

A close-up photograph of a hand planting a small, light-colored seed into dark, rich soil. The hand is positioned at the top left, with the thumb and index finger holding the seed. The soil is dark brown and textured, with several other seeds visible in the foreground, some in focus and some blurred. The background is a soft, out-of-focus brown.

**YOUTH SABBATH  
SCHOOL LESSONS**

*Second Year, Fourth Quarter*

*Career  
Building*

**YOUTH  
SABBATH SCHOOL LESSONS**

SECOND YEAR, FOURTH QUARTER

Career Building

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RELIGIOUS LIBERTY PUBLISHING ASSN.  
9999 East Mississippi Avenue  
Denver, CO 80247  
[info@sda1888.org](mailto:info@sda1888.org) / [www.sda1888.org](http://www.sda1888.org)

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# INTRODUCTION

The blessings of and motivations for work are the focus for this quarter's Sabbath School Lessons. The students will have the opportunity to look at their personal abilities and preferences, scan the fields of labor that are available particularly in Western societies, and focus on the meaning and purpose of a career.

Each week's lesson begins with a reading, followed by questions designed to stimulate the student to think about the whys and wherefores of people's actions, including his or her own. The answers are found either in the reading or in the verses and notes accompanying the questions. It will be a blessing for the teacher to encourage each student to think creatively and probe the spiritual values presented in the lessons. The relationship of life's many demands and how to prioritize them will come up in the discussions.

May these lessons be a true blessing and aid in the education of individuals who desire with all their hearts to greet Jesus Christ with joy at His soon coming.



When one leaves behind the artificial hustle and bustle of human activity of a large city and goes out to observe life in nature, even in this sinful world, he is struck by the balance that characterizes each creature's existence—foraging for food, eating, interacting with the environment and seasons, and advancing the survival of its kind. Sleep occupies a sizable portion of its time, which is beneficial and necessary for health and restoration. And finally, time is taken for play and building relationships.

Everything in nature—each object and animal in its place—contributes to the overall well being of the environment and its occupants. With no conscious effort, each creature plays a part in sustaining nature itself, according to the Creator's wonderful plan.

But man has gotten far away from the rhythm of nature, so his life is often out of balance; and then he, his associates, and literally all nature suffer as a consequence. The more people congregate in cities, the more unbalanced they become, having less interest in useful labor that benefits others and more temptation to engage in exciting amusements and ultimately lust and sin.

Therefore, it is important for us to examine the mode of activity that the Creator intended for man. This can be done by getting closer to nature and studying His desire for man's development and blessing.

The first thing to learn is that useful labor is a joy. Do you hear the birds complaining that they have to go out and look for food every day? No! They diligently scratch, peck, pull, and dive—depending on what they eat—and then stop for a while to sing a song. And it seems that when a pair builds a nest together, that is the time when they work the hardest and sing the most! An animal may cry in alarm or grieve when hurt, but you will never hear it complain!

Secondly, an animal will not shirk a duty because he considers it demeaning. In fact, there is no such thing as “demeaning” work! “Some may receive the idea that their work is not ennobling; but this is just as they choose to make it. They alone are capable of degrading or elevating their employment....

“None of us should be ashamed of work, however small and servile it may appear. Labor is ennobling. All who toil with head or hands

are workingmen or workingwomen. And all are doing their duty and honoring their religion as much while working at the washtub or washing the dishes as they are in going to meeting. While the hands are engaged in the most common labor, the mind may be elevated and ennobled by pure and holy thoughts." –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 4, p. 590.

Furthermore, besides being a blessing to oneself and others, useful labor helps to keep a person's mind occupied with worthwhile thoughts and aims and free from temptation and sin. "Ignorance and idleness will not elevate one member of the human family." –*Fundamentals of Christian Education*, p. 314.

And finally, useful activity, since it requires the use of one's God-given abilities, increases his strength and abilities. "Employed to bless others, his gifts increase.... He who refuses to impart that which he has received will at last find that he has nothing to give. He is consenting to a process that surely dwarfs and finally destroys the faculties of the soul." –*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 364.

Life's proper balance of useful work (mental and physical), adequate rest (physical and spiritual), and relaxation (recreation) provides the greatest possible blessings to man. How these are achieved practically must be worked out by each person, but the blessings for the effort are innumerable.

1. Choose an animal in nature, and then describe how its life habits reflect the balance of the three elements described above.
2. Using the same animal as in question 1, tell how it contributes to the overall benefit of its environment.
3. What do you consider to be the most important advantage to yourself of the work that you are engaged in?
4. How do you benefit others when you do this work?
5. How active is God? Find in your Bible at least one verse that shows how diligently God works.

6. What do you think the heavenly family is occupied with? Find a Bible verse to support your answer.
  
7. Now think about one 24-hour day. As accurately as you can, analyze what useful work you performed and how much time was spent doing that, how much time you spent in rest, and how much time you spent for recreation.
  
8. Write down how you and your friends can improve the balance in your lives.



## What Is a Career?

By common definition, a career is one's profession, occupation, or life-work. Often a narrow application of this definition comes to mind when one hears the word—a person's means of earning money, the way he or she provides material things for himself/herself and his family.

However, for a moment we want to assign a broader meaning to this, because the narrow definition tends to ignore other important parts of a person's life as well as Christian priorities. Therefore, let us consider a career to be "the business of living."

A person's life is divided into many roles, each one requiring a portion of his time, energy, and abilities. Furthermore, each role has a certain degree of importance in his life; and as years go by, the different roles change and shift in importance. The reason we want to use this broader definition of a career is that often we focus most of our energy and time on our means of earning money and let other roles just happen in a haphazard fashion. And yet, when we really examine the importance of these other roles, some should be given just as much—or maybe more—attention than does our means of livelihood.

The Christian views his career—life itself—in harmony with Jesus' counsel: "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matthew 6:33. Seeking God's kingdom and His righteousness is the Number 1 role. It encompasses everything else we endeavor; it gives balance and symmetry to the business of living; it provides strength to endure hardship and even disaster; it gives warmth and love to our human relationships; and it sees reason in what may appear to be confused, senseless happenings.

This Number 1 role, if one is to be successful in his career, never switches places or priorities with any other role.

All of the other roles one occupies throughout life are temporary; they come and go; they rise in importance and then ebb out of sight. A particular role may be enjoyed for a time, and then it too passes, as does life itself. The truth of "Here today, gone tomorrow" is described in Psalm 103:15, 16: "As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more."

The secondary roles for each person will change over time. Perhaps they include the following in your life right now: Student, son or daughter, grandson or granddaughter, cousin, Sabbath school teacher, friend, filling station attendant, brother or sister, nephew or niece, choir member, and family gardener. As you pass through a single day, you deftly handle first one role and then another, and even more than one at a time. What importance do you place on each role? What motivates your attitude toward each? As you switch back and forth from one secondary role to another, your primary role of seeking first the kingdom of God should govern what you do and how well you do it.

“The desire to honor God should be to us the most powerful of all motives. It should lead us to make every exertion to improve the privileges and opportunities provided for us, that we may understand how to use wisely the Lord’s goods. It should lead us to keep brain, bone, muscle, and nerve in the most healthful condition, that our physical strength and mental clearness may make us faithful stewards. Selfish interest, if given room to act, dwarfs the mind and hardens the heart; if allowed to control, it destroys moral power....

“Those who in their life fulfill God’s purpose must put forth painstaking effort, applying themselves closely and earnestly to the accomplishment of whatever He gives them to do.”—*Messages to Young People*, p. 150.

