

Iw2baw4tL

We sing the song, but do you really mean it?

We offer excuses for not working for the Lord.

5 Reasons not to work

Matthew 5:14-16

- 14 You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. 16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:14-16

- Are you a light in your world?
- Are you letting it shine?
- Is God glorified in your life and example?
- Is your light hidden under a basket?
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- Think about some common excuses for not working.

1 I just can't get involved.

- Involvement is necessary
- **Ephesians 2:10** For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.
- Created to do good works.
- Not involved = making problem worse

2 I don't have the time.

- **Colossians 4:5-6** 5 Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time. 6 Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.
- Redeem time = use wisdom, can't do over
- Outside = non-Christians

2 I don't have the time.

- Joshua ask for more time
- **Joshua 10:12-13** 12 Then Joshua spoke to the Lord in the day when the Lord delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel: "Sun, stand still over Gibeon; And Moon, in the Valley of Aijalon." 13 So the sun stood still, And the moon stopped, Till the people had revenge Upon their enemies.

3 I just don't care.

- Good works reflect your character.
- **1 Corinthians 12:25b** members should have the same **care** for one another.
- **2 Corinthians 8:16** But thanks be to God who puts the same earnest **care** for you into the heart of Titus.

4 I don't have skill.

- **Exodus 28:3** So you shall speak to all who are gifted artisans, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron's garments, to consecrate him, that he may minister to Me as priest.

4 I don't have skill.

- **1 Chronicles 28:21** Here are the divisions of the priests and the Levites for all the service of the house of God; and every willing craftsman will be with you for all manner of workmanship, for every kind of service; also the leaders and all the people will be completely at your command."
- Willing desire is mentioned before skill

5 I don't have the resources.

- Money does not solve all problems.
- God needs your time and energy
- God needs you to use what you have
- **1 Thessalonians 5:14** How we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all.
- These don't take any money.

Summary Thoughts

- How we work is a barometer of our growth.
- We must not be carnal, looking for reasons to neglect the work.
- **Titus 3:1-2** 1 Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work, 2 to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men.

Summary Thoughts

- **2 Timothy 2:21** Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, **prepared for every good work.**
- **Colossians 1:10** that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, **being fruitful in every good work** and increasing in the knowledge of God;

Summary Thoughts

- **Hebrews 13:20-21** 20 Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, 21 make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.