

5 The world of work - Principles



In the beginning - Some lessons from Genesis

What principles do you learn from Genesis 2, where Adam is placed in the Garden of Eden, and from chapter 3.



Lessons from Psalms and Ecclesiastes

What do we learn about work from Psalm 104.16-24?

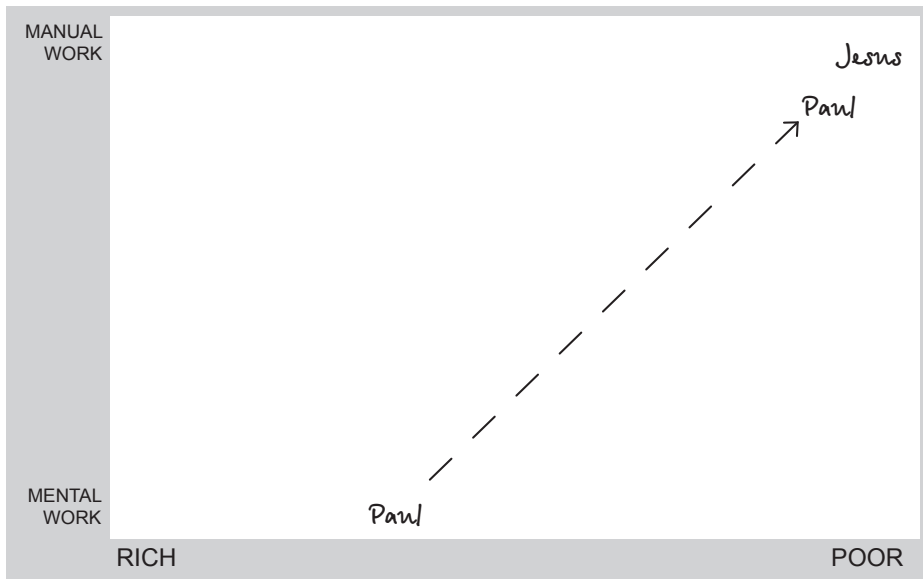
How many lessons in Ecclesiastes 5:8-20 can you find that apply to work, money, etc.? Try to use several Bible versions and compare them. Would you have said the same from your own experience?

It's not what you know, but who you know

What are the characteristics of people who get promoted at work, and are 'successful'? Which of these would you expect to apply to a follower of Jesus?

Rich man, poor man, beggar man, thief

Think of as many Bible characters as you can and fit them into the chart below. Do they all fall into the same category? If someone's circumstances changed during their life, write their name twice and draw an arrow between the names. To how many people does this apply? What would you deduce from the chart when you have finished?



Read Luke 18:18-27 and 12:13-21. What are the risks and dangers associated with 'success'? What should we do to avoid them? What could be the benefits?



Think about Proverbs 30:8,9 and Philippians 4:12,13. What lessons do we learn from these passages? How would we apply them in practice?

What do you say to your friends about what you believe?