In the Number 1 role of our career, as well as in all secondary roles, the Lord is pleased if we aim high and have noble aspirations. This is not the same as having selfish ambition, which leads to sin and crime, evil deeds against others, and the desire to destroy them to gain one’s personal advantage. Such self-centered ambition aims to set oneself on a pedestal at the expense of others. But, “Balanced by religious principle, you may climb to any height you please. We would be glad to see you rising to the noble elevation God designs that you shall reach. Jesus loves the precious youth; and He is not pleased to see them grow up with uncultivated, undeveloped talents. They may become strong men of firm principle, fitted to be entrusted with high responsibilities, and to this end they may lawfully strain every nerve.”—*Messages to Young People*, p. 37.

1. When Joseph was sold into slavery and never again saw his father’s house, what did he resolve would be his Number 1 role?

“Joseph believed that the God of his fathers would be his God. He then and there gave himself fully to the Lord, and he prayed that the Keeper of Israel would be with him in the land of his exile.

“His soul thrilled with the high resolve to prove himself true to God—under all circumstances to act as became a subject of the King of heaven.”—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 214.



2. List how Joseph's secondary roles changed over time. Genesis 37:3, 28; 39:1-4, 20-23; 41:39-41.
3. What do you think enabled him to change his roles so quickly and successfully?
4. What is your Number 1 role?
5. Make a list of as many of your secondary roles as you can think of. After you have listed them, recopy the list in order of importance, putting what you consider the most important at the top. You may have several of equal importance; in such a case, list them beside each other. Be ready to explain why you think certain ones are more important than others.
6. Now select a parent, relative, or friend, and ask him or her what he considers to be the most important role in his or her life. If you wish, ask more than one person. Compare these in class. How do the answers given by non-Christians compare with those expressed by Christians?
7. Seeking first the kingdom of God is the Christian's greatest aspiration. What is your secondary aspiration? How do you think you can achieve this?
8. Explain how you expect your secondary roles to change within the next few years.
9. How does your decision to be a Christian influence your aspirations?

## Sizing up Your Abilities

Having the understanding that life itself—the entire business of living—constitutes your career, you are in a position to consider carefully what useful work you desire to do. This is one of the secondary roles about which you must make a decision. However, once you decide to become, for example, a school teacher, this does not mean that all such decision making is over.

Your Number 1 role, as happened in Joseph's life, may from time to time make it necessary for you to reconsider your secondary role of making a living. God has ways of changing circumstances to place us in different positions, in harmony with the abilities He has given us, so we can be of greater benefit to others and to His kingdom. Furthermore, it is necessary to be constantly on guard so that our means of earning a living is given the right priority. It should be neither under- nor over-estimated. For example, a man may consider his position with a certain company as having a lower priority than his family; this is as it should be. But he is not putting the proper estimate on his job if he is always late for work because he wants to play with his toddlers. On the other hand, he may overestimate his job if he works late every night and never sees his family.



With the thought of keeping the priorities of your various roles well balanced, let us look at how your abilities and preferences help you to choose a field and occupation. "The specific place appointed us in life is determined by our capabilities. Not all reach the same development or do with equal efficiency the same work....

"Many are diverted from the line in which they might reach the truest success. Seeking greater honor or a more pleasing task, they attempt something for which they are not fitted. Many a man whose talents are adapted for some other calling, is ambitious to enter a profession; and he who might have been successful as a farmer, an artisan, or a nurse, fills inadequately the position of a minister, a lawyer, or a physician. There are others, again, who might have filled a responsible calling, but who, for want of energy, application, or perseverance, content themselves with an easier place.

"We need to follow more closely God's plan of life. To do our best in the work that lies nearest, to commit our ways to God, and to watch for the indications of His providence—these are rules that ensure safe guidance in the choice of an occupation." —*Education*, p. 267.

The country in which you live will determine what opportunities are open to you. Indeed, crisis situations can occur in every country, and the Bible describes such things. Trust in God alone has kept people and families from starving to death. But regardless of whether one lives amid affluence or poverty, he needs wisdom from above to help him choose his direction.

In viewing opportunities for gainful employment, it is wise to select a field that meets a basic human need. As an example of not doing this, some years ago when the U.S. was launching extensive and expensive space projects, many college-bound students chose the field of aeronautical engineering. Soon a flood of aeronautical engineers poured out of college, only to find that government funding of space projects had been severely cut. Many were unable to find work in their chosen field, although they had completed four hard years of university study. There will almost always be a need for one's work if it meets a basic need.

Next, one should be sure that he has the necessary personal abilities—physical and mental—to perform the work. If extensive training is necessary, he should count the financial cost to be sure that he is able to afford it and stick with the necessary studies for the required number of years.

If these criteria are met, it is necessary to apply God's law to the field. Would there be any violation of God's law in this field? Can the Sabbath be kept? Would the work environment be one in which you would be able to resist temptation? Would there be any violation of God's law and will, such as contributing to the making of armaments for war, supporting military activities, contributing to environmental degradation, producing unhealthful food, or furthering medical practices that are contrary to God's plan for optimal health?

You should enter a field that you enjoy, and God will lead you to such a place if you allow Him to do so. Remember that you will be spending at least one third of your time at your place of employment; your health, happiness, and spiritual influence can be enhanced or ruined by your choice!



1. To get a general idea of the area of labor which you prefer, in the boxes below, first put a check mark in front of those things that you enjoy doing. Then circle the letter of the box that contains the most check marks.

<p><b><u>A</u></b></p> <p>Working outdoors            Running machines            Working with plants            Taking orders            Repeating the same task            Making things            Watching things being made</p>	<p><b><u>B</u></b></p> <p>Doing paperwork            Solving math or other problems            Working with words            Completing forms            Balancing a checkbook            Checking things for correctness            Copying</p>
<p><b><u>C</u></b></p> <p>Teaching            Giving advice            Listening to people            Gathering information</p>	<p><b><u>D</u></b></p> <p>Solving problems            Reading books            Writing            Combining facts            Organizing            Studying science</p>

*The above table can give you a basic idea of what you like to do, as follows: If you circled A, you prefer mechanical, skillful work; B, clerical, desk labor; C, social work with human interaction; and D, professional work.*

2. How does your upbringing influence the area of work that you might choose? Proverbs 22:6.
3. Is it possible for a person to have various abilities and to perform a widely different type of work from time to time? How did the apostle Paul's life demonstrate this? Acts 9:15; 18:3, 4.
4. Where do everyone's abilities come from? James 1:17; Matthew 25:14, 15.

5. Therefore, of what may every faithful child of God be sure? Isaiah 58:11.
  
6. What petition is God pleased to fulfill? 1 Kings 3:9, 10; Psalm 73:24.
  
7. Think of an ability that you believe you have. How would your use of that ability differ in a country at peace as opposed to a country at war?
  
8. Using the same ability as in Question 7, in what way do you think that ability can best be used for the Lord right now?
  
9. What rules will one follow if he desires God's plans to be carried out in his life? See the quotation from *Education*, p. 267, the last paragraph on p. 11.



Education for your career—the business of living—is not confined to the classroom. Every day brings learning experiences which, rightly understood, can lead to success in all phases of life—personally, in the family, in the church, and in every relationship with your fellowman. Such education never stops; one should be eager to learn and make improvements all through his life.

However, true education does not come easily; it takes strenuous effort. A student once said that good grades are 10% brains and 90% hard work; this is true of genuine education. And it is also true of your training for your chosen field of labor. The effort you put forth in learning the skills and maturity necessary for work will pay off in your very first job. The harder you work in school, the easier your job will be and the faster you will advance.

