



September 4, 2016

Labor Day: 8 Biblical Principles of Work

Some people hate to do it. Some love to do it. Some go to great lengths to avoid doing it. Some do it too much. Since the Garden of Eden everyone has worked or depended on someone else's work for their survival. Work sets a person's lifestyle—where you live, when you sleep and eat, the time with family, even your dress.

Another constant about work is the fact that God has a clear perspective on it, and we are to align our thoughts with His. Consider the following 8 principles that outline God's view of work:

- 1) Work is ordained by God.** It was His creative invention from the beginning. The Bible declares that God worked ([Genesis 1](#)).
- 2) Work is for a lifetime.** *By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground* ([Genesis 3:19](#)). Meaningful activity plays a critical role in being a human being - whether paid or volunteer.
- 3) Work is not a punishment.** God did not create work as drudgery, but as a gift of fulfillment to life. A human being *can do nothing better than...find satisfaction in his work.* ([Ecclesiastes 2:24-25](#))?
- 4) Work has three purposes:** to provide money or resources to supply the necessities of life; to provide for a quality of life in the satisfaction of doing a job well; and to serve God.
- 5) Work calls for obedience.** ([Colossians 3:22](#)). The *real* boss is Jesus Christ. See your job as service to Him .
- 6) Work should be done with excellence.** You are to *render service, as to the Lord, and not to men* ([Ephesians 6:6-7](#)); not to be men-pleasers but God-pleasers.
- 7) Work is honorable.** All work brings glory to God and fulfillment to you, if it is done to God's glory ([1 Corinthians 10:31](#)).
- 8) Work provides an opportunity for witness.** You manifest a powerful message, both verbal and nonverbal, of a supernatural approach to work. ([Matthew 5:16](#))

This is an excerpt from an article by James Eckman, published by Crosswalk.com.

Getting to Know :

Heidelberg United Church of Christ

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The mission of Heidelberg UCC is to know our Savior and to let Him work through us as we reach out in worship, service, and witness to all. Our members love ministry and mission. We are excited about the new outreach starting this month. September 11th our Sunday School is back in session. Our children will be engaged in a new curriculum called Deep Sea Discovery and our classrooms are being turned into an ocean adventure theme. Our adults will be looking into how Science supports the Scriptures. During worship, we are having a special Remembrance Service. Afterwards, we will be having a Picnic and Road Rally as we kick off Rally Day.

We will participate in the Fall Festival Sept. 24th and Rocktoberfest Oct. 1st as we survey the needs of the community. Oct. 15th and 29th, we will be offering a seminar on Boundaries from 1 to 3 p.m. We will also be participating in the CROP walk in Lansdale Oct. 9th.

Over the summer, we participated with two other local churches to have a very successful Vacation Bible School for all ages, dinner included every night, sponsored entirely by the churches via a golf outing organized by our members.

Throughout the year, we will be having a special Veteran's Day Service, participate in Angel Tree Gifts and Christmas Shoe Box distribution, and a Living Nativity. We partner with and support a variety of missions such as Manna On Main Street and Haven of Hope.

We also have a men's breakfast the 4th Saturday of each month, discussing important topics of special interest.



Prayers are requested for Heidelberg UCC in Hatfield and Rev. Dr. Marianne L. Unger .