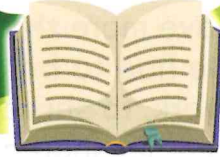


May 10, 2026

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Carrying Our Share of the Load

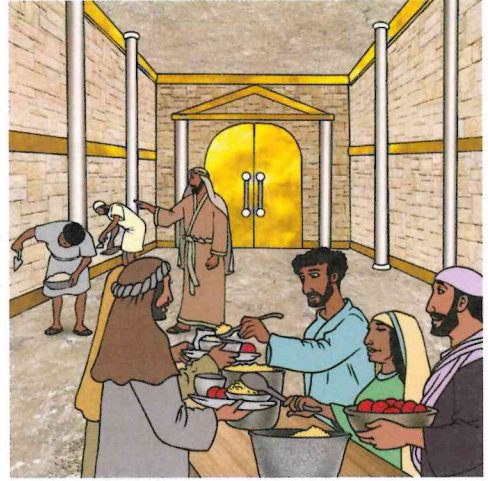
God once told the Israelites that there were six days in the week that they were supposed to do all their work. This taught the Israelites the importance of hard work and dedication.

Many years later, Paul, a *dedicated* (loyal) servant of God, gathered the church *elders* (leaders) in Ephesus. Paul reminded them that he had been a hard worker who humbly served God. One of the most important things that Paul did was to make sure that he taught them things about faith that would help them grow closer to Jesus.

Paul never desired anyone's money or clothing. Paul worked and supplied his and his friends' needs. Paul encouraged the believers to be generous and unselfish. He encouraged them to work hard and help those in need.

He reminded them of Jesus' words: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Paul's teachings remind us that it is important to work hard, be humble, and help others.



Lesson Scriptures:

Exodus 20:9;
Acts 20:17-21, 33-35

Key Verse

[Paul said,] "You yourselves know that these hands of mine have supplied my own needs and the needs of my companions." (Acts 20:34)





Hard Work Makes Life Fun!

Max was blessed to have more things than his friends. But he was never satisfied. He had to be constantly reminded to do his chores and homework, to share, and to be grateful.

One day, Max's grandmother shared some wisdom with him.

"Max," she began, "the Bible tells us to work hard, be humble, and be thankful for what we have. We must not be jealous of others. You have not been doing your chores or completing your homework. You get angry when you must share. Do you think God is pleased with this?"

"No, Grandma," Max said with a sigh. "I am so sorry."

Inspired by his grandmother, Max decided to change his ways. He started balancing his chores, homework, and playtime. He found time to help others and became more grateful and unselfish. At first, it was tough, but Max soon noticed that he had more time for fun because he was not rushing to finish his tasks at the last minute.

Max's parents said, "Max, we are very proud of you for being so responsible."

"Thanks, Mom and Dad. Hard work makes life more fun," Max noted happily.



Exploring the Story in Ruby's Lab



Hey, everybody! Ruby here! Working in my lab is fun. But before lab time, I must finish my homework and chores. And I cannot forget to schedule time to help others interested in science and math. Like Max, I have learned to manage my time to balance work, play, and service. And guess what? You can do it, too. When we help others, we are blessed in return. Let's discuss what you learned from Max.

Here is your assignment: make a daily schedule. Write the time you spend doing work, serving others, and having fun. Bring the list next week for discussion.

Work Hard to Decode

Each letter in the *cryptogram* [crip-toe-gram] phrase has been replaced with a random number. Fill in the letter that matches the random number, and you will decode the message. Some letters have been provided in the message.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|
| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M |
| | | | | 15 | | 9 | | | 17 | | | 6 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |

17 15 22 5 22 22 23 26 2 ' 26 20 26 22
 "

6 10 19 15 7 1 15 22 22 15 2 20 10

9 26 11 15 20 8 23 13 20 10

19 15 28 15 26 11 15 "



It Can Be True, or It Can Be False

Read the sentences below. Circle **True** if the statement is true, or **False** if it is *false* (not true). On the lines below, rewrite any false statements to make them true.

1. God told the Israelites to work for six days. **True or False**
2. Paul was a dedicated servant of God who taught the elders in Ephesus. **True or False**
3. Jesus taught that it is better to receive than to give. **True or False**
4. Paul's teachings remind us of the importance of being selfish and lazy. **True or False**
5. Paul worked to supply his and his friends' needs. **True or False**
