

For the week of June 7, 2015  
Pastor: Scott Grant

# The Dignity of Labor

*Final week in the series 'Between the Times.'*

**2 Thessalonians 3:6-17**

Many people in the Silicon Valley spend a lot of time thinking about work. How should we think about work? The apostle Paul has a few ideas. In fact, he says more about work in 1 and 2 Thessalonians than he does in any of his other letters. For example, he says, "If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat." A little harsh? Let's see.

## **Discussion Questions:**

1. If you have worked for a living, what has been your experience in the workplace? How have you seen or not seen God there?
2. How do you respond to Paul's exhortations concerning the idle in this passage?
3. Specifically, what do you think of his commands to withhold food from the idle and to shun the idle?
4. How do you respond to Colossians 3:23-24? "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, <sup>24</sup>knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ."?
5. How do you respond to 1 Corinthians 15:58? "Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."