WORK HARD

"I am placed to WORK HARD."

Genesis

1:27 So God created man in his own image. . .

image: tselem - "to resemble, an idol put in place of..."

2:8 Then the LORD God planted a garden in Eden in the east, and there **he placed the man** he had made.

Work Hard for GOD's GLORY.

Matthew 5:16 - "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and *give glory* to your Father in Heaven."

Truth: EVERY place is a God place when God PLACES you there.

Q: Where has God placed you?

^{2:9} The LORD God made all sorts of trees grow up from the ground - trees that were beautiful and that produced delicious fruit. In the middle of the garden he placed the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

2:16 But the LORD God commanded him,

"You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden - 17 except the *tree of the knowledge of good and evil*. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die."

^{2:15} The LORD **God placed Adam** in the Garden of Eden **to work it** and **to keep it**.

work it: abad - "to labor, to cultivate, to SERVE"

keep it : shamar - "to pay attention to, to nurture, to take care of, to cultivate."

^{2:19} Now the LORD God had formed from the ground all the wild animals and all the birds of the sky. He brought them to the man to *see what he would call them*, and **Adam chose a name for each one**. ²⁰ He gave names to all the livestock, all the birds of the sky, and all the wild animals.

name it: shem - "to mark with a sign, to put in place"

Work Hard for OUR GOOD.

Ecclesiastes 5:19 - "To enjoy your work and accept your lot in life is a *gift from God.*"

Proverbs 12:14 - "Hard work brings rewards."

Truth: You should go to bed TIRED.

Q: Are you working on the right things?

Work Hard when the WORK gets HARD.

Galatians 6:9 - "Don't get tired of doing what is good - in due season we'll reap if we don't give up."

Q: Where are you most tempted to quit?

Phillipians 1:6 - "I am confident that God who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it's finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns."

Truth: FINISHING is better than starting.

Questions and Actions.

Q: Where has God *placed* you and how well are you serving those places?

Q: Are you busy working on everything or are you working on the *right things*?

Q: Where are you most *tempted to quit* and who can you ask for help?

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Prayer: "WOW - the fact that you've placed me on purpose brings new perspective to my work. My hearts desire is to fully advance your Kingdom using my position at home, at work, at church, and in my city. Give me a burning passion for you and for the places you've put me. With your strength - *all things are possible*!"

Action:

- Make a list of the "places" God has placed you.
- Rate yourself from (1-10) on how you're working, keeping, and ruling that place for God's Glory.
- Ask God for clarity and courage in "the weak places."

Notes.