded why they put off sin and put on righteousness...for the purpose of bringing glory to the name of Jesus and praise to God the Father.

They need to lay aside stealing. One way to figure out how to stop doing something is to think of the opposite of the act you want to stop. Therefore, the opposite of Stealing is Giving. That is why the verse says:

Ephesians 4:28 He who steals must steal no longer; ...so that he will have *something* to share with one who has need. (NASB)

Paul wants the Ephesians to stop *taking* and start *giving* and give to those in *need*. But in order to give you must **WORK** and that is why the verse says:

Ephesians 4:28 He who steals must steal no longer; **but rather he must labor**, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have *something to share* with one who has need. (NASB – emphasis mine)

Do we see a trend here? Our anger must be worked out, and now our theft must be worked out. In order to stop being angry and cut off bitterness we have to take up *responsibility* and **WORK** at our relationships with other people, that means:

- **Mathew 5:23-24** "Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering. (NASB)
 - Jesus tells us that if we know someone has something against us we need to confront them and reconcile before we come to church and worship Jesus.
 - Again He is not concerned what you do but how you do it. The what you do is forgiving the other, but the "how you do it" is by going to them and *reconciling* your differences.
- **Mathew 18:15-17** "If your brother sins, go and show him his fault in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother. "But if he does not listen to you, take one or two more with you, so that **BY THE MOUTH OF TWO OR THREE**

WITNESSES EVERY FACT MAY BE CONFIRMED. "If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. (NASB)

- Jesus then tells us later in the gospel of Mathew, that if we know someone is in sin, we must first talk to them one on one. If that does not work then bring a Godly friend who loves that person. If that doesn't work then you need to take that person before the church.
- There is a theme here. No matter if you know someone is mad at you, or if you know someone is caught in sin –you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness [**Galatians 6:1a**]
- Just like how we want to stop lying, we have to take up responsibility and WORK to renew our minds to remove that desire from our hearts not focusing on the “fruits” of the situation but the “root” of the issues.
- We do this so we do not become calloused:
 - **Ephesians 4:19** and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness. (NASB)
- And in our callousedness we become hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.
 - **Hebrews 3:13** But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is *still* called "Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. (NASB)

Moreover, we are created to have responsibility:

Gen 2:15 Then the LORD God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to **cultivate** it and **keep it**. (NASB – emphasis mine)

This verse has a job for man; which involves the keeping of the Garden of Eden (Which is Work) and to cultivate it – which further emphasizes the responsibility given to man. See God created something then created man and gave man the earth, and it is good to keep it and cultivate it.

Therefore, one of the mandatory ways to glorify God is to do what He has originally created you to do, that is work and that work glorifies God. By obeying, we show we love God and want to do what we were originally created to do. And that Glorifies Him. That is why Romans says

Romans 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may **prove** what the **will of God is**, that which is **good and acceptable and perfect**. (NASB)

Here we see that at some point we conformed to the world instead of our original creation. So we can deduct that something went wrong, that is why we are all jacked up. Here we see we need to be transformed so we can prove what we were originally created to do – and that is “*good acceptable and perfect*”.

SO, NOW WE ASK “WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES IF WE WON’T DO OUR PART”.

- **2Thessalonians 3:10-12** ... if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either. For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread. (NASB)
 - Here we see that Paul telling the people who lived in Thessalonica that some people like to look as if they are busy. Paul calls them a “*busybody*”. This is someone who is so busy in useless matters (FUTILE MIND – a useless mind). This sort of person is someone who is so “caught up” in everything and they are frazzled. They allow ministry to become a burden. John spoke to this too when he said in **1John 5:3** For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome. (NASB) When our ministry and following commandments become burdensome, we probably need to ease up a little bit, chill out, and focus on what exactly God wants us to do.
 - Paul goes on to say that these people are doing no work at all, even though they think they are, and their lives are undisciplined; meaning no constraint – they don’t know how to control themselves. They are not in control of their bodies and thus are a slave to sin. Because if they were disciplined they would do Godly work instead of useless futile work that is not useful for God to utilize.
 - Paul goes on to mention these people shouldn’t eat with Christian leaders because of the “approval” that shows other people.
 - Meaning that those who don’t do their part to God first, their families second and their ministry third - don’t deserve to be part of a leadership role in the church. How can one lead in a church; yet, their family is chaotic? What kind of example does that leave for you and your family? Or what about the leader in the church that ignores his family for ministry? What kind of Godly home is that? In fact, that is not Biblical. [**1 Timothy 3:8-13; Titus 2**]
 - Because if you can’t get your home life copasetic, or your careers set, or your relationships – why on earth should you be leading people to be more like Jesus when you can’t get your own life to be like Jesus?
 - Meaning that, those who do not work for God’s purposes, those who do not put forth the effort to benefit the Kingdom of Jesus – they should not partake of Godly blessings for those who do His work.
- Paul emphasizes the “home” concept when he is speaking to an upcoming pastor at the Church at Ephesus, Timothy
 - **1Timothy 5:8** But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. (NASB)
 - But if anyone does not provide for his own
 - This speaks to a man’s family, immediate or any family member he is in touch with.

