

I Want To Be A Worker For The Lord?

There is a song that we sing from time to time titled, "I want to be a worker for the Lord." It is a song that most everyone knows and as a result we really sing out. But have we really paid much attention to the words of that song? Verse one goes like this: "I want to be a worker for the Lord, I want to love and trust His holy word; I want to sing and pray and be busy every day, In the kingdom of the Lord. I will work, I will pray, I will labor every day in the vineyard of the Lord." Every Christian should love to sing this song because they are living this kind of life on a day-to-day basis. However, such is not the case. Many, far too many, Christians are singing the words to this song and others without thinking about what they are saying to God. How can one sing, "I want to be a worker for the Lord" and can only be seen at the services of the Lord once a week? Or how can one sing, "I want to sing and pray and be busy every day" when God is not a priority in their life? There are many things that are involved in the Lord's work in which we should be active workers in His vineyard.

The Lord's work consists of several areas of in the life of a Christian. Before we can get motivated to do His work we must first believe totally in Him (John 6:28-29). When we believe in the Lord we then should be moved to constantly want to do good. Paul wrote, "Comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work" (2 Thessalonians 2:17). Wanting to do good and to practice righteousness in the Lord is something that each one of us should want to do (Acts 10:35; Ephesians 2:10). A worker for the Lord is one that takes every opportunity to teach someone about the wonderful Christ. Paul said of Timothy, "Now if Timotheus come, see that he may be with you without fear: for he worketh the work of the Lord, as I also do" (1 Corinthians 16:10). However, we cannot teach anyone the word of God if we do not take the time to study the word ourselves (2 Timothy 2:15). The Lord's work also consists of keeping all of the commandments which He has given to use Luke 17:10 says, "So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do." It does not do us any good to profess to be a Christian if we are not making every attempt to do everything Christ has asked us to do.

When we do the Lord's work we should not do it to be seen of men (Matthew 6:1; 23:5). We should be workers for the Lord because we want to please Him, not because we want to be seen of men to please them. If we are pleasing to the Lord, then we will be pleasing to men. We should desire to do His work because we want to give God the glory (Matthew 5:16; 1 Corinthians 10:31). When we set our minds to do His work willingly (1 Corinthians 9:17), and heartily (Colossians 3:23), then we will ensure that everything we do in word or deed will be in Christ's name (Colossians 3:17).

There are at least four reasons why we should have a sincere desire to do the Lord's work. First, in order to be saved (Philippians 2:12). Eternal salvation with Christ will only come to those that obey him (Hebrews 5:9). Second, in order to be acceptable to Him (Acts 10:35). When we fear God we will keep His commandments (Ecclesiastes 12:13) and do right in His sight (James 4:17). Are you working righteousness in all aspects of

your life before the eyes of Christ today? Third, to be blessed (Matthew 5:3-11). Fourth, to be rewarded (Revelation 22:12). Since our reward is based on our work (2 Corinthians 5:10), then what manner of persons ought we to be (2 Peter 3:11)?

May we all be “workers for the Lord” not in word only but in action! A true worker for the Lord will be evident to all (1 Timothy 4:15). This is the day that we should be about the work of the Lord, for, as Jesus said, “... the night cometh, when no man can work” (John 9:4). May we all be determined to work for the Lord to the very end (Revelation 2:26), knowing that your labor is not in vain (1 Corinthians 15:58). Oh how sad it will be at the judgment to know that we wore the name “Christian,” and sang the song to God, “I want to be a worker for the Lord” but never put into practice what we said to Him: “This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men” (Matthew 15:8-9).

Adapted from Richie Thetford