

“Our culture has an obsession with performance. We want to know how many units a salesman sold, how many home runs a baseball player hit, how many A’s a student made, how many degrees an applicant has, and on and on. These are somehow the signs of being not just successful, but worthwhile in our culture.”

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“Somehow we have gotten achievement mixed up with worth... This attitude may be an inescapable part of competitive living in the modern world, but it has created a feeling in many of us that we have about as much personal worth as we can earn.” —Dr. Chris Thurman

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I Am What I Do

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³⁸Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. ³⁹And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted with much serving.

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And she went up to him and said, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me.” ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, ⁴²but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her.”

—Luke 10:38-42 ESV

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⁴¹...you are anxious and troubled about many things, ⁴²but one thing is necessary. —Luke 10:41b-42 ESV

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What is your life focus?

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IN YOUR SPIRITUAL LIFE...

Are you focused on being a worker for God or being a worshipper of God?

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“Worship is at the heart of all that we are and all that we do in the Christian life. It is important that we be busy ambassadors, taking the message of the Gospel to lost souls. It is also essential to be merciful Samaritans, seeking to help exploited and hurting people who need God’s mercy.”

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“But before we can represent Christ as we should, or imitate Him in our caring ministry, we must spend time with Him and learn from Him. We must ‘take time to be holy.’”

—Warren Wiersbe

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It is easy to get caught up in religious performance...

- **I am good because of all the good I do.**
- **I am good because of all the bad I don’t do.**

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When I realize God has accepted me in Christ, I no longer live for His approval. I live from His approval.

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...⁸but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

—Romans 5:8-10 ESV

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¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do.

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By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

—Romans 8:1-4 ESV

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IN YOUR FAMILY LIFE...

Are you focused on being a facilitator for your family or a father in your family?

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Dad's Job	BLS Occupation	Hrs. Per Week/ Wks. Per Year	BLS Mean Hour Wage
Barbecuing	Cooks, All Other	3 hrs./52 wks.	\$11.99
Driving	Taxi Drivers/Chauffeurs	9 hrs./52 wks.	\$12.03
Help/Homewk.	Teachers/Instructors, etc.	10 hrs./40 wks.	\$17.91
Family Finances	Accountants/Auditors	.5 hrs./52 wks.	\$33.72
Mowing/Landscaping	Grounds Maintenance	2 hrs./52 wks.	\$14.07
Moving Furniture	Laborers/freight/hand	.5 hrs./month	\$12.62
Car Maintenance	Mechanics/Technicians	20 hrs./year	\$18.54
Coaching Team	Coaches/Scouts	40 hrs./year	\$17.47
Scout Leader	Recreation Workers	50 hrs./year	\$12.18
Assembly of Items	Assemblers/Fabricators	30 hrs./year	\$14.16
Pest Removal	Pest Control Workers	4 hrs./year	\$15.65
Handyman	Maintenance/Repair	4 hrs./month	\$17.75
Plumber	Plumbers, Pipefitters, etc.	.5 hrs./month	\$24.92

Dad's 2012 Value = \$20,248

Wage Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

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IN YOUR WORK LIFE...

Are you focused on doing your best or being your best for Christ and your company?

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²²Bondservants, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. ²³Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, ²⁴knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.
—Colossians 3:22-24 ESV

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But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.
—1 Corinthians 15:10 ESV

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“People say I did it because I wasn’t winning the race. But I won very few races. That wasn’t it. It’s like I was out of control. I had developed this kind of wrong attitude about what God wanted for me and I tried to please other people. Nobody pushed me. I don’t deny I did it, but why, I don’t know.”

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“I used to want to have a nice little answer, ‘This is it’... but now I am at peace with it. I don’t want to analyze it anymore. A lot of options were eliminated by what happened, but it’s also helped me focus on what’s most important. I just want to live life the best way I can.”
—Kathy Ormsby

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His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse nor His delight in the legs of a man, the Lord delights in those who fear, who put their hope in His unfailing love.
—Psalm 147:10-11

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