Do not sell yourself short by taking non-academic or superficial courses. Some American high schools offer courses that teach students nothing more than what they already know. When students are permitted to graduate from high school without knowing how to spell, with little skill in communicating in their native language, with no understanding of what is good English, and with no ability to read and understand good literature, a gross crime against those students has been committed. The years when learning comes easiest are thus wasted, for the student is unable to think and unable to discipline himself to accomplish a difficult task. He is then fitted for only the simplest labor and will seldom advance beyond the limits imposed by his failure to be well trained.

Every useful occupation requires training of some type. Students should take advantage of the basic education offered in their countries; however, he should choose to learn those things that are right and good and discard those that his walk with God shows him to be detrimental. From kindergarten through the university years, the student who has his mind centered on God will remain free from deceptive ideas.

The Waldenses of the 11th century were outstanding in educating their young people. "From their schools in the mountains some of the youth were sent to institutions of learning in the cities of France or Italy, where was a more extended field for study, thought, and obser-

vation that in their native Alps. The youth thus sent forth were exposed to temptation, they witnessed vice, they encountered Satan's wily agents, who urged upon them the most subtle heresies and the most dangerous deceptions. But their education from childhood had been of a character to prepare them for all this." —*The Great Controversy*, p. 70.

Various fields of labor require different types of schooling. In the Western world, high school is the basic requirement for all good jobs; when they grow older, few who drop out of high school, for whatever reason, are happy about having done so. They forever feel that this mistake handicapped them. Stick it out, put up with the teachers, choose valuable courses, do your homework, go to class, and take good notes—later you will be very glad that you did.

Some companies will train high school graduates on the job for certain positions, some require trade school beyond high school or a year or two of college, others require a college education, and still others require graduate work. It is not necessary for a university education to turn one into an atheist, although many young people have lost their faith in the university. It is when one becomes ashamed of his Lord before the supposedly wise philosophy of the world that his faith is lost. Daily prayer, humility, and Bible reading will make you a light in the university.

It is not necessarily true that the more education one has, the more money he will earn. At one time this was true, but no longer. It is a tragedy, however, for a person to obtain an education for a profession and never use it. This can be avoided by carefully considering the field you wish to enter, by being sure there are several directions in which you can go in your chosen field, by entering a field for which you have a natural ability and preference, and by praying to God for guidance.

A word needs to be said here about the work of the mother—the occupation called “housewife” by some and “homemaker” by others. No one is by nature fitted for this important position; the wedding ceremony is not adequate training. Instead of simply falling into her many roles of homemaker, cook, interior decorator, banker, seamstress, purchasing agent, nurse, teacher, chauffeur, and manager, learning in the school of hard knocks, the homemaker should avail herself of all the training she can obtain—from her mother, friends, the Internet, books, study of God's word, and prayer.

“It should be a law that young people should not get married unless they know how to care for the children that are brought into their family. They must know how to take care of this house that God has given them. Unless they understand in regard to the laws which God has established in their system, they cannot understand their duty to their God or themselves.” —*The Adventist Home*, p. 88.

Do not shy away from study. It is better to learn as much as possible from study, so that the school of experience does not have to be repeated several times. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction." Proverbs 1:7.

1. Why were Daniel and his companions so blessed with high positions in the Babylonian kingdom? Daniel 1:8, 17-20.
2. Do you think that Daniel always took the easiest way out—the simplest courses in school and the quick, easy solution to problems?
3. Choose an occupational or professional field that you might like to enter, and then answer these questions:
  - a. Where would you obtain training for this occupation?
  - b. How long would the training take?
  - c. How much would it cost?
  - d. How would you pay for it?
  - e. Where would you look for a job after receiving the training?
4. Is it wrong to obtain higher education in this world?
5. On what is true higher education based? What does such education do for the Christian?



"In a knowledge of God all true knowledge and real development have their source. Wherever we turn, in the physical, the mental, or the

spiritual realm; in whatever we behold, apart from the blight of sin, this knowledge is revealed. Whatever line of investigation we pursue, with a sincere purpose to arrive at truth, we are brought in touch with the unseen, mighty Intelligence that is working in and through all. The mind of man is brought into communion with the mind of God, the finite with the Infinite. The effect of such communion on body and mind and soul is beyond estimate." *-Education*, p. 14.

6. Even as one seeks to obtain higher education, in what should he have training as well? What example did the apostle Paul set in this? Acts 22:3; 18:1-3.

"Schools should be established that, in addition to the highest mental and moral culture, shall provide the best possible facilities for physical development and industrial training....

"Every youth, on leaving school, should have acquired a knowledge of some trade or occupation by which, if need be, he may earn a livelihood." *-Education*, p. 218.

7. One of the primary tasks of education is to teach self-discipline and perseverance. How are your present education and attitude helping you to gain these important skills?
8. What record is kept in heaven? What will be studied in eternity?

"Of every gift that God has bestowed, leading men to unselfish effort, a record is kept in heaven. To trace this in its wide-spreading lines, to look upon those who by our efforts have been uplifted and ennobled, to behold in their history the outworking of true principles—this will be one of the studies and rewards of the heavenly school." *-Education*, p. 306.



## The Fields: Social Services

The next six lessons will each touch on various occupational areas. Questions that will be addressed include the following:

1. *What are the advantages of this field?*
2. *What dangers would a Christian encounter in this area of employment?*
3. *What opportunities would one have to advance Christ's kingdom?*

The lessons will not cover every occupation available in each broad area but will list some possibilities.

Before looking at the specifics of the social services occupations, something needs to be mentioned about trade and labor unions. The purpose of such organizations is ostensibly to fight for and protect the laborer—the “little man”—against being taken advantage of by large corporations. However, labor unions are known to use destructive tactics and even murder to achieve their purposes. The political power of some unions has led to corruption and ongoing criminal activity, with top leaders becoming wealthy from the fees paid by the workers. “The trade unions will be one of the agencies that will bring upon this earth a time of trouble such as has not been since the word began.” —*Selected Messages*, book 2, p. 142. In fact, the turmoil created by some labor unions in large cities is one major reason for Christians to live in the country.

An increasing numbers of social service agencies are coming under labor unions, and the results are seen in various countries: Teacher strikes, fireman strikes, garbage-collector strikes, police strikes, postal strikes, and government employee strikes, not to mention nursing strikes and doctor slowdowns. A principle of the church is that one should not belong to trade or labor unions, for the risk is that one will be caught up in strife that cannot be supported by Heaven. In the case of “social” service employees, it is sad to see them required even to let people die because of political tactics. God’s people can have no part in such activities; they know this earth is not their home and that ultimately God Himself will take vengeance on all who have selfishness as their motive. He will also “destroy them which destroy the earth.” Revelation 11:18.

The area of social services includes occupations such as teacher, guidance counselor, home economist, occupational therapist, Christian psychologist, rehabilitation counselor, social worker, speech pathologist, vocational counselor, and some enforcement positions.

As already mentioned, the Christian limits himself to occupations that grant him freedom to obey God's moral law; hence, many law enforcement jobs—especially that of policeman or guard, because he carries a gun—cannot, with good conscience, be performed by a Christian. But the other occupations listed above offer opportunities to work with people and to assist them in becoming productive. Because these types of activities often include personal conversations, there are openings for encouraging individuals to have faith in Jesus.

Teachers, especially, have wonderful opportunities to inspire their students to aim for excellence and moral worth. Unfortunately, teacher organizations in recent years have become a force promoting atheist, spiritualist, evolutionist, and anti-Christian teaching. One who does not comply with the organization's agenda will usually find himself the target of oppression; for this reason, anyone going into this profession must be careful where he applies for a position and know how to be exempted from any labor organization.

