

Have A Desire to Work

“I Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.” - Exodus 3:1

(a) No Room for Laziness.

In order to be called and to be used by God we must have a desire to work! There can be no room for laziness, especially once we make that decision to ‘step up’ and partner with God.

The Bible is full of scriptures pitched at laziness and its consequences. For example, *Proverbs 6:10-11* warns us that habitual laziness can lead to poverty:

*“10 A little sleep, a little slumber,
a little folding of the hands to rest—
11 and poverty will come on you like a thief.”*

Moses, a shepherd, worked hard at taking care of Jethro’s flock. For example, in search of food, he led the flock to a distant place - ‘the backside of the desert.’

(b) Don’t Despise the Work That You Do!

Perhaps Moses’ job as a shepherd may have been despised by others in that time. This may be inferred from Eliab’s scolding of David for coming to the battlefield. He angrily asked:

“Why did you come down here? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness?” - 1 Samuel 17:28.

Interestingly, God is often referred to as the Shepherd... and we are described as His sheep:

Psalm 23: “The Lord is my Shepherd...”

Psalm 100:3: “Know you that the LORD he is God: it is he that has made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.”

Further, David, the little shepherd boy, and whose job may have been seen as trivial by others, was anointed by Samuel to be the next King of Israel (See 1 Samuel 16: 11-13).

In short, we should never frown upon the job that we do. In fact, one’s job is perhaps the least of God’s qualifications for being called and chosen for service.

(c) One's Job Can Be the Training Ground.

Your job can provide invaluable training for what God may ultimately call you to do. Here Moses was leading sheep to the backside of the desert. He was not aware that he was being prepared to lead a nation out of bondage. After having that encounter with God, he was sent to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt. He was chosen to be a shepherd of thousands of enslaved 'sheep' who cried unto God for deliverance.

In conclusion, never take your work for granted, nor think that the work you do is insignificant. God always has a plan for everything, and often uses one's present job as the training ground for service unto Him.

If our job is that of a full-time student, we should have a desire to work hard at our studies and strive to do the best we can do.

In short, in stepping up with God, we must have good work ethics, and be able to work hard at what we do. There can be no room for laziness. Be blessed.

Key Principles: In stepping up, I will have a desire to work.

Heavenly Father,

Great is Your holy name. Thank You for giving me a teachable spirit as I spend quality time with You, and in Your word. Renew my mind, O Lord, and bless my hands as I work diligently at my job. Let me have a desire to work. I rebuke the spirit of laziness, and all those distractions which seek to discourage me. Help me not to despise the work that I do, for I know that You are using every work (study) situation to prepare me for Your service. I pray for the right work ethics, and for the grace and strength, when needed, to overcome every obstacle in my path. In Jesus' name I pray with thanksgiving. Amen.

Memory Verse:

*"10 A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest—
11 and poverty will come on you like a thief." - Proverbs 6: 10-11.*