



WORDS FROM
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Proverbs 22:13 tells about a man who gets up one morning and doesn't want to go to work. He looks outside and sees a lion in the street and decides that he'd better stay at home. Many of us can relate to that scenario. After all, when you're looking for an excuse to lay out of work, one is as good as the other!

Now, this man's wife or his children were not able to see that ferocious lion standing in the street, but in his mind the lion was for real. The truth is that when a person is "seeing lions," he or she probably has bigger problems than just bad eyesight.

I recently read about the **top 9 workplace attitudes** that all employers despise. They are ...

- #9 the clock watchers' attitude
- #8 the trouble makers' attitude
- #7 the complaining attitude
- #6 the always-needs-more-help attitude
- #5 the excuse-after-excuse attitude
- #4 the time waster attitude
- #3 the "I'm underpaid" attitude
- #2 the rumor attitude (always spreading rumors)
- #1 the not-my-job-attitude

Far too often the same attitudes that keep us from being good employees also keep us from being good servants of the Lord. Sometimes these bad attitudes cause the things we do for the Lord to become jobs rather than labors of love.

It's the difference between merely having a job and experiencing a calling. When we hurry through our work as quickly as we can, with as little effort as possible, for as much money as we can get, we have a job. But when we learn to enjoy what we do and want to do our best at it because we know that everything we do is really to the Lord, then, our job becomes a calling.

If coming to church, teaching your Sunday School Class, working in the nursery, singing in the choir, playing in the orchestra, visiting the lost, serving as a Deacon or Committee Member, working in AWANA's or with the Youth, etc. has become something that you **have to** do rather than you something that you **want to** do, chances are you have allowed your ministry to become a job.

Remember, God has given each of us a work to do. His assignment for our lives is in perfect keeping with our gifts and abilities. He places within our hearts a desire to do certain things. He then equips us to do what we could never do on our own.

There's never room for laziness in the work of God. What God asks us to do always require hard work. In Romans 12:11 Paul writes, "*Not slothful in business: fervent in spirit; serving the Lord.*"

So, put your whole heart into what God has called you to. When your heart gets the "mully-grubs," ask God to renew your energy and help you to once again be excited about serving Jesus.

Wise Solomon said it best in Ecclesiastes 9:10, *"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might."* Always give your best ... no matter what. Give it all you've got. One of my music teachers repeatedly said to me, "If it's worth doing, then it's worth doing right ... the first time!" How true when what we are doing is for the Lord.

We are on the threshold of a very busy summer. The warmer days will bring some opportunities to enjoy some leisure time off from the normal schedules of our busy lives. I would encourage you if possible to take your vacation time for family and rest. It's important to disconnect from the stress of our routine responsibilities and allow our spirit, mind and body to rest.

At the same time, don't forget that the work of the Lord must continue. Be sure to remain faithful in your attendance to Sunday School and worship during the summer months. Also, be sure to be faithful in your giving, even if it means doubling up the week after you return home. The work of the church does not slow down in the summer. We continue to engage in all of our regular ministries. In fact, summer time usually increases the pace in some areas. Please be faithful to the Lord and to His church during this summer.

Are there some areas of our Christian service that we can improve in? Have we become a bit complacent about our work for the Lord? The Lord wants to help us take what we do for Jesus more seriously and determine to do our very best for Him. Remember what you do for Jesus is never in vain. So work as to one day be able to hear the Lord say, *"Well done thou good and faithful servant."*