

## **THE VALUE OF WORK**

### **2 Thessalonians 3:6-12**

The Christian is a soldier in a spiritual war. We obey our commander Jesus Christ when we are:

- I. **W**ithdraw from the disorderly. (v. 6)
  - These are believers that knowingly break rank and conduct themselves in an ungodly manner. (1Co 5:11, Mt 18:17)
- II. **A**ffluent with Christ-like character. (v. 7-10)
  - Jesus Christ is the model of Christian conduct for the believer. (Ga 5:22-23, Mt 25: 35-36, Jn 15:12)
- III. **R**evitalized in a productive life. (v. 11-12)
  - We are a blessing (not a burden) to others when we work for our own keep and are not solely dependent on others. (2Co 11:9, 1Th 2:9)

## **APPLICATION**

In today's pluralistic society we are encouraged to conduct ourselves according to our own interests and that "we are free to be you and me". The notion that people should conform to an orderly lifestyle is considered oppressive. It is easy for Christians to adopt this way of thinking but it is our destiny to be transformed to take on the orderly character of Christ.

- Do I overlook the disorderly conduct of fellow believers as if nothing is wrong?
- Do I overlook the disorderly conduct of some fellow believers, but make an issue with others?
- Am I more of a blessing or a burden to fellow believers? Apply this question to everyone else on your life.
- Do I unnecessarily meddle in the lives especially when there is work to be done?

**Reality check:** Have you ever gossiped under the cloak of "prayer requests"?