

Time and Work

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1. God's work

Read the creation story in Genesis 1 and 2:1-2.

1. For how many days did God work?
2. Make a list of the six days and what God did on each day.
3. How do we know that God was pleased with His work? (Genesis 1:31)
4. What did God do on the seventh day?

2. Working and resting

1. How many hours do you usually sleep each night?
2. Select 5 people and ask them how much sleep they have each night. Make a graph to show how much each person sleeps.
3. Why might some people need more sleep than others? (Hint: think about age.)
4. Is there is a difference between sleep and rest?
Write a definition of each:
 - Sleep
 - Rest
5. Why do we need to rest?
6. What would be the problem with staying up until midnight every night?

3. Working with others

Some work is done on your own. Some work is done with the help with other people.

1. Make a list of work activities that can be done on your own.
2. Make a list of work activities for which you require a helper.
3. List some tasks that require a group of people working together:
 - in your classroom
 - at home

- in a community service.

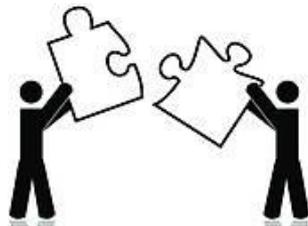
4. Working together well is called co-operation.

Give an example of a task for each of the following that would need co-operation:

- The classroom
- The home
- The Community

5. Read Genesis 2:20. Why did God create the first woman?

6. How did He do this?



4. People in the Bible who co-operated with each other

Read Exodus 2:1-10

1. Who co-operated with who?
2. Why was co-operation important?

Read Nehemiah 3

1. What were the Jewish people building?
2. What parts of the building in particular needed to be repaired?

Read Nehemiah 4:6.

3. Which word tells us that the people had a good attitude to work?

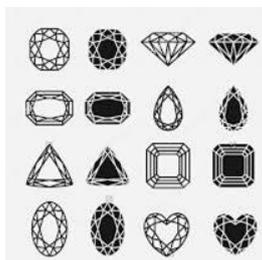
Building a House

4. Make a list of the different tradesmen who help in the building of a house.

Co-operating together: Building God's House

Read Exodus 35:21-29

5. What is being built here?
6. The people brought their best gifts to God. They were gifts they had made themselves. List five things that the people brought to God's house.
7. Who was in charge of the project?
8. List three occupations mentioned in Exodus 35:35?



5. Working to find the best way

Try to think of a time when you needed to alter your first ideas or plans so that the finished result could be more effective.

This is what Gideon had to do.

Read Judges 7.

1. Gideon was the leader of the army in battle but God was not happy about his plans. Why? Read verses 5-6 to find out.
2. God knew that there was a better way. How did God make changes to Gideon's plan?
3. How many men were enlisted at the beginning?
4. How many left because they were afraid?
5. How many left because they lapped like dogs and were not keeping a watch for the enemy?
6. How many left in his army now?
7. Write a mathematical equation to tell this event in numbers.



6. Everyone has talents

Everyone has a talent of some kind!

What is the meaning of the word 'talent'?

1. List some talents that your parents have.
2. Describe some of the talents that you have.

Some people have musical talents

3. Read 1 Samuel 16:23. What instrument could this boy play well?
4. What sort of instrument is this and what does it sound like?

5. Where do our talents come from? Find your answer in James 1:17.
6. How can you use your talents at school?
7. Do you think your talent will help you choose an occupation when you leave school?
8. What occupation would you like to follow?
9. How could you use your talents in this work?

7. Occupations in the Bible

Find out the occupations of people mentioned in these verses:

1. Acts 10:6 Simon was a _____
2. Acts 10:1 Cornelius was a _____
3. Acts 16:14 Lydia was a _____
4. Acts 18 Paul was a _____
5. Mark 1:16 Simon and Andrew were _____
6. Matthew 13:55 Joseph was a _____
7. Luke 19:2 Zacchaeus was a _____
8. Which of these occupations are still practiced today?
9. Which of these occupations have changed in the way that they are carried out?



8. Time

1. Read Luke 15:11-32. How did the son waste time?
2. How could it have been avoided?
3. List some ways in which people today waste time.
4. Make a chart for yourself showing every hour of one day. Mark against each hour how you would usually spend that time.
5. How could you improve on your use of time?
6. Take a survey of five people including yourself. For each person, find out the average number of hours spent in a day sleeping, eating, watching TV or screen activities, physical activity, studying, traveling, helping at home, spending time with God.
7. On which activity do you spend the most time?
8. On which activity is the least time spent?
9. The Bible tells us about time and work.
Read Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. What is this passage telling us?

God works in us.

10. Read Philippians 1:6. What is the good work begun in the hearts of Christians?
11. How does God continue working in us?



9. Honesty in work

Read Proverbs 20:23

In early times, produce was sold by weight. Explain what is this verse saying about the scales used for weighing?

How could people in these occupations act with a) dishonesty b) honesty:

1. People who make things
2. People who sell things
3. People who are paid according to their time
4. People who fix things



Punctuality in work

5. What does punctuality mean?
6. Why is it important to be punctual in a job?
7. What should you do if you have an emergency and you are going to be late?

10. Perseverance in work

1. What does perseverance mean?
2. If you are finding a job hard to do, you could:
Give up altogether
 - Ask someone help you
 - Do the job in smaller bitesChoose the best options and explain how this will help you to get through the job.
3. Choose one of these jobs and explain why they require perseverance:
 - Weeding a garden full of weeds
 - Building a road
 - Completing a school project
 - Washing clothes without a washing machine
4. What would happen if you gave up half way through and left the job undone?

Initiative in work

5. What does initiative mean?
6. How could you take initiative if:
 - a) The classroom is messy with papers and your teacher has just gone out of the class because she is feeling sick.
 - b) Mum is cooking dinner and little sister is crying.

11. Diligence in work

1. What is the meaning of diligence?
2. What could happen in these jobs if the worker was not diligent?
 - a) A surgeon
 - b) A pilot
 - c) A bus driver
 - d) A bank worker

12. Humility in work

3. What is the meaning of humility?
4. Explain how the staff should have acted in this situation:

The cleaner at a company cannot come to work today because she is sick. The rubbish is piling up but the staff members won't do anything about it because they say that it is not their job to put out the rubbish.

What should the staff have done? Why?

5. What does Jesus say about being prepared to do the humble jobs? (Matthew 20:26)
6. What do you think Jesus means when He asks everyone to be a servant?

13. Creativity in work

Christians have the opportunity of producing excellent work, because they understand that all their gifts are from God, and that God can use them.

We can ask God for wisdom in our work and also for new ideas. God is the creator of all knowledge. He is "all-knowing".

As His children, we can ask Him for the best ways to do things in our work. He can help us solve problems and invent new things.

1. Here are some jobs that require problem solving. Explain the problems that might need to be solved:
 - a) Medical science
 - b) Aeroplane engineering
2. Here are some jobs that require creativity. Explain why.
 - a) Industrial design
 - b) Graphic design
 - c) Film or music production
3. A creative person must be *flexible*. What does this mean?
4. Why is flexibility important if we want to come up with new and better ideas?