- especially for those of his household
 - Paul further emphasizes the importance of a man's focus on his own family or anyone who lives under his roof.
- he has denied the faith
 - Paul is speaking of this man denying the Christian faith. Christianity strongly seeks to love others and give to others. It mandates sacrifice, humility. In fact that is *exactly* what Jesus did. **Colossians 3:22** Slaves, in all things obey those who are your masters on earth, not with external service, as those who *merely* please men, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. (NASB)
 - **Philippians 2:5-8** Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. (NASB)
- **Colossians 3:22** Slaves, in all things obey those who are your masters on earth, not with external service, as those who *merely* please men, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. (NASB)
 - Paul is not condoning slavery, but is condoning that no matter **what** situation that God has allowed you to be in, whether it be a slave, a master, a CEO, an hourly associate, or a manager – you need to do your work for God because He is the one who allowed you to have that job in the first place. After all you don't deserve the job, and in all actuality you deserve eternal damnation in hell with weeping and gnashing of teeth. [**Mathew 13:42**]

SO WHAT DO WHAT AM I SAYING HERE?

If you don't take responsibility and literally work with the Grace and Faith God has given you, whether it be in your Spiritual Gifts as in Romans 12, a disciplined life that is for God as in Thessalonians, faithful provider to your family as in 1 Timothy, or faithful in your hardworking in your job, as in Colossians - you are a LOSER.

And that is why Paul says:

Eph 4:28 He who steals must steal no longer; **but rather he must labor**, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have *something* to share with one who has need. (NASB)

- That word "**labor**" means to "to *feel fatigue*; by implication to *work hard*: - (bestow) labour, toil, be wearied."

- It can be translated NASB: diligently labor (1), grown weary (1), hard-working (1), labor (3), labored (4), labors (1), toil (4), wearied (1), weary (1), work hard (1), worked (2), worked hard (1), worked hard worked hard (1), workers (1), working hard (1).
- So we see here that Paul tells us Stop Stealing, but actually begin to *put forth effort*, work, and take up responsibility – and this is reiterated in the next part of this verse:
 - “performing with his own hands what is good”
 - This means **you** perform with **your** own hands. You cannot ride the coattails of someone’s faith. Because if you try, then some trial will come in your life and you will find yourself quitting. Thus proving you were never a child of God.
 - So if you need to stop lying, and sinning when angry you have to put forth effort. *Sweat equity*. This means that you need take responsibility for your actions and start working at it – seek out Godly counsel, make a game plan and seek God’s guidance through fasting, prayer, reading/looking up that topic in your Bible through the concordance.
- Paul moves on to the purpose of this verse:
 - “so that he will have *something* to share with one who has need.”
 - Paul doesn’t want you to stop, and move on - but to **DO** something. This “doing” is for the purpose of helping *OTHERS*.

This verse is KEY to engaging your calloused life. Remember calloused means a “*lack of feeling*”, which is a futile and doesn’t do any good for anyone and leads ultimately to a hard heart. Which creates evil rather than good. So we need to take up our responsibility to soften our hearts with the power of the Holy Spirit. And this involves work and sweat equity.

