



INTRODUCTION

Part 6 - Working to Build Wealth

The series, Wise Guy, explores wisdom from the biblical book of Proverbs. Solomon asked God for wisdom to rule God's nation, and He granted the request. We could all use a little more wisdom, insight, knowledge and understanding, too.

Solomon, one of the wisest men who ever lived, penned the Old Testament book of Proverbs to address our need to know and understand life. His insights can help us navigate relationships, work, pleasure, and a host of other challenging situations.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some of the things you did growing up to earn extra money?
2. Read Proverbs 28:22 and 20:21. What is wrong with "get rich quick" approaches to building wealth? Can you think of an example where someone gained wealth quickly only to lose it all?
3. Read Proverbs 21:17, 13:11 and 3:9-10. What principles related to finances are addressed in these verses?
4. Read Proverbs 10:4-5; 20:13, 24:30-34 and 16:26. What do we learn from these verses about work?
5. Read Proverbs 22:13 and 15:19. How would you define a "slacker?" What of you think of the excuse the slacker makes in Proverbs 22:13? What excuses do people often come up with these days for not working hard?
6. Do you think people these days are more or less willing to work than previous generations? Explain your answer.
7. Why do you think God wanted Adam and Eve to work? What are some of the benefits of working?
8. How might you apply this lesson to your life?

APPLICATION

In his day, Solomon was one of the wealthiest men alive. Solomon has offered a lot of wisdom and insight into the subject of wealth in the book of Proverbs.

We find ourselves living in a culture where waiting for things and working as little as possible seem to be becoming commonplace. The connection between working and being able to buy things is losing ground to many people feeling as though they are simply entitled to having more.

Work works, and it's a part of the system God set up from the beginning. The concept of exchanging our energy, talents, and abilities for something others want and are willing to pay for works. Work gives us something meaningful to do, allows us to invest our lives into others, helps us to pay the bills, and, when we work as a means of serving Christ in our attitude and in our work ethic, we will likely prosper. Work is God's program for building wealth.

KEY VERSES

Proverbs 28:22	Proverbs 20:13
Proverbs 13:11	Proverbs 16:26
Proverbs 10:4-5	Proverbs 22:13
Proverbs 3:9-10	Proverbs 15:19
Proverbs 20:21	Proverbs 24:30-34
Proverbs 21:17	Colossians 3:23