

## **Series: American Idols**

### **The American Idol Named “Work” Colossians 3:23**

1. Work keeps people from eating with family and going places as family.
  2. Work is more than just a salaried job. The mother who raises children works hard. Those who volunteer their time often work hard. Work is more than something you get paid to do.
  3. The problem with the idol named “work” is that instead of putting God on the throne, we can put our work on the throne.
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- I. Understanding the Idol Named “Work.”
    - A. We should not equate busy-ness with “worthiness.”
      1. “Yet when I surveyed all that my hands had done and what I had toiled to achieve, everything was meaningless, a chasing after the wind; nothing was gained under the sun.” Ecclesiastes 2:11
    - B. We need to be in business in order to witness.
      1. “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.” Colossians 3:23
    - C. God gives everyone work to do.
      1. “know that there is nothing better for men than to be happy and do good while they live. That everyone may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all his toil - this is the gift of God.” Ecclesiastes 3:12
  - II. Do the Important Things First.
    - A. There is this god named “work” that most Americans worship.
    - B. What is the number one reason that you are not knowing and loving God better?
      1. “It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for he gives to his beloved sleep.” Psalm 127:2
  - III. Toppling This God Named “Work.”
    - A. Toppling this god named “work” is going to require the conviction that God gives me enough time to do everything He wants me to do.
    - B. Here are a couple of things we can do:
      1. Number 1 - we can keep our lives in balance.
        - a. “Better one handful with tranquility than two handfuls with toil and chasing after the wind.” Ecclesiastes 4:6
      2. Number 2 - Work as a way to bless others and worship God.
        - a. “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.” Ephesians 4:28