



**Be Willing to Work**  
27<sup>th</sup> in the “Thessalonians” Series  
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13  
September 28, 2025  
Pastor Mickey Klink

**Introduction:** In this text, God commands us to have properly ordered lives in regard to our work.

1) The Lord Jesus Christ commands us to live properly ordered lives, especially in regard to habits of hard work and benefiting from the work of others (v. 6).

2) The apostle Paul models a properly ordered life in regard to work and commands us to do the same (vv. 7-13).

**Application:** Paul’s instructions and example provide us with two truths and two warnings:

Truths:

- Christianity is not just a philosophy or theory but a lifestyle – a “properly ordered” life.
- Work is a common grace good.

Warnings:

- This passage is not prohibiting Christians from being generous to those in need or denying Christians in need from receiving help and benevolence.
- This passage has been poorly used as a tool for debates between socialism and capitalism.

**Response**

Brothers and sisters, let us “never tire of doing what is good” (v. 13).

## **Sunday Text Questions**

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Read the text aloud and discuss any significant observations or issues needing clarification.

- 1) What kind of work ethic did you learn growing up, and who, if anyone, modeled a good work ethic for you?
- 2) How does the apostle Paul's command in this passage get strengthened by the opening phrase, "In the name of the Lord [King] Jesus Christ, we command you" (v. 6)? What kind of demand does that make on us today?
- 3) Why would God care if Christians work hard? Do the details of our physical life matter when our souls are saved?
- 4) Paul commands Christians "to keep away from" Christians who have "disordered lives" and do not work hard (v. 6). What does that look like in practice?
- 5) How did Paul and his co-workers model a good Christian work ethic (vv. 7-10), and how might that model be useful for us today as well?
- 6) What does this passage teach Christians today about the importance of work and good work habits, and how might you apply this to your current work ethic and habits?
- 7) In what other ways, if any, did this passage speak into your life to teach, rebuke, correct, or train you in righteousness (cf. 2 Timothy 3:16)?

**Further study this week:** Passages related to the message of this week's text: Ecclesiastes 2:22-25 (Mon); Psalm 90:16-17 (Tues); Colossians 3:23-24 (Wed); Psalm 128:1-2 (Thurs); Genesis 2:15 (Fri).