

# Children's Ministry

THIRD  
FOURTH

November 15<sup>th</sup> || Ecclesiastes 10

Main Point: We should work hard, regardless of the consequences.

Read Ecclesiastes 10:8-14 and ask:

1. How can work be dangerous?
2. If a man is too lazy to sharpen his axe, does it save him work?
3. Does a fool seem wiser when he speaks a lot?
4. Does hard work give you any answers about the length of your life?

Read Colossians 3:22-25, and then ask:

1. Why should you work hard?
2. What should your attitude be toward work?
3. What is the result of working hard?
4. What is the result if you choose not to work hard?

Work is not a product of sin. God told Adam to work in the garden even before Adam and Eve ate from the tree. But after Adam and Eve sinned, work became difficult. It's hard to do and the sometimes it doesn't create the results we had hoped for.

## Writing in the Sand

Take the lid off of the container of sand (but leave sand in container!). Have the kids take turns trying to write something in the sand (or draw a picture). Show them how even though they move their finger through the sand, the sand just immediately collects again, and you can't see any results of the work you have done.

Many people work hard, but simply for results they can see. So, some people work hard so they can have money, or make friends or see a certain result. Then, if things don't work out, the person doesn't see the point in working any more. But Paul reminds us that we should work hard because Jesus is pleased! We're not just working to please people or get stuff. We are working because Jesus is pleased by our working. And ultimately, the greatest reward of all is that Jesus will reward our hard work when we stand before Him some day!

- Ask the kids:
1. What is one way I could work hard for Jesus?
  2. How can I give Jesus the glory for my work?

## Driving it home...



Therefore they said to Him, "What shall we do, so that we may work the works of God?" Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent."—John 6:27-28

It is CRITICAL that we remember that we are not saved by our good work, for nothing we do apart from Christ is good. We are saved by the good work that Jesus did for us! Jesus told the crowd that the first "work" they needed to do, was to believe in Him and what He came to accomplish. Therefore, it is crucial the kids realize this point.