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# Engage

(Striking the right balance between TRYING and TRUSTING)

(SERIES: Chasing Balance: 03 of 07)  
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“A man can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in his work. . . .” (Ecclesiastes 2:24 NIV)

“Take a lesson from the ants, you lazybones. Learn from their ways and become wise! Though they have no prince or governor or ruler to make them work, they labor hard all summer, gathering food for the winter. But you, lazybones, how long will you sleep? When will you wake up? A little extra sleep, a little more slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest—then poverty will pounce on you like a bandit; **scarcity will attack you** like an armed robber.” (Proverbs 6:6-11 (NLT))

“So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for **the people had a mind to work.**” (Nehemiah 4:6 KJV)

“He who works his land will have abundant food, but **he who chases fantasies lacks judgment.**” (Proverbs 12:11 NIV)

## 7 Reasons We Work

### Because working is God's ideal.

"God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.'" (Gen 1:28)

"Jesus said to them, 'My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I, too, am working.'" (John 5:17)

### Because working supplies my needs.

"Surely you remember, brothers, our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order not to be a burden to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you." (1 Th 2:9)

“But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, **he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.**” (1 Timothy 5:8 KJV)

### Because working develops my character.

“‘Well done, my good servant!’ his master replied. ‘Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.’” (Luke 19:17)

### Because working allows me to be generous.

"He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need." (Eph 4:28)

“On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.” (1 Corinthians 16:2 NIV)

### Because working shows who I am.

"Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business and to work with your hands, just as we told you," (1 Th 4:11)

“Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” (Romans 12:21 NIV)

### Because working allows me to earn my self-respect.

“Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will serve before kings; he will not serve before obscure men.” (Proverbs 22:29 NIV)

### Because working honors God.

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.” (Colossians 3:23-24 NIV)