In addition, many teachers are very narrow in their thinking, unable to see beyond the teaching methods that they were taught. But the Christian teacher has God at his side, and the possibilities are infinite for him.

Other than the gospel work, the social service field has the greatest opportunity to be of service to the Master. When dedicated, when filled with love for the people, and when one's eyes are fixed on the eternal goal, the choice of social service can be a great blessing to many people.

1. Many social service positions are located within a local, state, or federal government agency. What problems does this pose for the conscientious Christian?
2. Because a teacher is in a position to influence young lives and even destinies, what sense of responsibility should he or she carry? 2 Corinthians 2:16.
3. What blessing can a Christian psychologist be to hurting people?

4. What dangers are there for a God-fearing person when he is employed within a large company or organization?
5. Who will take vengeance on all injustice, including that imposed on the laboring classes? James 5:1-4; Revelation 18:20.
6. What does God instruct His people to do to combat injustice? James 5:7, 8; Matthew 5:44.
7. Select one of the social service occupations listed above, and explain how a person serving in such a position can be a light to the people he or she meets.



## The Fields: Medicine and Law

Who is the child who has not, in his or her growing years, played doctor or nurse? There is an atmosphere about the medical field that intrigues people. Many young people would like to enter the medical field, but they hesitate to do so because of the difficulty and expense of a medical education.

It is true that to become a physician requires a high degree of intelligence and discipline. Young people who have already disciplined themselves and done well in school should not be afraid to enter the medical profession. In fact, this field needs people with common

sense, practical knowledge, and respect for God-given remedies, in addition to the wise understanding God gave His servant, Sister Ellen G. White, concerning good health habits, prevention of disease, and powerful natural healing methods.



There are many other areas open for support staff in the medical field, some requiring several years of education; others, less: Dental hygienist, dentist, physician's assistant, nutritionist, lab technician, medical librarian, medical technologist, optometrist, physical therapist, nurse, nurse practitioner, licensed vocational nurse, veterinarian, medical secretary, and medical receptionist.

People in the medical field work in spiritually "fertile soil." Those who are suffering from medical conditions tend to be thinking along lines that inspire to religious thought. A simple word pointing them to the Great Physician can give a ray of hope, and hope is a most important ingredient in the healing process! Furthermore, a doctor is in a position to direct a sick person to good health habits as the best remedy and cure. It is unfortunate that most medical schools have come under the control of pharmaceutical companies, and therefore most doctors only know how to prescribe medication or surgery instead of giving instruction on how one's complete illness situation can be healed.

One of the most difficult things about working in what we can call the supportive medical occupations—especially nursing and therapy—is that one must follow a doctor's orders. One nurse put it this way—and

she was speaking of her own specialized area in a hospital burn unit: “The hardest thing is for a nurse to carry out a doctor’s orders with which she does not agree.” To work for a doctor who has a closed mind to alternative healing methods is extremely difficult. And to watch some doctors only prescribe pharmaceutical drugs for virtually every problem is likewise very difficult to endure.

Beyond the difficulties of the medical field, there are moments of great blessing. These are waiting for the dedicated, godly person who enters this field. The joy of helping in the healing process, the delight in watching God-given remedies work, the experience of seeing gratitude for help given—all of these and more are awaiting one who learns the healing arts.

More natural healing methods have become available through functional or integrative medicine as research into the causes of illness has advanced as a result of technology made available especially to microbiology. This is benefitting those suffering from chronic illness (cancer, diabetes, Alzheimer’s disease/dementia, obesity, mental illness, and aging). Research is leading to stem cell therapies and an understanding of the importance of the microbiome. By finding out as much as one can about the newest research into the causes of illness, the young person may be able to find an area of medical studies that will help him make the world a much better place through the use of God-given healing means.

Now, moving from a medical profession to a similarly difficult one, the study of law is rarely viewed as a profession for Christians. Unfortunately, just as there are, in reality, only a few excellent physicians, so there are only a few excellent lawyers. A doctor with a penchant for teaching prevention may never become wealthy, and a lawyer who is strictly honest may likewise never become rich; but both are needed. A God-fearing lawyer who is careful, meticulous, and humble may perform a world of good for those with legal challenges.

Obviously, anyone thinking of entering the legal profession must love to read, for the law books are not only thick but multitudinous. And he must also be able to think clearly and write well. The challenges are real, and the opportunities to be a blessing are great.

1. When Jesus was on earth, He spent more time healing than preaching. What was His purpose in this?

“The Saviour made each work of healing an occasion for implanting divine principles in the mind and soul. This was the purpose of His work. He imparted earthly blessings, that He might incline the hearts of men to receive the gospel of His grace.” —*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 20.

2. Where does healing come from? Psalm 103:2, 3.
  
3. What is the cause of disease? Therefore, what did Jesus frequently say after He had healed a person? John 5:14.

“There is a divinely appointed connection between sin and disease. No physician can practice for a month without seeing this illustrated.... If he will be observing and honest, he cannot help acknowledging that sin and disease bear to each other the relationship of cause and effect. The physician should be quick to see this and to act accordingly. When he has gained the confidence of the afflicted by relieving their sufferings and bringing them back from the verge of the grave, he may teach them that disease is the result of sin and that it is the fallen foe who seeks to allure them to health-and-soul-destroying practices. He may impress their minds with the necessity of denying self and obeying the laws of life and health.” –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, pp. 444, 445.

4. Considering the above question and paragraph, why do you think hospitals and nursing homes are full of sad cases?
  
5. Benjamin Franklin once said that medicines entertain the patient while the body is healing itself. What do you think of this idea?
  
6. Why are medical personnel in an especially good position to tell people about Jesus?
  
7. Having to witness many unhappy scenes, doctors, nurses, and paramedics can easily become hard and unfeeling. How can this be avoided without one’s practically dying inside at seeing so much tragedy?
  
8. What do you think a doctor and a lawyer have in common?

9. Because of the need to reason from the words of the law, a lawyer runs the risk of becoming exacting, seeing the letter rather than the spirit of the law. How can he keep this from happening in his own experience?

“For me, the practice of medicine and religious faith are inextricably interwoven. I pray a great deal, especially before and after surgery. I find prayer satisfying. I feel there are immense resources behind me, resources I need and want....

“From a purely scientific standpoint, it seems to me the human brain-mind is so far beyond anything science has ever developed that a Superior Intellect-Creator is demanded to explain the uniqueness and individuality of the human being. No matter how much we learn about the brain, we can never expect to explain the mind completely. And I have to believe all this had an intelligent beginning, that Someone made it happen.” –Robert J. White, M.D., Ph.D., professor and co-chairman of neurosurgery at Case Western Reserve University Medical School, Cleveland, Ohio; and director of neurosurgery at Cleveland Metropolitan General Hospital, “Thoughts of a Brain Surgeon,” *The Reader's Digest*, September 1978.



By far the majority of people are engaged in labor in the trades. In this category, we place both skilled and unskilled labor—the day-to-day performance of duties of a practical nature.

A college education is not normally considered to be a prerequisite for a trade, yet each requires training. The printer has to be trained, in trade school or in an apprentice program, to operate the printing press, handle machine problems, and have a skilled eye for what is good-quality printing. Even an assembly line worker must be trained to be skillful at his workstation.

The trades also include clerical workers. And today it seems that conscientious, accurate, well-trained clerical workers are at a premium. Many cannot spell, and a vast majority are clock watchers at best. Computers have made the clerical worker's job easier in some ways and much more complicated in others, particularly as computer technology is used in large corporations, governments, and world-wide systems.



