

ARE YOU MODELING INDUSTRIOUSNESS?

2 Thessalonians 3:7-8 ... "For you yourselves know how you ought to follow us, for we were not disorderly among you; nor did we eat anyone's bread free of charge, but worked with labor and toil night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you"

For some men, pastoring is an alternative to working to support themselves and their families. I have spoken to Filipino pastors who told me that they chose the ministry because working in rice patties and fields was too hard. Others did not make the choice themselves; their mothers or pastors told them to be pastors. This is a very different way of entering the ministry than I am accustomed to. Most Evangelicals consider a direct call of God to be the valid reason to become a pastor or missionary. A man or woman who chooses to be a pastor without the definite call of God on their life, may struggle endlessly and find the ministry to be full of hardships because they are trying to do everything themselves without God's blessing and assistance.

It is not only pastors who can suffer if they become a pastor outside of God's will for them. Each of us must be aware that God has a particular plan for us, designed before we were born. We will only find success and joy if we follow that plan.

Finally, if you are not modeling industriousness in the work you engage in to support yourself and your family financially, then God probably cannot use you in his work. A man or woman who is lazy on their daily job, whatever it is, is not fit to fulfill God's will for them in ministry. If you are a barber who reluctantly goes to work each day, does not keep your shears sharp, your tools and shop clean, and your personal hygiene high, you are probably not ready to serve God. If you are a trike driver who chose your job because it allows you to sit all day, and if you do not have a driver's license and permit, you are modeling laziness plus illegal activity, which makes you unfit to work for God. A teacher who is too lazy to correct homework properly or make lesson plans, demonstrates that he or she is too lazy to serve God. A farmer who is too lazy to care for his animals and crops, is too lazy to serve God.

If you live your daily life honestly, make a living by working hard, conduct business fairly, obey the law, treat others kindly, and do your best in every way, God can use you in service to him. Do your best to live a life worthy of God's expectations.

Copyright © 2017 Datu Wali Mission Foundation