

6 teen tips on work



by Drew Crandall

**If you're starting work soon, working part-time after school,
or employed full-time and just building a career...
here are some practical tips to help you to enjoy life.**

1. Face reality: work is *part of life!*

Don't go into adulthood "kicking and screaming." In this fallen, sinful world, work is necessary, challenging, difficult, full of obstacles and problems (Genesis 2:15, 3:17-19; 2 Thessalonians 3:10). It is unrealistic to expect a work-free, problem-free life. The sooner you recognize your God-given responsibility to work, the better off you'll be.

2. Go to work with a *Godly* attitude!

Don't work simply to please yourself or to grudgingly please your boss...work each day to please God Almighty (Colossians 3:23-24). He blesses people who have a strong and honest work ethic, a good and enthusiastic attitude, and a passion for excellence. No matter where you work, make the best of it!

3. Be a *smart* worker!

God doesn't want you to be a "dummy" at work. In fact, He promises to give wisdom to all who ask (James 1:5), regardless of age, education, talent, or job position. Before and during work, pray for wisdom and God will give it to you. If you consistently think and act wisely, your boss will take notice.

4. Ask God to reveal where He has *called and gifted* you!

God created YOU for a very special purpose. He has given YOU a unique calling, and He has given YOU all the gifts you need to fulfill your calling (1 Corinthians 12). The sooner you discover your calling and giftedness, the sooner you can abide in them and enjoy the benefits. Call us toll-free at 800-JOY-9075 for tools and resources that can help.

5. "Spend" the fruits of your labors *wisely!*

As you begin your lifetime of work, don't waste the fruits of your labors on frivolous and foolish things. Remember that your self-worth and security are not based on "stuff" (Luke 12:15) but on the Living God. Give cheerfully and regularly to the work of the ministry. God will bless your faithfulness year after year. Avoid debt (Proverbs 22:7) and build a solid credit history (Psalm 37:21).

6. Remember that your retirement is in *heaven*, not on earth!

If you have been "born again" (John 3:7), you *will* spend eternity in heaven. Don't let retirement on earth become an all-consuming preoccupation, a false god, and an idol. If you can trust the Lord for today and for eternity, then you can certainly trust Him for old age, should He choose to grant it to you (Matthew 6).