Here is a sampling of trades available in industrialized countries: draftsman, photographer, bookkeeper, cashier, office machine operator, receptionist, shipping and receiving clerk, telephone agent, airline agent, travel agent, custodian, machine operator, machine repairman—including mechanics and digital technology of all kinds for equipment, automobiles, appliances, specialized machinery, and much more—construction worker, graphic designer, vehicle driver, painter, plumber, and equipment installer. The list goes on and on, and those listed could be broken down in greater detail.

It is in the trades that the danger of trade union pressures are the greatest. Generally, the larger a business or government entity is, the greater the likelihood of union pressures. A young person applying for work even part time as a cashier or stock clerk may find that employment is denied him unless he will join the labor union representing the workers. Furthermore, it is here that demands for overtime work and Sabbath employment are greatest. Before accepting a position in which such a conflict might arise, it is best to clarify with one's pro-

spective employer whether or not one will be allowed to honor his faith in the Creator by faithfully keeping the Sabbath without employment conflicts. And even if this is permitted, a change of supervisors can quickly change the situation, so one needs to be constantly in prayer and aware.

It is possible to find work in all of these areas, but it will take perseverance, patience, and dependence on God to find the best one. "Every man, woman, and child should be educated to practical, useful work. All should learn some trade. It may be tent-making, it may be some other business, but all should be trained to use their powers to some purpose. And God is ready to increase the capabilities of all who will educate themselves to industrious habits." —*Counsels on Stewardship*, p. 165.

Furthermore, in all cases, one needs to seek for proper balance in life between mental and physical labor for optimal health.

How is a skill developed? "The merchant, the carpenter, the farmer, and the lawyer all have to learn their trade or profession. At first, for want of knowledge, they do imperfect work; but as they continue patiently at their vocations they become masters of their several callings." —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 528.

1. How diligently and carefully should one do all work, no matter what it is? Ecclesiastes 9:10.
2. What is especially important in the above counsel given by Sister White?
3. Why is the Christian the most hard-working, honest employee? 1 Corinthians 10:31.
4. How is honest work really missionary work?

"The businessman may conduct his business in a way that will glorify his Master because of his fidelity. If he is a true follower of Christ he will carry his religion into everything that is done and reveal to men the spirit of Christ. The mechanic may be a diligent and faithful representative of Him who toiled in the lowly walks of life among the hills of Galilee. Everyone who names the name of Christ should so work that others, by seeing his good works, may be led to glorify their Creator and Redeemer." —*Steps to Christ*, p. 82.

5. Christ did not begin His mission until about thirty years of age. What labor did He do before that? Matthew 13:55.

“He learned a trade, and with His own hands worked in the carpenter’s shop with Joseph....

“He was not willing to be defective, even in the handling of tools. He was perfect as a workman, as He was perfect in character. By His own example He taught that it is our duty to be industrious, that our work should be performed with exactness and thoroughness, and that such labor is honorable.” –*The Desire of Ages*, p. 72.

6. Among working people there is often immorality and evil speaking. How should the Christian deal with this, and how can he be a blessing to such people? Philippians 4:8.
7. Since office buildings generally do not have windows that can be opened, what is the special blessing of outdoor work?
8. From paragraph 4 of this lesson’s narrative, select a trade for which you may be fitted, and then answer these questions concerning it:
- What opportunities are available for finding gainful employment in this trade?
  - What dangers does one need to be careful of?
  - What opportunities are there for one to minister to others?
  - What attitude will make one a blessing in this trade?



## The Fields: Management



“He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.” Proverbs 16:32. This is God’s byword to those who choose to enter the field of management.

But who is not a manager? Everyone has to manage something; and in his career—the business of living—there is much to manage! Oneself, one’s family, one’s time, one’s abilities, one’s resources—all of these must be managed.

Management can be defined as the act, art, or manner of handling, controlling, or directing resources and people to accomplish a certain goal. It deals with decision-making from morning to night.

Before one becomes a manager, he must acquire a skill or trade to the point where he is very proficient in it so that he can manage the work of others and make decisions for the organization. Here is a list of occupations that require management ability: Accountant, traffic controller, architect, bank officer, buyer, economist, editor, engineer, forest manager, business administrator, homemaker, marketer, mathematician, meteorologist, human resources manager, computer manager, public relations manager, writer, urban planner, salesperson, and agricultural operator. None of these occupations is limited to a repetitive or automatic performance of a task. A wide variety of functions is performed by each of the above occupations, and constant decision-making is required to determine the best way to accomplish first one task and then another.

Most management positions do not have the problem of having to resist pressure to join a labor union; management is on the opposite side of the table from labor. The greatest danger is the fact that most managers sit much of the time, and sedentary work is unhealthful. Furthermore, when one is always in an office, it is often in a city where the air is foul or where one exists in a concrete, steel, and glass structure with windows that cannot be opened. Fortunately, most buildings do not allow smoking, but the re-circulated air holds health dangers. “Here is a suggestion for all whose work is sedentary or chiefly mental; let those who have sufficient moral courage and self-control try it: At each meal take only two or three kinds of simple food, and eat no more than is required to satisfy hunger. Take active exercise every day, and see if you do not receive benefit.” —*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 310.

Country living is a definite advantage to those holding management positions, for fresh air and active, useful labor are available for after-work and weekend exercise.

But there is one management occupation that is God-given for health and mental challenge, and that is organic farming. "This country needs educated farmers. The Lord gives the showers of rain and the blessed sunshine. He gives to men all their powers; let them devote heart and mind and strength to doing His will in obedience to His commandments.... That God who has made the world for the benefit of man, will provide means from the earth to sustain the diligent worker. The seed placed in thoroughly prepared soil, will produce its harvest. God can spread a table for His people in the wilderness.... To those who can live outside of the cities, and labor in the open air, beholding the works of the great Master Artist, new scenes are continually unfolding. As they make the book of nature their study, a softening, subduing influence comes over them; for they realize that God's care is over all, from the glorious sun in the heavens to the little brown sparrow or the tiniest insect that has life." *—Fundamentals of Christian Education*, p. 319.

The last management occupation that we want to consider is that of the mother and homemaker. Because she does not receive a set number of dollars for the time and overtime that she puts into her occupation, the mother's position is all too often viewed as without value. But it is here that the woman achieves her greatest accomplishments. "Could the veil be withdrawn and father and mother see as God sees the work of the day, and see how His infinite eye compares the work of the one with that of the other, they would be astonished at the heavenly revelation. The father would view his labors in a more modest light, while the mother would have new courage and energy to pursue her labor with wisdom, perseverance, and patience. Now she knows its value. While the father has been dealing with the things which must perish and pass away, the mother has been dealing with developing minds and character, working not only for time but for eternity." *—The Adventist Home*, p. 233.

As already mentioned in Lesson 4, all occupations need education and training, and this is especially true of the role of mother and homemaker. Young women, study to be efficient, effective, prompt, and careful in the work you do in the home. Young men, determine the rewards your wife will receive for her labor; provide the necessary material things, but—more importantly—do more than that by giving her a full share of your life and the proper priority in your roles as husband and father.

The management field is an important and blessed one; enter it in partnership with the greatest Manager of all. He watches carefully over the universe and is waiting to share His wisdom with you!

1. How is God a great Manager? What does He teach every willing learner?
2. How is a salesman a manager?
3. What types of secondary roles automatically include management?
4. How important is time management in every phase of life?
5. What is a danger for a person entering the management field?
6. What specific efforts would you make to overcome this danger if you entered this field?
7. Why is farming a very beneficial activity, even if it is not one's occupation?
8. Make a list of all the things that are managed by the mother/homemaker.
9. How are wisdom and knowledge obtained for all of the roles in the career of life? Proverbs 2:1-6.



