

MONDAY 05.11.26 - 2 Thessalonians 3:10-12

¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat." ¹¹ We hear that some among you are idle and disruptive. They are not busy; they are busybodies. ¹² Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the food they eat.

If you don't work - you don't eat. Diligently work to fulfill your responsibilities rather than spending your time in idleness, gossip and meddling. Can the Word of God be any more straightforward?

We almost instinctively know idleness leads to gossip, finding fault with others and is disruptive and counterproductive. When I work, I contribute towards a more harmonious, unified, productive environment which benefits society as a whole and I feel better about myself.

We turn to these verses every time we hear of able-bodied people who "WORK THE SYSTEM" that rewards them for doing nothing and teach their kids to do the same. Stories like that really irk me!

But Paul was addressing church issues.

What would he say about those who only come to be fed on Sunday morning, can tell you all that is wrong with the church and yet, do nothing to contribute by exercising their spiritual gifts? Would Paul be irked by your story? Is it time to rewrite your story?

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

TUESDAY 05.12.26 - Colossians 3:23-24

²³ Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, ²⁴ since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

So many people I talk to have little positive to say about their job. I truly believe that this is not what God intended for His children. I wonder how much this would change if we as believers started to see our work as a form of worship. What if, whatever your vocation, you determined to do it with a grateful

attitude and in a way that would bring honor and glory to God. No matter whether you are a sanitation engineer or a surgeon, a plumber or a pastor, tradesmen or a teacher, think about the difference it would make if you saw your job as an act of worship. Not only would this make your job more enjoyable, but I am sure your boss would notice the difference, and most importantly I am sure that God would notice the difference. Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

WEDNESDAY 05.13.26 - Ephesians 6:10-13

Satan is our enemy, and his main tactics concern the mind. He blinds the minds of unbelievers (2 Cor. 4:4) so they don't see the gospel. Satan does that by distraction. Satan attempts to get people's eyes off their need of Christ and on to all the power, prestige, and pleasures that the world offers. He beguiles the minds of weak believers (2 Cor. 11:3) so that they abandon their loyalty to Christ. Satan does that by deception. Satan tries to deceive believers into embracing teaching and a lifestyle that's contrary to the Bible. He buffets the minds of strong believers (2 Cor. 12:7), hoping that they'll quit the race of the Christian life. Satan does that by discouragement. Satan tries to beat us down through suffering. That is why it is so important to appropriate the pieces of the armor of God to stand against the schemes of our enemy.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

THURSDAY 05.14.26 - Zechariah 3:3:1-2

Sometimes the visions observed by characters in the Bible are very strange and we find ourselves unable to interpret them. Here, the prophet Zechariah has a vision which is pretty clear.

He lived on earth in the mid-500's bc. That is about 100 years after Isaiah. In his vision, he witnessed Joshua, the high priest in Zechariah's time, in a heavenly setting. Both of them were heavily involved in the rebuilding of the second temple, and Joshua was the first high-priest of that temple.

This sacred duty still shows him clothed in filthy garments, as all of us are. And present is Satan already accusing him for his sin before the Lord, even in the midst of worship and righteous activities. But present also is Jesus, pre-incarnate, advocating for him. At Jesus direction, the Father is seen witnessing the cleansing of Joshua's sin. This same warfare and protection is present for us. Praise God that He loves us so.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

FRIDAY 05.15.26 - Matthew 4:10

We are called to worship and serve God alone. That was just as true in Matthew 4 as it is today. Even Jesus, in His humanity, faced direct temptation from Satan—to turn from wholehearted obedience to God.

Satan's strategy wasn't merely to provoke obvious rebellion, but to subtly redirect Jesus away from trust, obedience, and the path the Father had set.

Jesus responded with Scripture: "You shall worship the Lord your God and Him only shall you serve." No ambiguity. No room for compromise.

We each face temptations that pull at our loyalty and devotion. They may not appear as outright rejection of God, but as misplaced priorities, divided affections, and quiet compromises.

We are not left defenseless. God has given us His Word—clear, steady, and trustworthy. Like Jesus, we stand firm not in our own strength, but on the truth of what God has said.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

E2 GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

WEDNESDAY EVENING STUDY - 6:30pm. Began April 15th.

“God of the Ordinary”, A Study in the Book of Ruth Led by Barry Wills, Rm B8-10

This is a 6 session study by Alistair Begg. God still protects His people and accomplishes His purposes. Through all of life’s circumstances, we discover His loving hand at work.

SUNDAY MORNING LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Begins June 7th - 9am in Room 2

Ecclesiastes: “Finding Meaning When Life Feel Meaningless” By Lydia Brownback.

This 10 week study helps women understand the themes of sin, vanity, enjoyment, and death, ultimately encouraging believers to follow the will of God for their lives, no matter their current circumstances.

SUNDAY MORNINGS - 9:40am

Kids CHILDREN’S CHURCH (Ages 4 – 4th Grade)
LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level
NURSERY (through Age 3) *9:40AM ONLY
LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level

Youth E2 CLASS (5th – 12th Grade)
LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)

Adults **SPRING QUARTER** - Sunday Mornings

LOCATION: B8-10 - Dave Heineman- began Mar. 1
**EXPLORE THE BIBLE:
Matthew 14-28**
Gaining a better understanding of what it means to live out our faith each day.

LOCATION: B11 - Lane Kemler - began April 19th
**BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE: part 2
Seize the Day: Embracing a Mission with Purpose**
Through the book of Acts, we’ll see examples from the early church of what it looks like to joyously embrace the mission.

SUNDAY EVENINGS - 6:00pm

Youth YOUTH GROUP (5th – 12th Grade)
LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)

Adults LOCATION: Worship Center

TO SIGN UP OR REQUEST MORE INFORMATION FOR ANY OF THESE GROUPS OR CLASSES,
USE THE CONNECTION CARD IN THE BULLETIN. THANK YOU.

Ephesians 6:5-9 What To Wear To Work

“Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord”

If you really believe that Christ is your true employer, then you’ll do your work with ...

- I _____ and E _____ (vv 5-6a)
- I _____ and E _____ (vv 6b-7)
- I _____ and E _____ (v 8)

Psalm 23 For The Workplace

The Lord is my real boss, and I shall not want. He gives me peace, when chaos is all around me. He gently reminds me to pray before I speak, and to do all things without murmuring and complaining. He reminds me that He is my Source—and not my job. He restores my sanity every day and guides my decisions that I might honor Him in everything I do. Even though I face absurd amounts of emails, system crashes, unrealistic deadlines, budget cutbacks, gossiping co-workers, discriminating supervisors, and an aging body that doesn’t cooperate every morning, I will not stop—for He is with me! His presence, His peace, and His power will see me through. He raises me up, even when they fail to promote me. He claims me as His own, even when the company threatens to let me go. His faithfulness and love are better than any bonus check. His retirement plan beats every 401K there is! When it’s all said and done, I’ll be working for Him a whole lot longer; and for that, I bless His name.

 Edifying and Equipping Every Day

TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD



May 11 – May 15

INTRODUCTION:

Part of our purpose and strategy as a church is to Edify and Equip (E2) every believer. We desire to see every person take their next step with God, both individually as well as with families and small groups (E2 Communities). This devotional is to aid us in just that. We invite you to join us in daily devotion.

OVERVIEW:

Sunday, May 10th, the message will be from Ephesians 6:5-9, “What to Wear to Work.” Sunday, May 17th, we will hear a message from “Ephesians 6:10-13, Spiritual Warfare (Part 1).

KEY/MEMORY VERSE:

Follow God’s example, therefore, as dearly loved children.
Ephesians 5:1