

The Christian Professional: Glorifying God in Our Work

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seanho.com/ccwc-work (pdf)

Aspire to be a **fool**,
not a professional.

Work to train your **heart**.

Toil for God's kingdom
by resting in His **victory**.

If innovation is purely **market driven**, [...] we could have amazing advances in inventions that leave the world even more **divided**.

[...]

If we have **optimism**, but we don't have **empathy**, it doesn't matter how much we master the secrets of science – we're not really **solving problems**, we're just working on **puzzles**.

-- Bill Gates, [Stanford commencement 2014](#)

1. The Snare of **Professionalism**
2. The Blessing of **Employment**
3. The Grace of **God's Work**

1. The Snare of Professionalism

- a. Chasing the Guild
 - b. Building Ambition
 - c. Earning Wages
-

God has chosen the **foolish** things
of the world to shame the **wise**, [...]
God has chosen the things that are **not**,
so that He may nullify the things that **are**,
so that **no man may boast** before God.

-- 1 Corinthians 1:27-29 (NASB)

1. The Snare of Professionalism

- a. Chasing the Guild
 - b. Building Ambition
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-

“Truly, truly, I say to you, you are **seeking me**,
not because you saw signs,
but because you **ate your fill** of the loaves.

Do not work for the food that **perishes**,
but for the food that **endures** to eternal life,
which the **Son of Man** will give to you.
For on him God the Father has set his **seal.**” ...

-- John 6:26-27 (ESV)

... Then they said to him,
“What must we **do**,
to be doing the **works of God?**”

Jesus answered them,
“This is the work of God,
that you **believe in Him** whom he has **sent.**”

-- John 6:28-29 (ESV)

Who is **wise** and understanding among you?
By his good conduct let him show his **works**
in the **meekness** of wisdom.

But if you have bitter **jealousy** and selfish **ambition**
in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth.
This is not the wisdom that comes down from above,
but is **earthly**, unspiritual, demonic.

-- James 3:13-15 (ESV)

1. The Snare of Professionalism

- a. Chasing the Guild
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-

“Abraham **believed** God,
and it was counted to him as **righteousness.**”

Now to the one who works, his **wages**
are not counted as a gift but as his **due.**

And to the one who **does not work**
but **believes** in him who justifies the ungodly,
his **faith** is counted as righteousness.

-- Romans 4:4-5 (ESV)

1. The Snare of **Professionalism**
2. The Blessing of **Employment**
3. The Grace of **God's Work**

2. The Blessing of Employment

- a. Rejecting **Idleness**
 - b. **Sharing** Generously
 - c. Training our **Heart** Attitude
-

For you yourselves know
how you ought to **imitate** us,
because we were **not idle** when we were with you,
nor did we eat anyone's **bread**
without paying for it,

but with **toil** and **labor** we worked night and day,
that we might not be a **burden** to any of you. . . .

-- 2 Thessalonians 3:7-8 (ESV)

... If anyone is not willing to **work**, let him not **eat**.
For we hear that some among you walk in **idleness**,
not busy at work, but **busybodies**.

Now such persons we command and encourage
in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their **work quietly**
and to earn their **own living**.

-- 2 Thessalonians 3:10-12 (ESV)

2. The Blessing of Employment

- a. Rejecting Idleness
 - b. **Sharing Generously**
 - c. Training our Heart Attitude
-

Let the **thief** no longer steal,
but rather let him **labor**,
doing **honest work** with his **own hands**,
so that he may have something to **share**
with anyone in **need**.

-- Ephesians 4:28 (ESV)

2. The Blessing of Employment

- a. Rejecting Idleness
 - b. Sharing Generously
 - c. Training our Heart Attitude
-

Slaves, in all things
obey those who are your masters on earth,
not with **external** service,
as those who merely **please men**,
but with **sincerity** of heart,
fearing the Lord.

-- Colossians 3:22 (NASB)

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3. The Grace of God's Work

- a. Welcoming His **Return**
 - b. Steadfast because of His **Victory**
-

But the **day of the Lord** will come like a thief,
in which the **heavens** will **pass away** with a roar
and the **elements** will be **destroyed**
with intense heat,
and the **earth** and its **works** will be **burned up. . . .**

-- 2 Peter 3:10 (NASB)

... Since all these things
are to be **destroyed** in this way,
what sort of people ought you to be
in **holy conduct** and **godliness**,
looking for and **hastening**
the coming of the day of God!

-- 2 Peter 3:11-12 (NASB)

3. The Grace of God's Work

- a. Welcoming His Return
 - b. Steadfast because of His Victory
-

When the perishable puts on the **imperishable**,
and the mortal puts on **immortality**,
then shall come to pass the saying that is written:
“**Death** is swallowed up in **victory**.”

“O death, **where** is your victory?
O death, **where** is your sting?”
The sting of death is **sin**,
and the power of sin is the **law**. . . .

-- 1 Corinthians 15:54-56 (ESV)

... But thanks be to God, who gives us
the **victory** through our Lord **Jesus** Christ.

Therefore, my beloved brothers,
be **steadfast, immovable**,
always abounding in the **work of the Lord**,
knowing that in the Lord your labor is **not in vain**.

-- 1 Corinthians 15:57-58 (ESV)

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