## The Fields: Arts and Sciences

At the mention of the words “arts and sciences,” many Christians immediately think, There is no place for a Christian, especially in the arts and sciences. Let us see.

First, considering the “performing arts”—concerts and theater—it is true that there is virtually no place for a Christian in such places. Not only is Sabbath observance impossible but also the subject matter and environment are generally in Satan’s hands; pride and immorality are rampant in such circles. However, what about the Christian musician who desires to tour, using music to reach audiences with the pure truth about Jesus? If God has given some people superb talent in music, why not use it for His glory? Why not produce videos and recordings that can reach people with inspiring sacred music? Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, such products are a mission of a high order. Even if music cannot be made an occupation, it can be presented in religious services, and there is power in inspirational music.



When dedicated to God, other arts—painting, photography, poetry, crafts, and design—advance the kingdom of God. Prayer and willingness to be led by His Spirit are the necessary ingredients to keep one from Satan’s wiles in the arts.

The study of science in modern universities is just as fraught with danger as are the arts. However, if God has given you a mind that loves science, then certainly He can use you! What areas does science include? Here is a sampling of occupations: Astronomer, biologist, chemist, biochemist, geographer, geologist, geophysicist, physicist, oceanographer, statistician, conservationist, soil conservationist, and horticulturist.

Many universities—and one could undoubtedly say, most universities—are filled with scientists who dabble about in mud-ponds trying to prove human theories while from every single flower, tasty fruit, animal cell, and galaxy shines the glory of God’s creative power

Meanwhile, Christian scientists challenge the flood of false theories, willing to meet science falsely so-called, expose the error and dishonesty, and show the logic and complexity of God’s creation. Is this your calling? Can you become an astronomer and call attention to

the symmetry, beauty, and shimmering glory of the universe? Can you become a biologist and impart to students the thrill of seeing the order and divine intelligence present in every cell of every living thing? Can you become a physicist and explain to others that man has hardly scratched the surface in his attempts to understand God's handiwork? Man's eyes, blinded by sin, see very little of God's universe; but what is revealed should make us hunger and thirst to learn more about God.

"He who studies most deeply into the mysteries of nature will realize most fully his own ignorance and weakness. He will realize that there are depths and heights which he cannot reach, secrets which he cannot penetrate, vast fields of truth lying before him unentered. He will be ready to say, with Newton, 'I seem to myself to have been like a child on the seashore finding pebbles and shells, while the great ocean of truth lay undiscovered before me.'" *—Education*, p. 133.

1. What should be the Christian's aim in the fields of music and art?

"God has lent men talents, not to foster their pride, or to excite in them envy, but to be used by them to His glory." *—Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 2, p. 659.

2. What does all nature declare? Psalm 19:1.
3. Therefore, what is the scientist especially able to do if he acknowledges God? Psalm 96:3.
4. When God is left out of the study of science, nature appears contradictory and disappointing. Only how can it be seen correctly? Hebrews 11:3.

"Only under the direction of the Omniscient One shall we, in the study of His works, be enabled to think His thoughts after Him." *—Education*, p. 134.

5. In the last chapters of the book Job, God asked some questions that put Job, his friends, and all mankind in their places. Read Job 38, and list a few of the areas of nature that He spoke about being in charge of and over which man has virtually no control.
6. What blessing can a Christian scientist be for God?

## The Highest Field of All

"The science of redemption is the science of all sciences; the science that is the study of the angels and of all the intelligences of the unfallen worlds; the science that engages the attention of our Lord and Saviour; the science that enters into the purpose brooded in the mind of the Infinite—'kept in silence through times eternal' (Romans 16:25, R.V.); the science that will be the study of God's redeemed throughout endless ages. This is the highest study in which it is possible for man to engage. As no other study can, it will quicken the mind and uplift the soul...."

"The creative energy that called the worlds into existence is in the word of God. This word imparts power; it begets life. Every command is a promise; accepted by the will, received into the soul, it brings with it the life of the Infinite One. It transforms the nature and re-creates the soul in the image of God." —*Education*, p. 126.

"To labor for God and for the salvation of souls is the highest and noblest calling that men ever had or ever can have." —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 411.

All too often, the work of canvassing and giving Bible studies is looked upon by young people as a work calculated to keep the worker and his family at the starvation level. The reason for this is that many have entered this work with no faith or reliance upon Christ. It takes love for God and love for people to make a gospel worker; anyone who does not have this love is a hireling and is aiming for failure. Someone who intends to sweep people off their feet and into the church knows nothing of the work of the meek and humble Jesus. The Saviour is ready to do great things for those who walk hand in hand with Him, and He will supply every need. The gospel worker's greatest joy is being a part of Heaven's work in saving souls from sin and death—in seeing lives changed from sorrow and cruelty to joy and kindness.

The occupation of a gospel worker, minister, or denominational worker is not one that a person applies for. This is true of even office work among God's people. One may express willingness to be of service in whatever capacity he may be fitted for, but it is God's Holy Spirit who impresses churches and leaders to ask one to serve in a particular church capacity.

However, everyone may labor actively as a volunteer canvasser or Bible worker. In fact, it is often a faithful volunteer who has been guided by the Holy Spirit who is called when God sees he is ready. The Holy Spirit—not higher institutions of learning—is the One who prepares men and women for this work. “God will work a work in our day that but few anticipate. He will raise up and exalt among us those who are taught rather by the unction of His Spirit than by the outward training of scientific institutions. These facilities are not to be despised or condemned; they are ordained of God, but they can furnish only the exterior qualifications. God will manifest that He is not dependent on learned, self-important mortals.” —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 82.

Let no one run before he is sent. Some begin to do gospel work before they are adequately prepared and firmly established in Jesus Christ. “God has repeatedly shown that persons should not be encouraged into the field without unmistakable evidence that He has called them.” —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 1, p. 209.



Do you want to be of service to the Lord? Then pick a task that you see needs to be done right where you are—inside or outside the church. Faithfully perform anything that you are asked to do, whether it be serving on a committee, teaching a class, singing a song, or writing an article. Never say “No,” when God, through one of His servants, asks you to do something that

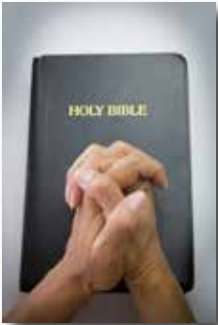
You may not feel qualified for; because He will take care of that. He prepares each person to do whatever glorifies Him.

As you perform your daily labor faithfully—on the farm, in the shop, or in the office—you are being schooled by God. “In all fields, nigh and afar off, men will be called from the plow and from the more common commercial business vocations that largely occupy the mind, and will be educated in connection with men of experience. As they learn to labor effectively, they will proclaim the truth with power.... Onward and still onward the work will advance, until the whole earth shall have been warned; and then shall the end come.” —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 9, p. 96.

1. How might you become a gospel worker or canvasser?
2. What is the highest science?

3. How is the worker for Christ sustained financially?
4. How is a church worker prepared for service? Explain the necessity of both formal education and training by the Holy Spirit.
5. How does God call a worker into service?
6. How important is the faithful performance of every duty in the preparation of a church worker?
7. Why does God usually not call into His work one who is very enthusiastic for Him but has been a church member for only a short period of time?
8. How will God obtain workers to finish His work in the last days?
9. Regardless of the occupation that you choose, why is it important for you always to do your very best?





