

BACKGROUND SCRIPTURES: Genesis 2:15-25; Exodus 20:9; Nehemiah 6:3; John 5:17; 9:4; Acts 20:33-35; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-12; Ephesians 4:28

PRINT PASSAGES: Genesis 2:18; Exodus 20:9; John 5:17; 9:4; Acts 20:33-35; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-12



L11 A Good Day's Work

REFLECT



Adolphus III lives in Humble, Texas, and attends Humble High School. He will mentor his young cousins this summer in Puerto Rico. He will establish a neighborhood service program that will continue after he returns to Texas. He is taking four of his best friends from his Jack and Jill organization to assist him.



They want to use this as a national model for mentorship. They will teach their cousins and their friends everything from studying the Bible to respecting elders, girls, and everyone in between. They plan to mow yards to show them how to have a decent work ethic. They will also volunteer to mow lawns for their elderly neighbors who cannot afford to pay for these services. They will learn the Christian ethic of helping those who are less fortunate. They will also learn camping techniques as well as how to swim. Adolphus III has been partnering with a church and a community boys club in Puerto Rico. The project is called "A Good Day's Work."

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The next three months will be an exciting adventure for everyone involved. Adolphus III has a vision to expand this program, which helps young boys aged eight to twelve years old worldwide while spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. His four friends are also Christians and have grown up together since they were toddlers. Each of them has a skill set that will contribute to the project's success.

Adolphus III remembered his granny, Rosa Pearl, telling him at a young age to surround himself with people who were making something of their lives. She always said that an idle mind is the workshop of Satan. She challenged him at eight years old to do something great in his life and for others.

His grandmother has passed away. But he knows that she is very proud of his accomplishments. He knows that she and God are very pleased.



"In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" (Acts 20:35)



**Genesis 2:18; Exodus 20:9;
John 5:17; 9:4; Acts 20:33-35;
2 Thessalonians 3:6-12**

18 The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

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9 "Six days you shall labor and do all your work."

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17 In his defense Jesus said to them, "My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I too am working."

.....

4 "As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work."

.....

33 "I have not coveted anyone's silver or gold or clothing. **34** You yourselves know that these hands of mine have supplied my own needs and the needs of my companions. **35** In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

.....

6 In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers and sisters, to keep away from every believer who is idle and disruptive 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, laboring 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 offer ourselves as a model for you to imitate. **10** For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat." **11** We hear that some among you are idle and disruptive. 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 food they eat.



INTERSECT

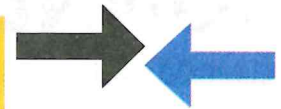
GOD CREATED A SPECIFIC ORDER IN WHICH HE WANTED HUMANITY TO OPERATE IN HIS CAREFULLY CRAFTED AND DESIGNED WORLD. God realized that it was not good for man to be alone. Eve was created to combat Adam's loneliness and also to provide support as his helpmeet. God created the universe by working six days and resting on the seventh day.

There is no excuse not to worship God or do the work of the Lord one day out of the week. We should worship God and be deliberate in our personal plans for our own lives. Jesus was in alignment with His father, God, who always works to create and sustain life. Jesus did heal a man on the Sabbath, and it caused a major ruckus amongst the Jewish leaders.

God works all the time in our lives. Jesus reminded the disciples that God's work must be done to show how he works miracles for others to see. Jesus wanted the disciples to follow his example to work when they have the opportunity because that opportunity can go away at any time. As Paul was saying goodbye to the church of Ephesus, he emphasized that he was honorable in doing the work of the church. There is a blessing in sacrifice.

Paul told the people in Thessalonica to stay away from idle people who were not working for the benefit of the gospel. They needed to stay in alignment with those who were furthering the cause of Christ.

Inside Out



Respond to the questions below in your journals.

1. In Genesis 2:18, God said, "It is not good for man to be alone." What did God say that he would do?
2. In Exodus 20:9, how many days shall you labor?
3. In John 5:17, who did Jesus say was at work?
4. In John 9:4, what happens during the day?
5. In John 9:4, what happens at night?
6. In Acts 20:33-35, it says, "I have not coveted anyone's silver or gold or clothing." What does coveted mean? Who was Paul speaking to about his hands? What is more blessed?



THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT!

Young people must understand that God expects us to work on behalf of His kingdom. He wants us to rest physically but dedicate one day to honor and worship Him. God wants you to purposely set aside time away from school

activities, social media, and hanging out with your friends to honor Him. God wants you to experience His marvelous works as you walk daily with Him as a witness to others. The question today is "Are you dedicating yourself to kingdom work?"

Write a prayer asking God to help you make Him a priority in your life.



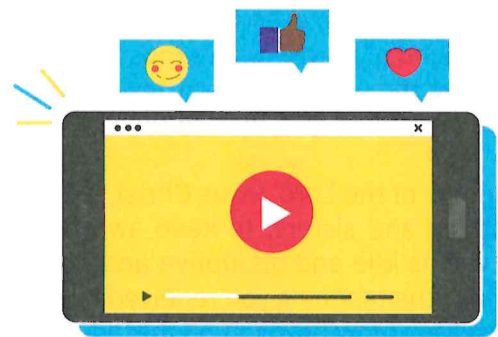
CONNECT

Acts 20:35 teaches us that it is more blessed to give than to receive. As Christians, we have a mandate to help those who lack resources due to financial constraints, talent, or physical limitations. We are his miracle workers to others on earth. Jesus was generous in helping others, as he blessed them in their lowest hour of need. For others, they may have endured a lifelong physical ailment, but Jesus was generous in His healing of their ailments. As we uplift and help others, we bring ourselves blessings from God. We must always think of Jesus when helping others.



STEPPING OUT!

View the video at <https://youtu.be/acImX8YMVaA>. You are challenged to put action to your faith. After viewing the video, discuss who "the weak" in the church might be today and what responsibility the church has to offer financial assistance to the working poor in their congregation. There may be ministries such as food banks or clothes closets already established at your church. You and your classmates can brainstorm other ideas to help assist the working poor who have various needs.



MEDIA MISSION

Find a song, video, or image that relates to the lesson. As time permits, you will be invited to share your song, video, or image with the class. View the video at <https://youtu.be/IK0C4-6cqW4>.

