

Compass

BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH
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PROVERBS 16:1-3;8-9 NKJV

¹ The preparations of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the LORD. ² All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the spirits. ³ Commit your works to the LORD, and your thoughts will be established. ⁸ Better is a little with righteousness than vast revenues without justice. ⁹ A man's heart plans his way, but the LORD directs his steps..

WHAT GOOD CAN COME FROM MY HANDS?

Can you remember as a child what you said you would “be” when you grew up? At that age, it would have been common for many of us to choose the roles of people in our family or community, like teachers, policemen, and soldiers. Some of us even dared to dream about people we read about or saw on television and in the movies, like famous singers, movie stars, athletes, and politicians. As we played those dreams out in our minds, none of us probably thought about what it would be like to perform those jobs every day.

In Proverbs 16:1-3 and 8-9, King Solomon encourages us to really think not only about what we are doing, but also our approach as well. He offers us a stern reminder that we make plans that make sense to us. But ultimately, it is the Lord who establishes our steps.

It's amazing to think that God is watching how we show up and work every day. He's not just watching what we do, but also our motivations. This raises the question, when I show up to work, do I think about whether my work honors my God? This week, let your heart meditate on this: whenever you show up to work or serve in any way, others will be looking to see your God in your work.

CAN OTHERS SEE GOD IN MY SERVICE?

Many parents encouraged their children in how they show up matters. They use this refrain for school, sports, and even church service. It is no different for us as adults. In verse 3, King Solomon encourages us to start each day with our focus on God and allow Him to establish our plans. This, of course, does not mean we won't have tough times. It ensures, however, that our motivation, heart, and effort are in the right place.



SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON FOR

MAY 10, 2026

SUNDAY SCHOOL TITLE

A GOOD DAY'S WORK

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCRIPTURE

Genesis 2:15; Exodus 20:9; John 5:17; 9:4; Acts 20:33–35; 2 Thessalonians 3:6–12

MAIN THOUGHT

“In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

ACTS 20:35, NRSVue

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord, it is so easy to get distracted by life and what others are doing around me. Help me, God, to focus on honoring you with my work. Allow my actions to see you every time I work with and serve others. In Jesus' name, Amen.