

Daily Devotions
GET TO WORK: Faith at Work
September 12, 2021

Note: the NIV version was used to prepare these devotions

Our work matters to God.

- Conduct yourself with INTEGRITY
- Do your job with QUALITY
- The formula for Christ-honoring work is INTEGRITY + QUALITY = GODLY

Heart Preparation:

- Begin your time with praise. Praise gets our hearts and minds focused on God and the things above.
- Confess any sin that might hinder God's Word and God's Spirit from working in your heart.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to transform your life through the Word of God.

Day 1 - Christ-honoring character

One of the biggest challenges of the workplace is not being conformed to the character of the world but choosing daily to put on the character of Christ.

Read Colossians 3:5-14.

What should we be putting to death or have put to death (5)?

What do we need to continue to rid ourselves of (7-8)?

Why are we no longer to lie to each other (9)?

Note: It says the "old self with its practices". How we live matters!!!

Instead, what should we put on (10)?

What is happening to your 'new self' if you allow the Word and Spirit to work in your life (11)?

What character qualities should we be clothing ourselves with each day (12)?

How are you to forgive those who have wronged or hurt you (13)?

What is the most important quality for you to put on each day (14)?

Read 1 Peter 2:12.

What is one of the blessings of living with integrity?

Application:

What practices of the old self do you still struggle with each day? Ask God for the ability to rid yourself of it.

When are you most tempted to hurt your witness with your words? Commit Ephesians 4:29 to memory and put it into practice.

How will forgiving and letting go of your anger and bitterness help you to put on the new self?

Pick one of the character qualities of the new self and ask God to clothe you with it today. Plan what you can do during your day to live it out.

Prayer: Jesus, I want to live like You. Forgive me for the times my old self resurfaces. Help me be quick to deal with it. Thank you for forgiving me when I didn't deserve it. Help me to forgive those who have hurt me so that I can love them with Your love. Amen.

Day 2 - Integrity with finances

Read 2 Kings 22:3-7.

What was Hilkiyah the priest to do with money collected from the people (5)?

Look up the definition of the word 'entrust'.

What were the supervisors to do with the money (5-6)?

Why did they not need to account for the money?

Read Luke 12:15.

What do we need to be on guard against?

Look up 'covetousness' in a dictionary?

Why (keyword: for)?

Luke 16:10-13.

Why is integrity in little matters important (10)?

What are the consequences of not being trustworthy (11-12)?

What important decision do we all need to make when it comes to money (13)?

Application:

Can you be entrusted with someone else's money or possessions?

When are you tempted to justify being dishonest with other people's money or things?

How have you demonstrated integrity with money?

Keeping an account is a great way to be a godly steward of someone else's money and possessions, even when it isn't asked for.

How can you improve your integrity with money?

Prayer: Father, I cannot serve You and money. I choose to serve You. I want to be trustworthy in the way I handle the money and possessions I am entrusted with. Help me to be responsible and keep account of the things I am entrusted with. Amen.

Day 3 - Integrity with time

Read Ephesians 5:8-20

What change has taken place in your life (8)?

What does it look like to live as a child of God (9-10)?

What do you need to do with deeds of darkness (11)?

In light of this, what do you need to be very careful about (15-16)?

What do we need to understand (17)?

What is not to control our lives (18)?

In contrast (key-word: instead), what are we to be filled with (18)?

What changes when the Spirit of God fills our lives (19-20)?

Application:

What deeds of darkness do you need to avoid in your workplace or with your co-workers?

How have you been unwise with your time at your job?

How can you make the most of the time you are given?

How will being filled with the Spirit change how you relate to people at your job?

What difference will that make?

Prayer: Father, thank you for my job. There are so many temptations to distract me or to pull me away from what I need to be doing. Help me stay focused on my task at hand and make the most of my time. I want to be a witness for You by the way I work. Amen.

Day 4 - Resist sluggardly ways

Read Proverbs 6:6-11

What should we gain by looking at the ant (6)?

What does the ant do without a supervisor or boss (7-8)?

What does the sluggard do (9-10)?

What will happen to the sluggard (11)?

Read Proverbs 10:4-5.

What is the main point of verse 4?

If we seek to please our heavenly Father, what can we learn from verse 5?

Read Colossians 3:23.

What should your attitude be towards work? Why?

Application:

When are you tempted to be a sluggard? What type of things make you want to just stay in bed or avoid what you should be doing?

Why do you need to overcome your sluggardly ways?

What is one area you can address today?

What verse can you take with you today to encourage you to work in a way that is pleasing to the Lord?

Prayer: Father, Shine Your light on my life. Show me where I am being a sluggard and avoiding the work I should be doing. Help me to develop good work habits. Bless me as I seek to honor You today with my work. Amen.

Day 5 - Christ-honoring work

Read 2 Timothy 2:1-7

What was Timothy to be strong in (1)?

What was he to do with the things Paul had taught him (2)?

Paul uses three pictures to show Timothy how to work.

What was he to learn from the soldier (3-4)?

What was he to learn from the athlete (5)?

What was he to pick up from the farmer (6)?

What was Timothy to do with these three illustrations (7)?

Take a few minutes to reflect on this passage. Ask the Lord to give you insight.

Application:

When/how do you get entangled in outside affairs instead of pleasing your employer?

Are there any rules you have been breaking or skirting around?

At the end of the day, would others say that you are a hardworking employee?

What is one change you can make today to improve the quality of your work?

Prayer: Thank you for the wisdom that is in the Word of God. I want to please You and please my employer with how I work. Forgive me for the times I have gotten distracted. Help me be a hard working employee that brings glory to You. Amen.