

Work and Employment

2 Thessalonians 03:06–18

1. *Keep away from every brother who lives in idleness — who does not work*

- a. Because he disobeys the instructions of God
- b. Because you have the example of committed workers
 - 1) Paul worked night and day
 - 2) Paul had the ministerial right to be supported, but he did not exercise it
- c. Because you must work or lose your right to eat
- d. Because idlers tend to be busybodies

2. *Work — every one of you*

- a. Earn your own living — settle down
- b. Do not get tired of doing good

- 6 In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers, to keep away from every brother who is idle and does not live according to the teaching you received from us.
- 7 For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you,
- 8 Nor did we eat anyone’s food without paying for it. On the contrary, we worked night and day, labouring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you.
- 9 We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to make ourselves a model for you to follow.
- 10 For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: “If a man will not work, he shall not eat.”
- 11 We hear that some among you are idle. They are not busy; they are busybodies.
- 12 Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the bread they eat.
- 13 And as for you, brothers, never tire of doing what is right.

<p>3. <i>Discipline the idler:</i> <i>Disassociate from him</i></p> <p>a. That he may feel ashamed</p> <p>b. Warn him as a brother</p> <p>4. <i>The conclusion:</i> <i>The believer receives</i> <i>three possessions in Christ</i></p> <p>a. A great peace</p> <p>b. A special and personal fellowship</p> <p>c. The grace and strength of Jesus Christ</p>	<p>14 If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter, take special note of him. Do not associate with him, in order that he may feel ashamed.</p> <p>15 Yet do not regard him as an enemy, but warn him as a brother.</p> <p>16 Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.</p> <p>17 I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand, which is the distinguishing mark in all my letters. This is how I write.</p> <p>18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.</p>
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