

Laziness

INTRO

Each of us has encountered someone who is lazy or maybe we have even been lazy ourselves. With most of the world in quarantine, it is easy to fall into lazy behaviors. Maybe you aren't as on top of your chores or you figure that project you have to turn in virtually for school can wait.

We live in a country driven by capitalism and the love money. Have you ever heard the phrase "that time is money and money is time"? While it's true to a certain degree, it's this mentality that if you're not working around the clock, then productivity is being lost and you're being lazy. So is that really the case? Does this ideology apply spiritually as well? Is there a time and a place for us to be lazy as Christians?

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT IT?

A. What does it mean to be lazy?

- It is defined as *"the quality of being unwilling to work or use energy; idleness. Laziness (also known as indolence) is disinclination to activity or exertion despite having the ability to act or to exert oneself."*
 - Ex: If there are dishes in the sink, that you know you're the one who's supposed to be cleaning them but you just wait until your mom or someone else does it—that's laziness.
- When you allow your decision to not act on something that you know you're supposed to do and have the ability to do impact someone else.

B. Know the difference between being Lazy and Resting.

- Resting implies that some work has been done. Even God rested and insisted his people do so with the Sabbath under the old law—[Genesis 2:2](#); [Exodus 35:2](#)—but there was work always done prior to the rest.

C. God has called us to be Workers

- [1 Corinthians 3: 9-11](#) We're called to be his fellow workers with Christ as our foundation
- While we are one in Christ Jesus ([Ephesians 4:4-5](#)), we are called to be responsible for your own workload because in the end you have to be responsible for your own soul. You can't get into heaven just because your parents lived worked hard as a faithful Christian you have to do it for yourself. [Galatians 6:4-5](#)

- That means use your talents in the Church so that you and the Church as a whole can constantly work towards the goal of seeking and saving the lost. [1 Peter 4:10](#); [Romans 12: 6-8](#); [Matthew 28:19-20](#)
- [Proverbs 16:27](#) – When you are being lazy, it’s an opportunity for the devil to come in and attack you.
 - Ex: Think about it—on days that you would consider “lazy days”, maybe you’re watching TV, you stay in pajamas all day, etc. You’re comfortable and you’re not thinking about any work that you need to be doing. The idea is that your guard is down. You would not be prepared if your teacher just showed up to your house, would you? The same is true with our Christianity—we can’t afford to take a day off and be lazy because that’s just an opportunity to Satan to plant his seeds.

D. Hard work reaps rewards

- The Bible is clear that if you work there will be a reward but if you opt to be lazy, that there are repercussions for that as well. [Galatians 6:7](#); [Proverbs 14:23](#); [Proverbs 13:4](#); [2 Thessalonians 3:10](#)

E. What are we working towards?

- To finally be able to rest! Heaven is our goal. While we can apply these methods to the simple things in our life like chores and homework, but what God really wants us to do is work at being the best Christians we can be. [John 6:27](#)
- Everything we do should to be in an effort to glorify God. We should do our very best in all that we do so as not to bring shame on his name. Remember that being a Christian means that you’re an ambassador or representative of Jesus. When people look at us and the work we do, they should see him. [Colossians 3:17 and 23](#)

CONCLUSION

So is there a place for laziness as Christians? The answer is “no”. God has set a time and place for everything (**Ecclesiastics 3**), but laziness is never a part of the equation. If we look back at our original definition of laziness—making a choice to not work and that choice affecting someone else. When we choose not be active workers in the Church, then we essentially choose to be lazy Christians. And we can’t afford to be lazy about spreading the Gospel or maintaining a healthy relationship with God because souls—including yours-- are on the line and we don’t know what tomorrow may bring (**James 4:14; Proverbs 27:1**).

While the idea of work can sound daunting or scary at times the Bible encourages us to not grow weary in doing good work (**2 Thessalonians 3:13**). This week, think about areas in your life that you might have been lazy both in your spiritual walk as well as your everyday activities. How can you can improve?