

Sunday School Lesson, May 10, 2026
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Lesson—A Good Day's Work¹

**Text: Genesis 2:18; Exodus 20:9; John 5:17; 9:4; Acts 20:33-35;
2 Thessalonians 3:6-12**

I. Aim for Change/Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, we will...

1. Develop a Christian ethic regarding responsibilities in work, school, and home
2. Recognize God's presence in everyday circumstances.
3. Advocate for individuals who, despite working, remain unable to meet their basic needs.

Why This Lesson Matters: Beginning with creation, God ordained work not only as a means of self-support but also as a channel for generosity towards others.

Key Verse: *“In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”*, (Acts 20:35, NIV).

II. Topical Outline of the Lesson

1. Introduction
2. A Foundation for Work (Genesis 2:18; Exodus 20:9)
3. Knowing Your Purpose (John 5:17; 9:4)
4. We Must Help (Acts 20:33-35)
5. Avoid Idleness (2 Thessalonians 3:6-12)

III. Prominent Character(s) in the Lesson

Adam: The first man, formed from the earth and charged with tending the Garden of Eden.

Eve: the first woman, created as Adam's partner. Her actions introduce moral discernment into the human experience.

Jesus: The son of God, whose miracles, including healing on the Sabbath, demonstrate the continuity of divine work.

Paul: A Jewish convert to Christianity who championed the gospel throughout the Roman world, modeling a life of work and witness.

¹ Outline Content courtesy of the Sunday School Publishing Board Teacher Manual, which should be purchased at www.sspbnb.com

IV. Key Terms in the Lesson (KJV)

<i>Coveted</i>	<i>Helper</i>	<i>Labor</i>	<i>Ministered</i>
<i>Tradition</i>	<i>Worketh</i>		

V. Historical/Biblical Background and Lesson Context

Work is part of the creative and powerful character of God. God worked to create the world. Work by men and women is a reflection of the image and likeness of God, having a nature to work.

The Old Testament affirms God's creative work and his intervention on behalf of his people. The New Testament continues this theme by pointing to the work of God and of Jesus. Work is marked by both energy and urgency. Jesus taught that work must be timely yet purposeful, for opportunities do not last forever. Illness or limitation may prevent some from working, but where possible, work brings dignity to life and glorifies God.

Food for thought/question for consideration: (What have we learned, Charlie Brown?)

Many people wonder what life would be like if they did not have to work. Work is not simply a means to support one's life, but it is a way for us to live in the purpose and design of God for our lives. Work, when done in the right spirit, can be an opportunity for an extension of grace and generosity to those who come into our orbit.

Closing Hymn: *Blessed be the tie that binds, our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.*

Sunday School Slogan: *To Sunday School to Sunday School, we all should go; we have classes for all ages, help us to grow.*