

The Bottom Line: Your Profession

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I. Introduction.

A. Outlooks toward a profession.

1. Something to be endured.
2. Something to gain money.
2. Something that is part of the whole of life.

B. We should have both excellence and humility in our profession.

II. Is it right or wrong to succeed?

A. True success is being the person God wants me to be, doing the thing God wants me to do and doing it in the way God wants it to be done.

B. God did not create man to come in second place.

III. Principles regarding work.

A. We should operate on a God first basis. (Matthew 6:33)

B. God's intent is that we should work.

C. Work, save and store. (Proverbs 10:5; 12:9, 24; 13:4; 28:19; Exodus 20:9)

D. Work helps our self-esteem. (1 Thessalonians 4:11; 2 Thessalonians 3:10)

E. We should work well. (Titus 2:9-10; Colossians 3:23; Mark 7:37)

F. We should be honest and truthful. (Proverbs 16:11; Ephesians 4:15; Colossians 3:9-10; Mark 10:45; 2 Corinthians 4:5)

G. We should make a profit.

H. Remember whose you are and what is his. (1 Chronicles 29:11, 14)

I. Be a good steward. (Deuteronomy 8:18; Philippians 1:29; 2 Timothy 3:12)

J. We need to work well for a platform of excellence to work from.

K. See eternal value in your work and do not jump around. (Romans 11:29; 1 Corinthians 7:20)

IV. Hindrances to getting to the bottom line of our profession.

A. The wrong mindset.

B. The love of money. (1 Timothy 6:10; Proverbs 23:4-5; Ecclesiastes 5:10-11)

1. It can ruin your goals.

2. It can ruin your family.

C. A lack of goals.

Application questions:

1. What does the Bible teach about work that is countercultural?

2. Why is success a good thing?

3. What will you do to become more successful at your work? Explain.