PART 2 NEXT PAGE

BE RESPONSIBLE PART 2**SO THE NEXT QUESTION IS “WHY DON’T WE LIKE TO WORK?”****First of All, We Are Lazy**

- **Proverbs 10:4** Poor is he who works with a **negligent** hand, But the hand of the diligent makes rich. (NASB)
 - This verse tells us that some people work with a negligent hand. Someone who is not working with a diligent hand, meaning – they work for a paycheck. They do not seek to utilize their skills to their full ability. They just want to get by and get a paycheck. Usually these people hate their jobs, they see it as a “Necessary evil” and do everything they can to get out of work (which lowers hours) and then complain their check isn’t as much as they want. Which leads one to think, if you worked in this job as if it was for Jesus, would you get a good performance evaluation? A better raise? Better hours? More incentives? Probably, but you are too busy working with a negligent hand you will never know.
- **Proverbs 19:15** **Laziness** casts into a deep sleep, And an **idle** man will suffer hunger. (NASB)
 - Some people sleep too much. They are not doing anything actually they remain stagnant in their work. They know they need to “wake up” (Probably because they have no food); yet, they are just too lazy to wake up. Some won’t get a job because they are too lazy. They’d rather sleep in, or they can’t “find the right hours”. This too is lazy and excuse oriented. Typical characteristics of this type of person is excessive absenteeism or finding excuses to leave work early every week. This person too could be successful but they probably stay up too late and never get the sleep they need to work hard, because they are too busy living a life that is useless to God’s purpose and kingdom.
- **Proverbs 13:4** The soul of the **sluggard** craves and *gets* nothing, But the soul of the diligent is made fat. (NASB)
 - This is the person who desires so much, but just won’t lift a finger to work for it. They typically look for the “easy way out” – they typically have huge levels of debt, because they’d rather buy everything on credit and won’t work to pay off their credit cards; therefore, they incur higher and higher interest expense and thus go bankrupt. Another characteristic, when a trial comes around they give up and quit because they are too busy craving to actually put forth initiative.. They refuse to “go” when the “going gets tough”. However, the verse indicates that the person who is “diligent” or effectually puts forth “Sweat equity” will be made “Fat” – which back in the day means “well off” or “comfortable” in wealth and life.

Second We Tend To Talk Too Much

- **Proverbs 14:23** In all labor there is profit, But mere talk *leads* only to poverty (NASB)

- Some people are “All Talk but no Game”. They talk the talk, but wouldn’t dare walk the talk. This person who is all about getting “this job” and taking it to “this level”. They have the best ideas, the “clearest future”; however, as time goes on this “idea” keeps getting pushed back, and the person uses excuses “You just wait and see” – well you wait and wait and NEVER see any fruit. People who are successful, get the job done “rain or shine” they are faithful to their commitments and complete their jobs.

Thirdly We Fantasize Too Much

Proverbs 28:19-22 He who tills his land will have plenty of food, But he who follows empty *pursuits* will have poverty in plenty. (NASB)

- Some people love the fantasy. They think and conjure up great ideas all the time. They are always fanatic about how great it would be to “do this or that”, but NEVER follows through with what he said he will. Just like the person who “Talks Too Much” ...they go nowhere and ALWAYS have an excuse.

Others Believe Money Is The Answer

Proverbs 15:16 Better is a little with the fear of the LORD Than great treasure and turmoil with it. (NASB)

- Some people could make a lot of money but it would cause their life to be filled with struggle and strife. So they decide not to take the job that pays six figures because they know they will struggle with that kind of wealth and it will ruin their life. Money doesn’t mean righteousness, it means “Prosperity Gospel” – which is evil and not Biblical. These people, won’t commit to a job, but “jump around” until they get to their “Stature” they want. Then at that time, they are so hung up in their job...they miss their family grow up.
- **Proverbs 16:8** Better is a little with righteousness Than great income with injustice. (NASB)
 - Some people could make a lot of money, but it would call for them to sin. A great example is a stripper. A stripper can make a lot of money; however, that would involve marring the image of God, because we as people bear the image of God. [**Genesis 1:26**]. A drug dealer is another job, you cannot deal crack to the Glory of God. You cannot be a hit man to the Glory of God either. This person would rather be poor physically but rich spiritually.
- **Proverbs 23:4** Do not weary yourself to gain wealth, Cease from your consideration *of it*. (NASB)
 - Some people become so obsessed with earning more money they ware themselves out! Therefore they forget to consider what they might be missing out on... such as their family.

- These are the “work-a-holics” who cannot be with their children and love them, they cannot be at home to teach the Bible, pray with their kids, or be a loving example of a spouse for their children. Then the children grow up, not being taught the life of Jesus, how to pray effectively, nor what a Godly wife/husband or family is like; and they end up playing the “guessing game” when it comes to marriage and life.

SO, WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT WORK?

We see that God was a worker

Genesis 1:31 God saw all that He had **made**, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. (NASB – emphasis mine)

The Bible tells us that God is a worker and he does His work Very Good. Then one chapter later we see:

Genesis 2:15 Then the LORD God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to **cultivate** it and **keep it**. (NASB – emphasis mine)

So we see God works and does His work very well. Part of His “Good Work” He created us and gave us a purpose – to work – Very Well. So God gave us work, and it is intended for good, and therefore we are created to work and it is good.

