

Saturday

Polish up the memory verse, and finish any daily meditations you may have missed. Thank you for sticking with your plan to read through the book of Proverbs!

Please pray for the Lord to work through the lives of every single person in our church. Again, thank God for the blessings He pours out on us.



TWIN LAKES CHURCH
www.tlc.org



PART 9

Thriving at Work

APRIL 20 & 21, 2013 • RENÉ SCHLAEPFER

If I want fulfilling, productive work that does not take over my life, I must:

1. _____ my work

Wise people **think before they act**; fools don't — and even brag about their foolishness. *Proverbs 13:16 NLT*

A prudent person foresees danger and **takes precautions**. The simpleton goes blindly on and **suffers the consequences**. *Proverbs 27:12 NLT*

2. _____ my work

Diligent hands bring wealth... *Proverbs 10:4 NV*

Diligence brings a man to power... *Proverbs 12:24 NEB*

Lazy hands make a man poor, but diligent hands bring wealth. *Proverbs 10:4*

Steady plodding brings prosperity... *Proverbs 21:5 LB*

3. _____ my work

A dull ax requires great strength, so be wise and **sharpen the blade**.
Ecclesiastes 10:10 LB

Do you see someone **skilled** in their work? They will serve before kings...
Proverbs 22:29

Get all the **advice** you can, and you will succeed; without it you will fail.
Proverbs 15:22 GN

4. _____ my work

Do not wear yourself out to get rich... *Proverbs 23:4*

over

The problem of unrewarding work

“I undertook great projects . . . [but] I hated life, because the work that is done under the sun was grievous to me. All of it is meaningless, a chasing after the wind.” *Ecclesiastes 2:4,17*

- Reframe the _____ of my work

Does not wisdom call out?

Does not understanding raise her voice?

At the highest point along the way,
where the paths meet, she takes her stand;

beside the gate leading into the city,
at the entrance, she cries aloud. . . *Proverbs 8:1–3*

Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine. *Proverbs 3:9–10 NIV*

- Reframe the _____ of my work

He who **guards a fig tree** will eat its fruit, and he who **looks after his master** will be honored. *Proverbs 27:18* (See *Genesis 1:15; Isaiah 65:17,21*)

- Reframe the _____ of my work

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. *Colossians 3:23–24 NIV*

Jesus: “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” *Matthew 11:28*

Daily Meditations

During this series, we will read through the entire book of Proverbs in our daily meditation time! These devotions will be simple — just a chance for you to discover Proverbs relevant to your life!

Monday

Read Proverbs 23:1–14. Right after Easter in chapter 22 we began a list of “don’ts” in the Book of Proverbs that continues in this chapter. In today’s reading, which “don’ts” really stand out for you? Write them down here:

One theme in this section: The dangers of pursuing riches, favors, and gifts. Does it surprise you that Solomon, who was himself wealthy, would say “Don’t wear yourself out trying to get rich” (verse 4)? Why would he say that?

It’s interesting that the Bible never says riches are wrong. But it says repeatedly that a pursuit of riches is wrong. What’s the difference?

Think back on your study of Proverbs so far. Rather than a pursuit of riches, what sorts of attitudes and behaviors does Proverbs say will make you successful?

Ask God to help you see how you can apply the wisdom you read — and then ask him to help you apply it today!

Tuesday

Read Proverbs chapter 23:15–35. This is one of the few sections of Proverbs that spends several verses all on one general topic. Apparently his son is leaving the nest, and Solomon (with his wife — see verse 22) is warning the young man against “partying”: thrill-seeking through alcohol and sex. Summarize Solomon’s advice.

What positive comments about the son’s character and destiny does Solomon mix into his warnings? What does this teach you about how to warn others?

Ask God to help you apply the wisdom you read — today!

Wednesday

Read Proverbs 24:1–12. Verses 11 and 12 are probably some of the most convicting in the whole book of Proverbs! In what way are there people “staggering toward slaughter” around you?

How can you help rescue them?

Is there any excuse not to, according to these verses?

Ask God to help you apply the wisdom you read — today! Thank God that Jesus, by God’s grace, has supplied salvation for those stumbling to slaughter: Pray for ways to make His grace known!

Thursday

Read Proverbs 24:13–25. Some of my favorites in this passage are verses 17 and 23–25. What are one or two of your favorites? Write them out. How can you apply these to your life today?

Ask God to help you apply the wisdom you read — today!

Friday

Read Proverbs 24:26–34. Which proverbs hit home for you? Write them out. How can you apply them to your life today?

Look back over your notes from last weekend. Ask yourself: Why do I do my work — what are my motives? Reframe your work as a gift from God.

Ask God to help you apply principles of Proverbs today!



Memory Verse

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters. *Colossians 3:23*