"The Blessings Of Work"

Lesson Text: Ecclesiastes 5:18-20.

I. God Designed Us To Work.

- There Are Many Who Have the Mistaken View That Work Is Evil Or A Curse To Mankind Because Of The Fall In The Garden- Genesis 3:17-19.
- Work Itself Is Not Evil Or A Curse To Us- Genesis 2:15.
- God's Wisdom Teaches Us To Be Industrious Like The Ant- Proverbs 6:6-8.
- God Instructs Us- Ecclesiastes 9:10.
- The Example Of The Woman Of Proverbs 31:27.

II. Why Do We Need To Work?

- 1. Money. 2. Independence. 3. Community. (Employment First Florida Website).
- Work Provides For Our Needs.
- It Takes An exchange Of Goods Or Services To Attain Money Needed For Our Needs...
- Work Also Gives Us A Sense Of Duty, Purpose, & Identity.
- Our Work Can Help People With Their Needs (Doctors, Lawyers, House builders....).
- It Can Give Us The Satisfaction Of "A Job Well Done." Ecclesiastes 3:12-13.
- It Keeps Us From Begging Or Stealing For Our Needs. Luke 16:3; Ephesians 4:28.
- It Keeps From The Sins Of Idleness- 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15.
- It Keeps Us From Poverty- Proverbs 6:9-11.
- It Keeps From Depending On Others (Government) To Supply Our Needs.

III. The Kinds Of Work We Can Do.

- Acts 18:1-3- Paul, Aquila, & Priscilla Were Tent Makers, Acts 16:14- Lydia, A Seller Of Purple,
 Acts 10:1, Cornelius Was A Centurion, & Matthew 13:55- Joseph, Was A Carpenter....
- 11 Main Types Of Jobs Of Today:
 - 1. Arts. 2. Business. 3. Communications. 4. Education. 5. Health Care. 6. Hospitality.
 - 7. Information Technology. 8. Law Enforcement. 9. Sales And Marketing. 10. Science.
 - **11.** Transportation.
- We Cannot Do Anything That Compromises, Undermines, & Causes Us To Sin!

IV. What Is My Attitude Toward My Work?

- Do I Hate It? Do I Love It? Do I Merely Tolerate It?
- Our Attitude Can Determine Our Outcome....
- Colossians 3:22-4:1.
- Am I A Christian Example At The Workplace? Matthew 5:16.