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MEANINGFUL ACTIVITY IN THE PURPOSE OF GOD

3. What meaningful activities were given to Adam and Eve?
Genesis 1:27, 28; 2:15

4. Under what conditions were they given this assignment?

5. What does this teach us about developing a philosophy of life that will give us meaning, fulfillment and purpose?

6. What type of meaningful activity are angels involved in currently? What are their working conditions? Isaiah 6:1-3; Hebrews 1:14

7. What do saints do in heaven while they wait for the resurrection?
Revelation 7:14, 15

8. Will we ever get to work under perfect conditions here on earth?
Revelation 20:4

9. How will our place of service in that kingdom be determined?
Matthew 25:14-30

10. Our work is to be purposeful. Why is it to be diligent?
1 Corinthians 10:31
Ephesians 6:5-7
Titus 2:9, 10

11. Is the distinction between sacred work and secular work valid?

MEANS OF ACHIEVING PROSPERITY

12. Why are we to work with our own hands?

1 Thessalonians 4:11, 12

Ephesians 4:28

13. What was Paul's practice as a missionary? 1 Corinthians 4:12;
1 Thessalonians 2:9

14. How are we to handle the person who refuses to work?
2 Thessalonians 3:10, 11

15. What about the person who will not take care of his own family?
1 Timothy 5:8

16. What is God's attitude toward wages?

Luke 10:7

James 5:4

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17. Fill in the following chart on “diligence” and “slothfulness.” (Some verses will have statements that apply to both; others pertain only to one.)

Proverbs	DILIGENCE	SLOTHFULNESS
6:9-11		
10:4		
12:11		
12:24		
12:27		
13:4		
13:11		
13:22		
13:23		
14:23		
19:15		
20:4		
20:13		
21:5		
21:17		
21:25		
22:29		
23:21		
24:33, 34		

27:23-27

28:19

30:25-28

31:13-27
v.27

18. Write a brief paragraph regarding God's view of diligence and slothfulness.

19. What is God's purpose for you in your labor? Ecclesiastes 2:24; 3:12, 13

MEANS OF ALLEVIATING POVERTY

Biblically we have a responsibility to help those who are in need. We live in a society that encourages us to have our hands out, looking for assistance. God's program is just the opposite. We are to take care of our own needs, and help others, if we have the means to do so. We must be careful not to create such a high standard of living that we use all our resources, making it impossible to fulfill this biblical injunction.

20. What classes of people are we to help?

Acts 20:34, 35

Ephesians 4:28;
1 John 3:17

1 Timothy 5:9, 10

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21. What is to be our attitude toward giving? How does this correspond with the general attitude in your culture? Acts 20:35

22. As you learn the truth of this statement and become a gracious giver, how can you share the blessing of Acts 20:35, so that others come under its blessing?

23. Write a summary statement about your view of work and your commitment to God as a steward in this area.