

## How Can I Be Successful in the Workplace?

### I. Introduction

- A. Ecclesiastes 2:22 (NLT) *So what do people get for all their hard work?*
- B. Two extreme responses to work:
  - 1. The work \_\_\_\_\_
    - a. Ecclesiastes 4:5 (TLB) *Foolish people refuse to work and almost starve.*
  - 2. The \_\_\_\_\_
    - a. Ecclesiastes 4:8 (NLT) *This is the case of a man who is all alone, without a child or a brother, yet who works hard to gain as much wealth as he can. But then he asks himself, "Who am I working for? Why am I giving up so much pleasure now?" It is all so meaningless and depressing.*

### II. What Does the Bible Say About How We're to Work?

- A. Work \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1. Ecclesiastes 9:10a (NAS) *Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might.*
  - 2. Colossians 3:23 (NAS) *Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men.*
- B. Work with \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1. Ecclesiastes 7:1a (TLB) *A good reputation is more valuable than the most expensive perfume.*
- C. Work \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1. Ecclesiastes 10:10 (NLT) *Since a dull ax requires great strength, sharpen the blade. That's the value of wisdom; it helps you succeed.*
  - 2. Always be \_\_\_\_\_, growing, developing!
- D. Work \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1. Ecclesiastes 8:6a (NLT) *Yes, there is a time and a way for everything.*
  - 2. Don't do the \_\_\_\_\_ thing; do the appropriate thing!
  - 3. Having written \_\_\_\_\_ is extremely important!
- E. Work \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 (NLT) <sup>9</sup>*Two people can accomplish more than twice as much as one; they get a better return for their labor. <sup>10</sup>If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But people who are alone when they fall are in real trouble.*
  - 2. \_\_\_\_\_ needs some \_\_\_\_\_ over the long haul!
- F. Work \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1. Ecclesiastes 11:6 (NAS) *Sow your seed in the morning and do not be idle in the evening, for you do not know whether morning or evening sowing will succeed, or whether both of them alike will be good.*
  - 2. A major difference between successful people and unsuccessful people is that successful people \_\_\_\_\_!

### III. The Remedy for Workaholism

- A. Readjust my \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1. Ecclesiastes 4:4a (NLT) *Then I observed that most people are motivated to success by their envy of their neighbors.*
  - 2. The sole goal in life for many people is to \_\_\_\_\_ the competition!
  - 3. Mark 8:36 (NAS) *"For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul?"*
  - 4. Ask yourself:
    - a. \_\_\_\_\_ am I working so hard?
    - b. Is the \_\_\_\_\_ worth it?
    - c. Why do I think it will \_\_\_\_\_ me?
  - 5. Ecclesiastes 5:15 (NLT) *People who live only for wealth come to the end of their lives as naked and empty-handed as on the day they were born.*
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ down long enough to \_\_\_\_\_ what I already have.
  - 1. Ecclesiastes 3:13 (NLT) *And people should eat and drink and enjoy the fruits of their labor, for these are gifts from God.*
  - 2. The mistake of \_\_\_\_\_ enjoyment!
- C. Intentionally put a \_\_\_\_\_ on the amount you work.
  - 1. Ecclesiastes 10:15 (NAS) *The toil of a fool so wearies him that he does not even know how to go to a city.*
  - 2. Exodus 20:9-10a (NAS) <sup>9</sup>*Six days you shall labor and do all your work, <sup>10a</sup>but the seventh day is a sabbath of the LORD your God; in it you shall not do any work."*
  - 3. We weren't created to work \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_!
  - 4. Put these things in your schedule in place of your work:
    - a. \_\_\_\_\_
    - b. \_\_\_\_\_
    - c. \_\_\_\_\_
- D. Put your security and trust in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 1. The root of a lot of workaholism is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2. Matthew 6:31-32 (NAS) <sup>31</sup>*Do not worry then, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear for clothing?'* <sup>32</sup>*For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things."*
  - 3. Philippians 4:19 (NAS) *And my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.*
- E. Exchange my \_\_\_\_\_ for God's \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 1. Matthew 11:28-30 (NAS) <sup>28</sup>*Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS. <sup>30</sup>For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."*
  - 2. Your work will never \_\_\_\_\_ the deepest needs in your life.
  - 3. Matthew 6:33 (NAS) *"But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you."*

### IV. Conclusion