## The three P's of finding a job:

**PRAYER**  
**PERSEVERANCE**  
**PROVIDENCE**

All has been said and done. There you stand—ready to offer your services to a prospective employer. If you have worked summers or part time while in school, you already have some experience—an excellent advantage. If you have done well in school, you will know that you can do a good job. If you enjoy the field you have chosen, you will be excited and look forward to new experiences. If you have prayed, you will be calm and expectant, watching to see what Christ has planned for you.

There are a variety of places to begin looking for work.

**High school and university placement services** are outstanding, for employers who have listed their needs with such services want relatively inexperienced young people whom they can train.

The **local newspaper and online services** list openings in many fields. Application is frequently online as well.

**Reputable employment agencies** are another place to make application. They have job openings and will try to search out the best possible position in which one may be interested—for a fee.

If you know of certain **firms that have openings** in the field you have chosen, you can apply online or at their human resources office.

**Friends** who know you are searching for employment may be able to give you advice concerning openings.

**Temporary help services**—check out which ones have the best reputation. They can usually find work for you quickly. You can work as much or as little as you wish; you will be gaining experience while working for them; and one of the temporary employers may be so impressed with your work that he will ask you to work for him permanently.

Prepare a resume before applying for any position. It must be accurate and well designed, giving the following information: Name, address, telephone number, Social Security number, personal data (birthdate, marital status, weight, height, health, education), specifics that show that you fit the position for which you are applying, experience (last job first, with descriptions and dates for the last three jobs if you have held many, with their addresses and telephone numbers), and three references (teachers, employers, or friends who can verify the above information and tell how well you work). Print good quality copies of the resume to give to prospective employers.

At most places where you apply for work, you will be asked to complete a written or online employment application, which requests the same information that you have on your resume, with possibly a few additions, such as nearest relative and his address. If you have your resume with you, you will have the information at your fingertips, ready to be copied onto the application form. Print or write neatly, double-checking to be sure all of the information is accurate and spelled correctly. You will be judged on how well your application is filled out.

Dress in a way that represents Christianity to your prospective employer (suit, tie, and polished shoes for men; attractive, modest dress and appropriate shoes for women).

You have prepared everything that you possibly can with prayer. Before you leave home, kneel down and pray, as you have been praying for some time already, for God's assistance and guidance. Somewhere out there is the place where He wants you to be, where you can be a blessing and receive one. It may not be exactly what you had in mind, but as Providence leads, you will know that here is where He wants you to be at this time.

Should you, as has happened with so many, get refusal after refusal, persevere! Do not give up! Perhaps God is trying to show you a somewhat different line of work. Perhaps He is waiting for you to listen to a better idea from Him, so listen for and follow His guidance. God bless you as you search!

1. Why is God interested in the job that you find?
2. For your chosen field, where would you look for job openings?
3. Why is it important to fill out the employment application neatly and accurately?

4. What is your motive in seeking employment? Apply Ephesians 6:5-8 to your answer.
  
5. Sometimes an employer may behave in a manner that is not worthy of respect. Nevertheless, how should you still behave? Why? 1 Timothy 6:1.
  
6. Think back over your experiences in recent years. What has God done for you through His providence?
  
7. What must a person have to be able to depend on divine guidance in the practical areas of life? 1 John 5:4; Isaiah 57:13, last part.
  
8. How do you think you will recognize God's leading?



**APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT**  
(Pre-Employment Questionnaire) (An Equal Opportunity Employer)

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

			<b>DATE</b>
<b>NAME</b>			<b>SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER</b>
LAST	FIRST	MIDDLE	
<b>PRESENT ADDRESS</b>			
STREET	CITY	STATE	ZIP
<b>PERMANENT ADDRESS</b>			
STREET	CITY	STATE	ZIP
<b>PHONE NO.</b>	<b>ARE YOU 18 YEARS OR OLDER?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>ARE YOU PREVENTED FROM LAWFULLY BECOMING EMPLOYED IN THIS COUNTRY BECAUSE OF VISA OR IMMIGRATION STATUS?</b>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

**EMPLOYMENT DESIRED**

<b>POSITION</b>	<b>DATE YOU CAN START</b>	<b>SALARY DESIRED</b>
<b>ARE YOU EMPLOYED NOW?</b>		<b>IF SO MAY WE INQUIRE OF YOUR PRESENT EMPLOYER?</b>
<b>EVER APPLIED TO THIS COMPANY BEFORE?</b>	<b>WHERE?</b>	<b>WHEN?</b>
<b>REFERRED BY</b>		

<b>EDUCATION</b>	NAME AND LOCATION OF SCHOOL	*NO OF YEARS ATTENDED	*DID YOU GRADUATE?	SUBJECTS STUDIED
GRAMMAR SCHOOL				
HIGH SCHOOL				
COLLEGE				
TRADE, BUSINESS OR CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL				

**GENERAL**

SUBJECTS OF SPECIAL STUDY OR RESEARCH WORK

---

**SPECIAL SKILLS**

---

**ACTIVITIES: (CIVIC ATHLETIC ETC.)**

---

EXCLUDE ORGANIZATIONS, THE NAME OF WHICH INDICATES THE RACE, CREED, SEX, AGE, MARITAL STATUS, COLOR OR NATION OF ORIGIN OF ITS MEMBERS.

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<b>U. S. MILITARY OR NAVAL SERVICE</b>	<b>RANK</b>	<b>PRESENT MEMBERSHIP IN NATIONAL GUARD OR RESERVES</b>
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\*This form has been revised to comply with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the final regulations and interpretive guidance promulgated by the EEOC on July 26, 1991.

**FORMER EMPLOYERS** (LIST BELOW LAST THREE EMPLOYERS, STARTING WITH LAST ONE FIRST).

DATE MONTH AND YEAR	NAME AND ADDRESS OF EMPLOYER	SALARY	POSITION	REASON FOR LEAVING
FROM				
TO				
FROM				
TO				
FROM				
TO				
FROM				
TO				

WHICH OF THESE JOBS DID YOU LIKE BEST?

WHAT DID YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT THIS JOB?

**REFERENCES:** GIVE THE NAMES OF THREE PERSONS NOT RELATED TO YOU, WHOM YOU HAVE KNOWN AT LEAST ONE YEAR.

NAME	ADDRESS	BUSINESS	YEARS ACQUAINTED
1			
2			
3			

THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT APPLIES IN: MARYLAND & MASSACHUSETTS. (Fill in name of state.)  
 IT IS UNLAWFUL IN THE STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_ TO REQUIRE OR ADMINISTER A LIE DETECTOR TEST  
 AS A CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT OR CONTINUED EMPLOYMENT. AN EMPLOYER WHO VIOLATES THIS LAW SHALL  
 BE SUBJECT TO CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND CIVIL LIABILITY.

Signature of Applicant

IN CASE OF  
EMERGENCY NOTIFY

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE NO.

"I CERTIFY THAT ALL THE INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY ME ON THIS APPLICATION IS TRUE AND COMPLETE, AND I UNDERSTAND THAT IF ANY FALSE INFORMATION, OMISSIONS, OR MISREPRESENTATIONS ARE DISCOVERED, MY APPLICATION MAY BE REJECTED AND, IF I AM EMPLOYED, MY EMPLOYMENT MAY BE TERMINATED AT ANY TIME.  
 IN CONSIDERATION OF MY EMPLOYMENT, I AGREE TO CONFORM TO THE COMPANY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS, AND I AGREE THAT MY EMPLOYMENT AND COMPENSATION CAN BE TERMINATED, WITH OR WITHOUT CAUSE, AND WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE, AT ANY TIME, AT EITHER MY OR THE COMPANY'S OPTION. I ALSO UNDERSTAND AND AGREE THAT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF MY EMPLOYMENT MAY BE CHANGED, WITH OR WITHOUT CAUSE, AND WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE, AT ANY TIME BY THE COMPANY. I UNDERSTAND THAT NO COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE, OTHER THAN ITS PRESIDENT, AND THEN ONLY WHEN IN WRONG AND SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT, HAS ANY AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO ANY AGREEMENT FOR EMPLOYMENT FOR ANY SPECIFIC PERIOD OF TIME, OR TO MAKE ANY AGREEMENT CONTRARY TO THE FOREGOING.

