



## DAY 1 1 CORINTHIANS 15:54-58

# 1

Do you work hard in your job? Are you a competitive athlete? When we work hard in our careers, we expect to be compensated. It's called getting paid. Athletes work hard so they can achieve recognition and medals, whether in the shape of rings, ribbons, or trophies. When we give ourselves to work for God, by serving in the church or serving our community, we will not be paid. Not in this life, anyway. But Paul calls us to give ourselves fully to the work of God. If we labor for God, our work is not in vain. We will be rewarded in heaven, but more than that, we may see others begin their own relationship with God. By serving and supporting the work of the local church, we can help others find the way back to God. No job too small, never too many servants. How can you help others find the way back to God?

## DAY 2 JAMES 4:13-17

# 2

Sometimes we're in awe of those who seek danger. Are they reckless or just enjoying life? They act as if they'll live forever. We do, too, don't we? When we put off deepening our relationship with God, investing in our children's lives, and serving others we're effectively saying, "I'll get to it later." What if later never comes? My mother died of cancer when she was thirty. I was eight, my sister five. You can't explain deep things to children so young. My dad gave us a box when we reached adulthood, and I could imagine her sitting on the floor saying, "What can I put in here, so they'll know who I was?" Crystal heart pendants, two Bibles, John Lennon memorabilia, and at the bottom, a full-page newspaper advertisement with the headline "How You Know the Bible is True." She did what she could with the end of her life, but why wait? That last day can sneak up on all of us.

## DAY 3 GALATIANS 6:9-10

# 3

Remember the story "The Little Red Hen"? Who will help me sow the wheat? Not I. Who will help me harvest? Who will help me grind the wheat? Who will help me make bread? Not I, not I, not I. But when the bread was baked, you can bet those friends wanted some. God is drawing people to a relationship with Him; He uses people to do it. Believers will one day share heaven's rewards because Jesus died for us and someone told us about it. That's the sowing. Greeting people with a smile, vacuuming floors, teaching children, and helping people on their next steps: that's the baking. Do not grow weary of doing good. There are still people that need to find the way back to God, and He can use us to help them. Then we will all share the reward.

## DAY PSALM 73:23-26

4

Not too many weeks ago, a tornado touched down in Waymart. Thankfully, no one was hurt, but properties were damaged, and trees were uprooted. One day your house is sound; the next minute the roof is torn off. One day your house is beautifully shaded, and the next those trees are gone. It reminds us what Asaph was very aware of: life is fleeting. But God is eternal, and He has promised to never leave us. Asaph reminds us that God is our strength and our portion forever. This life contains death, destruction, and uncertainty, but our hope lies in eternal life, which is promised to all believers. We want to invest in the eternal by investing in the lives of people. It's an investment with an eternal dividend.

## DAY PHILIPPIANS 1:21-26

5

Paul was a devoted servant of God, and he had a job to do. His enemies wanted him dead because he was preaching the gospel. He knew death meant eternal life with God, and he was ready to go. But he also knew his job wasn't done. He still had a message to share and encouragement to give to the new believers in Greece. We at Parker Hill believe we have a job, too: to help others find their way back to God. No matter what you've done or where you've been, God can forgive. Jesus died on the cross to forgive and rose again to give eternal life. If you haven't yet stepped across the line of faith, why wait? Life is short. We're not promised another day on earth. But the love and grace of God promises eternal life to all who believe. Will you make that decision today?

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