

## Stewardship: Work | Proverbs 24:30-34

I passed by the field of a sluggard, by the vineyard of a man lacking sense, and behold, it was all overgrown with thorns; the ground was covered with nettles, and its stone wall was broken down. Then I saw and considered it; I looked and received instruction. A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest, and poverty will come upon you like a robber, and want like an armed man.

### Our Stewardship of Work

1. God designed work – not only so that we would cultivate and flourish – but so that He would shape us and depend on Him
  - a. “The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.” (Genesis 2:15)
  - b. “Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.” (Colossians 3:23-24)

### Work Reveals Our Identity

1. Work communicates something about who we are –
  - a. Idolatry
  - b. Identity
    - i. “I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.” (Galatians 2:20)

### Work Reveals Our Heart

1. Work can be a reflection of our approach to how we view God and His word –
  - a. “Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.” (Isaiah 5:1-2)

### Work Reveals Our Joy (of lack of)

1. Work is to be received with gratitude, otherwise we toil for nothing –
  - a. “Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot. Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God. For he will not much remember the days of his life because God keeps him occupied with joy in his heart.” (Ecclesiastes 5:18-20)

**Benediction | Ecclesiastes 5:18-20**

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