But there is a problem, we sinned and in Genesis 3

Genesis 3:17 Then to Adam He said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat from it'; **Cursed is the ground because of you**; In toil you will eat of it All the days of your life. (NASB – emphasis mine)

God worked. In His work, He created us and gave us a job, that job was to work. So man began His work, and then disobeyed God and sinned. As punishment, God cursed the Earth. Just as we “worked against God”; God made everything “Work against us” – now we know how it feels to be God. However, God never removed our responsibility. Therefore, work, effort, and life are hard – and that is why we are lazy, tired, talk too much, fantasize too much, and try to take every short-cut we can. But it is the one who perseveres through the tough times, the work, the effort who proves they are serious about their goal – to be like Jesus.

After all, we all believe that being a Pastor or Missionary is the “only spiritual” work a man can do. If a man doesn’t do that, then they are not “as spiritual” and thus “junior varsity” in their life. So what is the point of trying to be spiritual when you can’t do it completely anyways? Right? WRONG!

God isn’t concerned about **what** you do, but **how** you do it.

And that is why we have those warnings in the Bible that those who don't do useful work should not receive the same praise as those who do useful work [**2Thessalonians 3:10-12**], and that those who don't do useful work are worse than an unbeliever [**1Timothy 5:8**].

SO WHAT ELSE IS OUR PROBLEM WITH WORK?

Some of us think a "Job is a Job" and that is where you work starts and ends it is not spiritual.

- Some people believe that a job is just a job. And that being a student, husband, wife, mom, dad, having chores, mowing the lawn, taking garbage out – is not spiritual but maintenance.
- However, this is not Biblical
 - **1Corinthians 10:31** Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. (NASB)
 - **Colossians 3:17** Whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father. (NASB)
- Some people also believe, if I am not getting paid then I won't work that hard. That is not Biblical either. God created us to do work and we must take responsibility to work.
- Biblically, all we do is unto the Lord it doesn't end when you punch out for the day or when you leave the church building.
- Doing Godly work at your place of business will show up in your reviews which may mean more money and recognition.
 - It's like false salvation. A false "Christian" gets all pumped up for a week and then get bogged down two weeks later because being a "Christian" involves more than playing and participating in "fun and games". When life begins to get tough – no matter how much you try to escape by playing games, only attending "fellowships" you have an empty hole in your heart. So we go back to the "I'll clock in for church" mentality "then I will clock out of church" because it is too hard to be "Christian" at work or with my friends. When being a Christian is your **life**. This means taking a stand for Jesus when some unrighteousness is around you or your buddy is falling into sin. Or when you get together and don't pray before a meal. It is all about Jesus all the time – you need to stand up for Jesus.

Some People Believe Work Is Evil and Derails Us From the Spiritual Things

- Some people say "if I didn't work I could focus on reading my Bible more or praying more but work wears me out and then I can't focus as much on Jesus."
 - While, it is true the Curse made work harder – that doesn't negate our responsibility. If we can't be faithful to Jesus in the tough times at work, or when we are being pressured to participate in an unrighteous act, then what are you going to do when you get married and find out your children hate Jesus and

make your life a living hell? Are you going to give up and just let them go? What are you going to do when you have a job and then get laid off? And you and your wife, and children have to go get jobs to pay the mortgage?

- What are you doing to do when a real problem comes into your life?
- Do you really want someone who has this mentality leading you or your children to Jesus?

Sometimes We Are Open But Only To What We Want To Do

- Some people say they are “on board” to what God wants; however, they present it in a way that says: “*I am open to God, but only in Chicago*” – yeah, that doesn’t work out so well. A great example: Jonah, he definitely did not want to go to Nineveh. Sp God let a big fish eat him until he changed his mind. Sometimes, if you life up your will to God and say “because it is what would make me happy, then it must be the will of God” God will “lock you down” in your life, until you break and just have faith and trust Him to lead and guide you. Sometimes, God will stagnate your life, for the purpose of disciplining you to “Grow up” [**Hebrews 12:5-11**]
- Sometimes, when we aren’t willing to listen to Jesus – He will put us in a place we can’t escape – until we finally just say “Fine I will be obedient”

