



# Why **WORK** matters to **GOD**?

Matthew 25:14-30

**Is WORK only a  
four-letter word?**



**Is WORK only a  
four-letter word?**

'So sick of doing the  
whole 9 to 5 / I pay my  
dues, I'm just stayin' alive /  
And I'm so bored of it...'  
...The office cubicle has  
trapped me again / Am I a  
mouse in a cage?'  
(Sam Battle)

God blessed them and said to them, “**Be fruitful** and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. **Rule over** the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.” Genesis 1:28

The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden **to work it and take care of it.**  
Genesis 2:15

**The Bible tells us  
a different story!**

It is a **GIFT**

It is **GOOD**

It is a way to  
**GLORIFY God**

**The Bible tells us  
a different story!**

“Cursed is the ground because of you; **through painful toil** you will eat food from it all the days of your life. It will produce **thorns and thistles for you...** By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food...”

Genesis 3: 17-19

## The Gospel

God did not leave us in our sins or shout a solution from heaven; He entered the "thorns and thistles" with us to save and redeem us, through the life and death of **Jesus**.

**"The first Adam was cursed with labour and suffering; the redemption of labour and suffering is the triumph of the second Adam—the carpenter nailed on the cross."**

**Dorothy L. Sayers**

a Good Outcome  
a Holy Character  
a Precious Presence

# A Good Outcome

14 “Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. 15 To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. 16 The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. 17 So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. 18 But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

# Be a good steward

A Good Outcome

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# Be a good steward

## Do things well

A Good Outcome

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**Be a good steward**

**Do things well**

**Be faithfully present**

A Good Outcome

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...

24 "Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. 25 So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'

Doing a good work, starts from **Stewardship** (knowing what you have), points to **Excellence** (doing it well) and is done by being faithfully **Present** (working without fear) wherever we are, whatever we do.

