

Finding your Work

Bringing life to those dry bones

There is much to do....



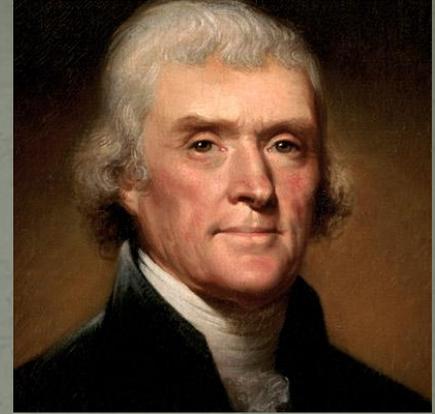
- We are designed for pursuit of good work
- 2Thes 3:10 - For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either.
- Eccl 2:24 - There is nothing better for a man than to eat and drink and tell himself that his labor is good. This also I have seen that it is from the hand of God.

But what do we pursue?



- Our pursuits are fueled by our priorities
- We need to carefully consider our priorities
- Luke 22: 41-42 - And He withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and *began* to pray, ⁴² saying, "Father, if You are willing, remove this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Yours be done."

Isn't my work valuable?



- Born April 13, 1743 – Died July 4, 1826
- Known for many things, wanted to be remembered for three primary things listed on his headstone
 - Author of Declaration of American Independence
 - Author of the Statute of Virginia for Religious Freedom
 - Father of the University of Virginia
- Died in significant debt
- Within 6 months, all his worldly possessions auctioned off

Vanity of Vanities!



- Eccl 1:2-4 - ²“Vanity of vanities,” says the Preacher, “Vanity of vanities! All is vanity.”³ What advantage does man have in all his work which he does under the sun?
⁴ A generation goes and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever.
- Eccl 1:11 - There is no remembrance of earlier things; And also of the later things which will occur, there will be for them no remembrance among those who will come later *still*.

Valley of the dry bones

Ezekiel 37:1-14



God's Promise

Ezekiel 36: 23-28



Good afternoon Mr. Ambassador

- 2Cor 5:16-21 Therefore from now on we recognize no one according to the flesh; even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know *Him in this way* no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. ¹⁸ Now all *these* things are from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation,¹⁹ namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.²⁰ Therefore, we are *ambassadors for Christ*, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Thus saith the Lord

- 1 John 2:5-6 - but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him: ⁶ the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.
- James 1:27 - Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of *our* God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, *and* to keep oneself unstained by the world.
- Matt 25: 34-36 - ³⁴ “Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry, and you gave Me *something* to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me *something* to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; ³⁶ naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.’

There are many parts

- 1 Cor 12:12-18 - For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ. ¹³ For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.¹⁴ For the body is not one member, but many. ¹⁵ If the foot says, “Because I am not a hand, I am not *a part* of the body,” it is not for this reason any the less *a part* of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear says, “Because I am not an eye, I am not *a part* of the body,” it is not for this reason any the less *a part* of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired.

You have to take it out!

