

## THE WISDOM OF WORK

The LORD God took the man and placed him in the garden of Eden to work it and watch over it. Genesis 2:15 CSB

... “My Father is always working, and so am I.” John 5:17

Lazy people irritate their employers, like vinegar to the teeth or smoke in the eyes. Proverbs 10:26

A lazy person is as bad as someone who destroys things. Proverbs 18:9

As a door swings back and forth on its hinges, so the lazy person turns over in bed. Lazy people take food in their hand but don't even lift it to their mouth. Proverbs 26:14-15

Don't wear yourself out trying to get rich. Be wise enough to know when to quit. Proverbs 23:4

Take a lesson from the ants, you lazybones.

Learn from their ways and become wise!

Though they have no prince

or governor or ruler to make them work,

they labor hard all summer,

gathering food for the winter.

But you, lazybones, how long will you sleep?

When will you wake up?

A little extra sleep, a little more slumber,

a little folding of the hands to rest—

then poverty will pounce on you like a bandit;

scarcity will attack you like an armed robber.

Proverbs 6:6-11

Work hard and become a leader; be lazy and become a slave.  
Proverbs 12:24

Lazy people want much but get little, but those who work hard will prosper.  
Proverbs 13:4

### 1. Remind yourself who you really work for.

Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. Colossians 3:23

So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. 1 Corinthians 10:31

Commit your actions to the LORD, and your plans will succeed.  
Proverbs 16:3

### 2. Look for God at work.

If you are a thief, quit stealing. Instead, use your hands for good hard work, and then give generously to others in need. Ephesians 4:28

Reflection Question:

How might God be inviting you to reshape your view of work?

Scripture from the NLT unless noted.