# **A Holy Character**

**A Good Outcome**



# A lesson from the hutch

Marck Greene





**“I am your most obedient and humble  
servant”**

**Mark Greene**

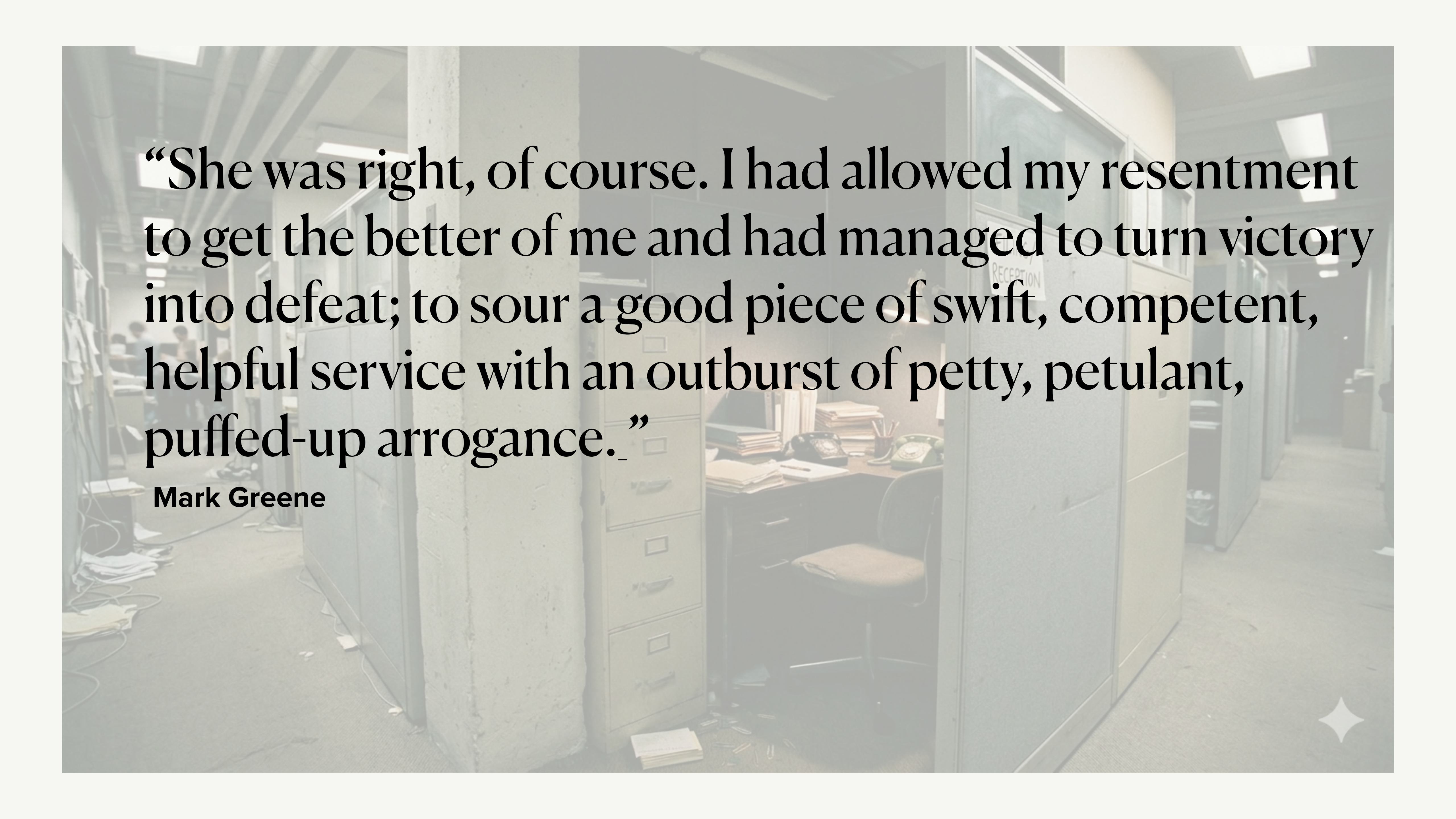




**“Mark, that was a terrific piece of work... thoroughly  
spoilt by the arrogant way you ended that letter.”**

**Mark Greene**

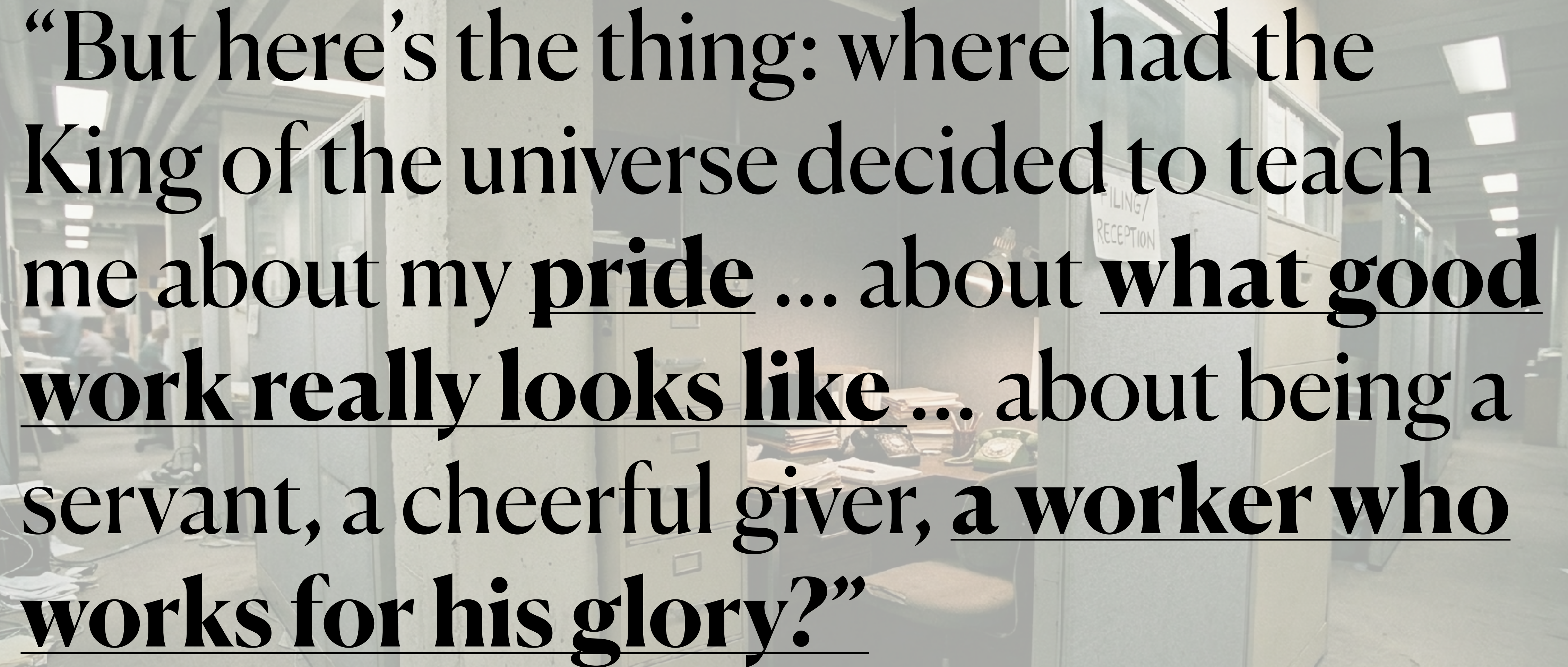




**“She was right, of course. I had allowed my resentment to get the better of me and had managed to turn victory into defeat; to sour a good piece of swift, competent, helpful service with an outburst of petty, petulant, puffed-up arrogance.”**

**Mark Greene**





“But here’s the thing: where had the King of the universe decided to teach me about my pride ... about what good work really looks like ... about being a servant, a cheerful giver, a worker who works for his glory?”

Mark Greene



## Work reveals the heart

A Good Outcome, A Holy Character

19 “After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. 20 The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’ 21 “His master replied, ‘Well done, **good and faithful servant!** You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’ 22 “The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’ 23 “His master replied, ‘Well done, **good and faithful servant!** You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’ 24 “Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. 25 So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’ 26 “His master replied, ‘**You wicked, lazy servant!**’

## Work reveals the heart

# Work is God's workshop for our souls

A Good Outcome, A Holy Character

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**Work reveals the heart**

**Work is God's workshop for our  
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**Formation over fulfilment**

A Good Outcome, A Holy Character

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**Growing ...**  
**Patience | Humility | Faith**



- Here are some career paths:
- Careers paths
  - Careers constructors
  - Business paths
  - Business careers
  - Career progression
  - Career progression
  - Other

Year	Subject	Grade	Score	Comments
2018	Mathematics	11	85	Good
2018	Science	11	78	Good
2018	History	11	82	Good
2018	English	11	80	Good
2018	Physical Education	11	88	Excellent
2018	Art	11	75	Good
2018	Music	11	80	Good
