



How to Find Rest this Labor Day

"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."
Ecclesiastes 4:8

Six ingredients for success in the workplace:

Solomon's points on successful employees...in any occupation:

1. Integrity "A good reputation is better than expensive perfume..." Ecclesiastes 7:1 (GN)
2. Cooperation "Two are better off than one, because together they can work more effectively." Ecclesiastes 4:9(GN)
3. Persistence "Keep on sowing your seed, for you never know which will grow—perhaps it all will!" Ecclesiastes 11:6 (LB)
4. Enthusiasm "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might..." Ecclesiastes 9:10 (NIV)
5. Skill "If the ax is dull and its edge unsharpened, more strength is needed, but skill will bring success." Ecclesiastes 10:10 (NIV)
6. Efficiency "There is a right time and a right way to do everything..." Ecclesiastes 8:6 (GN)

"There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His. Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest..." Hebrew 4: 9-11 (NKJV)

How to get a real rest this Labor Day:

R = Readjust my values.

"I have also learned why people work so hard to succeed: it is because they envy the things their neighbors have." Ecclesiastes 4:4 (GN)

"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?" Mark 8:36-37 (NIV)

"In spite of all our hard work, there's nothing we can take with us." Ecclesiastes 5:15 (GN)

E = Enjoy what I have now.

"All of us should eat and drink and enjoy what we have worked for. It is God's gift." Ecclesiastes 3:13 (GN)

"It's better to have only a little, with peace of mind, than be busy all the time with both hands..." Ecclesiastes 4:6 (GN)

S = Set time aside for God.

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

"It's senseless for you to work so hard from early morning until late at night...for God wants his loved ones to get their proper rest." Psalm 127:2 (LB)

T = Trade my pressures for God's care.

"Don't worry, saying, 'What shall we eat...or drink...or wear?' For the pagans run after these things, and your Heavenly Father knows you need them." Matthew 6:31-32 (NIV)

(Jesus) "Come to me, you who are tired from carrying your heavy loads, and I will give you rest...the yoke I'll give you is easy and the load I'll put on is light." Matthew 11:28-30 (GN)

