

Series: Balancing Life's Demands – Part 3

Scripture: Ecclesiastes 4:8

Date: November 9, 2008

HOW TO KEEP A BALANCED PERSPECTIVE ABOUT MY WORK

Eccles. 4:5 The fool won't work and almost starves but feels that it is better to be lazy and barely get by, than to work hard, when in the long run it is all so futile.

Eccles. 4:8 "Here's a man...who is always working, never satisfied with the wealth he has. For whom is he working so hard and denying himself any pleasure? This is useless...and a miserable way to live." (GN)

1. _____ my _____ !

Most people confuse their _____ with their _____.

Ephesians 1:5 Because of His love, God had already decided that through Jesus Christ he would make us his sons - this was his pleasure and purpose. (GN)

Matthew 6:26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?

Work provides three things...

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

But it is not your sole means of _____ and _____.

2. _____ my _____ !

Eccles. 4:4 Then I observed that the basic motive for success is the driving force of envy and jealousy! But this, too, is foolishness...

Mark 8:36-37 What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?

Ask yourself three questions...

1. Why am I...
2. Is the...
3. Why do I think...

3. _____ my _____ !

Exodus 20:9-10 You have six days in which to do your work, but the seventh day is to be a day of rest dedicated to Me. (GN)

Psalm 127:2 (LB) It is senseless for you to work so hard from early morning until late at night, fearing you will starve to death; for God wants his loved ones to get their proper rest.

Mark 6:31 Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest."

What should you do on your Sabbath?

1. Rest my _____
2. Recharge my _____
3. Refocus my _____

4. _____ my _____ !

Eccles. 3:13 That everyone may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all his toil--this is the gift of God.

One of the greatest mistakes we make is the mistake of _____.

1 Tim. 6:17 Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

John 6:27 Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you.