2018	French	11	78	Good
2018	Spanish	11	75	Good
2018	German	11	72	Good
2018	Italian	11	70	Good
2018	Japanese	11	68	Good
2018	Chinese	11	65	Good
2018	Arabic	11	62	Good
2018	Hindi	11	60	Good
2018	Russian	11	58	Good
2018	Polish	11	55	Good
2018	Portuguese	11	52	Good
2018	Swedish	11	50	Good
2018	Dutch	11	48	Good
2018	Norwegian	11	45	Good
2018	Danish	11	42	Good
2018	German	11	40	Good
2018	French	11	38	Good
2018	Spanish	11	35	Good
2018	Italian	11	32	Good
2018	Japanese	11	30	Good
2018	Chinese	11	28	Good
2018	Arabic	11	25	Good
2018	Hindi	11	22	Good
2018	Russian	11	20	Good
2018	Polish	11	18	Good
2018	Portuguese	11	15	Good
2018	Swedish	11	12	Good
2018	Dutch	11	10	Good
2018	Norwegian	11	8	Good
2018	Danish	11	5	Good
2018	German	11	3	Good
2018	French	11	1	Good
2018	Spanish	11	0	Good

Don't study  
Study smart  
Study hard  
Study right

Don't study  
Study smart  
Study hard  
Study right

Don't study  
Study smart  
Study hard  
Study right



**Growing ...**  
**Integrity | Perseverance | Faithfulness**



**Growing ...**  
**Identity | Generosity | Humility**



**Colossians 3:23-24:** "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters... It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

**Matthew 5:16:** "In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

**Work** matters because the world needs the things we make, but **character** matters because the world needs to see the Savior we follow.

A Good Outcome, A Holy Character

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# A Precious Presence

A Good Outcome, A Holy Character, **A Precious Presence**

# A Precious Presence

A Good Outcome, A Holy Character, A Precious Presence

“Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labor in vain” (Psalm 127:1)

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; **apart from me you can do nothing**” (John 5:5)

# A Precious Presence

A Good Outcome, A Holy Character, A Precious Presence

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my **yoke** upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” (Matthew 11:28-30)

**Walk with me and work with me—  
watch how I do it. Learn the unforced  
rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything  
heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep  
company with me and you'll learn to live  
freely and lightly.”**

**The Message - Matthew 11:28-30**