Some People Believe It Is Best If Christians Did Not Work

- Some wish they didn’t work so they could be focused on “spiritual things”. As if working at your local restaurant can’t be spiritual. Then the argument is “*well, it can be but it isn’t like you get to teach and preach the whole time*”, and my rebuttal: “as if being a good testimony and inviting people to come to church isn’t ‘*Spiritual*’ enough”. These individuals are lazy and just want to find an easy way out of things they would rather not work than put for the effort. Then they want to become pastors. My question is, do you want someone who is not willing to work hard being your pastor? Do you want this person guiding your children into respectable adults? Being a pastor is much more than speaking for 40 minutes on Sunday. They deal with things like adultery and marital issues, money issues, and sexual issues for over 400 people. But “these people” will be “good pastors” one day; yet, they can’t keep a job to pay their own bills. The Bible is Clear:
 - **Ecclesiastes 3:22** So I saw that there is nothing better than that a man should rejoice in his work, for that is his lot. (NASB)
 - **1Thessaolonias 4:11** ... make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and attend to your own business and work with your hands, just as we commanded you, (NASB)

- **Ecclesiastes 9:10** Whatever your hand finds to do, do *it* with *all* your might; (NASB)

All jobs are commanded to be “unto the Lord”; whether it be in Law, Military, Fishing, Agriculture, Teaching, Doctor, Counselors, Parenting, Retail, or Insurance. There are no “Christian jobs”, but it is **how the person does the job** - “that” makes the job “spiritual”. God doesn’t care about what you are doing but **how** you do it.

It isn’t “*I just have to figure out what God wants me to do and then I will do it to His glory.*” It is about doing all to the Glory of Jesus and in that He will guide you to where He wants you to be. But if you aren’t living for Jesus in the job you hate, (which you don’t deserve anyhow), why would he give you more responsibility or another job? You can’t even do the “easy” stuff – why would he put you in charge of other’s spiritual affairs? You don’t even work hard for the one He gave you? He is trying to refine your skills for something else.

How you work is uniquely tied into your Faith. If you work as if you working for Jesus: That means thanking Him for the job you have, using your job as a testimony for Jesus, and working as if you don’t deserve your job anyhow...He will bless that. Maybe not in an earthly blessing, but in a spiritual blessing – and that could be being a part of someone else’s salvation, or an inner peace with your financial status.

Newsflash! God is not going to call you or text you and say “*Hey, you should be flight attendant, now go to work*”. He already told you what you should do – he told you to work. So you ask, at what? Everything!

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE WAYS TO TAKE UP RESPONSIBILITY?

1. Pray to know God’s will for your life and listen when He speaks
 - a. This may involving fasting to feel God’s presence
 - b. Getting into God’s word so He can soften your heart, and be open to His guidance through the Holy Spirit. When He nudges you have have to take that leap of faith and just do what He is calling you to do.
 - i. Quick Evaluation:
 1. What would happen if you erased your Bible reading, praying, and Christian music from Sundays/Wednesdays? How many other days do you read your Bible, pray, or sing to Jesus?
 - c. Share with other people what God is doing – so often we “have our God” and forget this God is a God for all peoples.
 - d. Make sure everything you are doing (eating, drinking, working, school, family life, relationships etc) is being done in the name of Jesus.
2. Check yourself, before you wreck yourself
 - a. How dedicated is your life to Jesus?
 - b. Are you letting a BF or GF derail your relationship with Jesus?
 - c. Is there any relationship in your life that you need to reconcile?

- d. Is there anything you need to repent of?
3. Seek biblical counsel.
 - a. **Titus 2** tells us how there are positions in the church created to counsel those who under their authority. (NASB)
 - b. **Proverbs 15:22** Without consultation, plans are frustrated, But with many counselors they succeed. (NASB)
 - i. The reason people succeed in this verse is: they seek wisdom.
 - ii. If you have a job you want to do and know someone who does it – talk to them – HINT they have been there so they know more than you. Therefore, get a “leg up” on the competition and work for it.

CONCLUSION

- A lot of us do not like to work because we are sinful and don't want to do what we were created to do.
 - We do this because everything we are supposed to work for is now working against us. All because we sinned and God cursed the earth.
- We were created to work for the Glory of God
 - We need to realize that everything we do is for Jesus. Work, Home, Friends, Church, etc.
 - The “Ministry” is not the only place to live righteously and every job can be “Varsity” in God's eyes.
 - Every Job can be Righteous, but that depends on you and **how** you work it.
 - Your job does not derail you from spiritual things if you are mature in your faith.
- If you don't know what you should do for a job you should:
 - Pray , Fast, and read your Bible
 - Check yourself, before you wreck yourself.
 - What is holding you back from your relationship with Jesus?
 - Seek Biblical Godly Counsel.;