DATE SIGNATURE

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

INTERVIEWED BY:

DATE:

REMARKS:

NEATNESS

ABILITY

HIRED:  Yes  No

POSITION

DEPT.

SALARY/WAGE

DATE REPORTING TO WORK

APPROVED:

1.

2.

3.

EMPLOYMENT MANAGER

DEPT. HEAD

GENERAL MANAGER

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1. What are resources? Provide a definition of resources from a dictionary.
2. Now make a list of your resources—at least five, and more if you can think of them.

Our time, our influence, and our means are three of our most important resources.

“The value of time is beyond computation....

“A resolute purpose, persistent industry, and careful economy of time, will enable men to acquire knowledge and mental discipline which will qualify them for almost any position of influence and usefulness.... Our words, our acts, our dress, our deportment, even the expression of the countenance, has an influence.... If by our example we aid others in the development of good principles, we give them power to do good. In their turn they exert the same influence upon others, and they upon still others. Thus by our unconscious influence thousands may be blessed....

“All we possess is the Lord’s, and we are accountable to Him for the use we make of it. In the use of every penny, it will be seen whether we love God supremely and our neighbor as ourselves.” —*Christ’s Object Lessons*, pp. 342, 344, 339, 340, 351.

3. When a person is blessed with money, what will show God that He can trust him with more? Malachi 3:8-12.

“No less than one third of their [Israel’s] income was devoted to sacred and religious purposes.

“Whenever God’s people, in any period of the world, have cheerfully and willingly carried out His plan in systematic benevolence and in gifts and offerings, they have realized the standing promise that prosperity should attend all their labors just in proportion as they obeyed

His requirements. When they acknowledged the claims of God and complied with His requirements, honoring Him with their substance, their barns were filled with plenty.” –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 3, p. 395.

4. The tithe is to be used solely for the support of the gospel workers, but offerings can be dedicated to whatever a person decides. Do you know of a special place in God’s church where your offerings can be used well?
5. What principle should everyone incorporate into his life and actions? Acts 20:35.

It is a great delight to watch God’s cause prosper through our giving. When we give to advance the spread of the gospel in foreign countries, we are thrilled to hear that souls have been won in those places. When we contribute to the Literature Fund, we are pleased to see good-quality literature come from the presses. When we give to our local church funds, it is a joy to see the church building maintained and improved or some other project advanced. And meanwhile, God provides every necessity for our families and gives us still more so we can bless His cause.

6. Looking at your list of resources in Question 2, how will God multiply them?

“A thousand doors of usefulness are open before us. We lament the scanty resources at present available, while various and urgent demands are pressing us for means and men. Were we thoroughly in earnest, even now we could multiply the resources a hundredfold. Selfishness and self-indulgence bar the way.” –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 9, p. 38.



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## **10 DAILY INWARD RESOURCES FOR SUCCESS**

I will form good habits and become their slave.

I will greet this day with love in my heart.

I will persist until I succeed.

I have unique abilities.

I will live this day as if it is my last.

Today I will be master of my emotions.

I will smile at the world.

Today I will multiply my value a hundredfold.

I will act now.

I will pray for guidance.

—Adapted from Og Mandino,  
*The Greatest Salesman in the World*

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Is success the possession of wealth? Is it the attainment of a high management position? Is it popularity? Is it praise received for one's skill or talents? Is it the accomplishment of some great feat? We need to carefully examine our ideas of success, for they determine how well we will do in our career of life. Furthermore, happiness in serving God and success go together.

The common measures of success and happiness in the world are artificial at best. The poor man looks at the wealthy man in his mansion and thinks, If I had all that, I would be the happiness man in the world! But if he should enter that mansion, he might find its owner to be a miserable, frustrated person. Therefore, let us set aside the idea of wealth, popularity, and high attainments as measures of success; they may accompany it, but the substance of success is something far greater.

"Novelist H.G. Wells said that wealth, notoriety, place, and power are no measures of success whatsoever. The only true measure of success is the ratio between what we might have been and what we have become. In other words, success comes as the result of growing to our potential." —John Maxwell, *The Right Picture of Success*.

Experts on longevity cite an optimistic attitude and general satisfaction with life as the most important elements of success.

Many people are born with excellent qualities and every possible advantage for achieving great things; and yet they slide along, perhaps even complaining that others have it better than they. On the other hand, some are born with or encounter severe handicaps—physical, environmental, circumstantial, or whatever—and yet with perseverance and determination they overcome these handicaps and achieve things that human thinking says were impossible. Such people may never achieve worldly wealth, but they have achieved success.

Have we not all made mistakes and grieved over our failures? And yet what have we done with them? Have we faced the results, given our apologies, accepted humiliation, perhaps even been demoted, but resolved to persevere and do better with God's help?

That is success.

As you set your goals, you know what you desire to achieve. What will you do with the obstacles and circumstances that certainly will come and threaten to push you off your course? Will you give up and be content with a lesser goal, or will you humbly pray for help and persevere until you achieve the higher goal? “Be resigned to your life’s fortunes, good or bad, and determine to live successfully, abundantly, happily, even so. Cultivate the habit of happiness, and your life will be full of priceless experiences regardless of what comes and goes.” –Harold Shryock, M.D., and Hubert O. Swartout, M.D., Ph.D., *You and Your Health*, vol. 1, p. 310.

“And as regards life’s possibilities, who is capable of deciding what is great and what is small? How many a worker in the lowly places of life, by setting on foot agencies for the blessing of the world, has achieved results that kings might envy!” –*Education*, p. 266.

Never give up; do your best wherever God places you. When He sees that you are faithful in small duties; He will entrust you with more. Your career must be built; the blocks of ability, endurance, experience, and trust in God are fitted together into an object of beauty over a span of time.

Remember your Number 1 role, and then no matter how or when your secondary roles change, you will be successful. “Let us do faithfully the work that is nearest. Then let our efforts be extended as far as God’s hand may lead the way. The work of many may appear to be restricted by circumstances; but, wherever it is, if performed with faith and diligence it will be felt to the uttermost parts of the earth” –*The Desire of Ages*, p. 822.

“I have no higher wish than to see our youth imbued with that spirit of pure religion which will lead them to take up the cross and follow Jesus. Go forth, young disciples of Christ, controlled by principle, clad in the robes of purity and righteousness. Your Saviour will guide you into the position best suited to your talents and where you can be most useful. In the path of duty you may be sure of receiving grace sufficient for your day.” –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 87.

1. What principle does heaven follow in placing everyone in different positions throughout his or her life? Matthew 25:21.
2. What handicap did Zacchaeus have? Luke 19:2, 3.
3. How did he overcome it, and with what result? Luke 19:4-6.

4. What do you view as your handicap?
5. How do you intend to overcome it?
6. Why can the Christian be content, regardless of his station in life?  
Hebrews 13:5.
7. What important counsel for success did the apostle Paul give in 1 Thesalonians 5:16?
8. As you complete these lessons on Career Building, what do you now view as the primary and secondary roles in your career right now?



