LESSONS FOR LIFE – PART 1

Outline #11 Learning to Work

1. Work for our first parents
   a) What work assignment was given to Adam in the perfect environment of Eden? Genesis 2:15
   b) How did Adam's work assignment change after he and his wife Eve disobeyed the clear command of their Creator? Genesis 3:17-19
   c) What did God mean when He said, “Cursed is the ground for your sake”?
   d) What important life lessons have you learned working in a garden or on a farm?

2. Blessing the work of our hands
   a) Deuteronomy 16:15 The LORD still promises to bless the work of our hands. What is necessary on our part in order for the LORD to bless the work of our hands?
   b) Where have you seen the LORD bless the work of someone's hands?
   c) Share a time when you learned the value of hard work and saw God bless the work of your hands.

3. Excellence in our work
   a) What lesson can we learn from the experience of the artisans who constructed the earthly sanctuary? Exodus 35:30-35, 36:1-2
   b) Think of other Bible characters whose excellence in their work brought honor to God and blessing to others. Noah (Genesis 6:13-22), Joseph (Genesis 39:1-4, 21-23, 41:38-46), Dorcas (Acts 9:36-39), etc.
   c) Why is carelessness in our work never appropriate for a Christian? Matthew 7:12
   d) How can you bring glory to God in your current work situation? 1 Corinthians 10:31
   e) Who has been an important mentor for you as you strive for excellence in your work?
   f) When does striving for excellence at work become unhealthy?

4. How to cure a lazy person
   a) Why is laziness when it comes to work so dangerous? Proverbs 21:25
   b) What lesson can a lazy person learn from the ant? Proverbs 6:6-11
   c) What suggestion did the apostle Paul give as a possible cure for laziness? 2 Thessalonians 3:10
   d) What counsel would you give to a friend who says, “I just don’t feel like working—I don’t feel like doing anything!”?