

Donna's Devotional
Labor Day

He who is slothful in his work is a brother to him who is a great destroyer.

--Proverbs 18:9

Labor Day is a marker for many of us. To some it is an ending marker as in the end of vacations. To others it is a beginning marker as in the beginning of the apple harvest or the beginning of a new school year. Historically it is a time to honor the worker.

The Bible sets forth a principle of honoring God with our labor. Solomon talks about the slothful worker. That is a lazy or apathetic worker. As a professor, I sometimes have students who choose not to complete an assignment. Sometimes, I get papers that convey to me, "I did just enough to get by. I really don't care." Other students work diligently and their papers communicate, "I thoroughly researched the topic. I put forth great effort and time. Now I have crafted a work that brings honor to me and to the Lord."

We do the same with the work our hands find to do. We can turn aside from a task that God has given us and leave it for someone else. Perhaps we do just enough to get by. Or, we can "do all to the glory of God." (Colossians 3:17).

"Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might." Ecclesiastes 9:10a