

## 4/2/17 | WISE UP: Laziness



*"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them."*

—Ephesians 2:10 | NASB

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What do you tend to procrastinate in the most (house chores, bills, sleeping, exercise, reading the Bible, etc.)? Why do people procrastinate?
2. Consider the statistic on the right, which estimates the monetary cost of laziness in our country and the world. What do you think?
3. Do you think there is a spiritual cost to laziness? What is it?
4. Is being busy the opposite of being lazy? Explain.

*The Lancet*, a U.K. medical journal, puts the number at \$27.8 billion in the U.S. alone, with global figures reaching \$67.5 billion. The study, from 142 different countries, is the first-ever to calculate just how much sloth is costing us.  
—Time.com, July 2016

### Workmanship

5. The Bible makes it clear we are not saved through works (Ephesians 2:8-9, Romans 4, Galatians 2:16), so why is it a problem when a believer does not do works?
6. According to Ephesians 2:10, why were we created? According to Ephesians 4:12, what are good works for? According to Matthew 5:16, what else are good works for? Which reason inspires and

encourages you more?

7. According to Philippians 1:21-22, what were Paul's conflicting desires? What does this indicate about the importance of earthly labor?
  
8. According to John 6:28-29, what good works should we do? According to Matthew 22:36-40, what good works does God command us to do? Can we do these and be lazy at the same time?

### **Deeds**

9. Revelation 2 and 3 has seven letters to seven churches. Several start with the same phrase. Read Revelation 2:2, 19 and 3:1, 8, 15. Why would God write this to them? Was it warning, or encouragement or both?
  
10. Which is more important... faith or deeds? Read James 2:14-26.
  
11. If you're wondering how works connects to wisdom, consider James 3:13.

**TAKEAWAY:** Where do you need to take initiative this week—family, finances, or faith?