

05/10/2026

SUNDAY SCHOOL Section Review

SOCIAL TEACHINGS OF THE CHURCH

Fulfilling Our Obligations to Family and Community

■ 5/3: **Jonah 3:1-5; 4:6-11**

Jonah's heart did not give grace and mercy even though God chose him to send judgement to Nineveh and was more but he was concerned with his ego and selfish desires, but God gives grace and mercy to anyone

Mount Zion A.M.E. Church of New Brunswick, NJ
05/10/2026

By Paul T. Bennett Church School Superintendent

SOCIAL TEACHINGS OF THE CHURCH

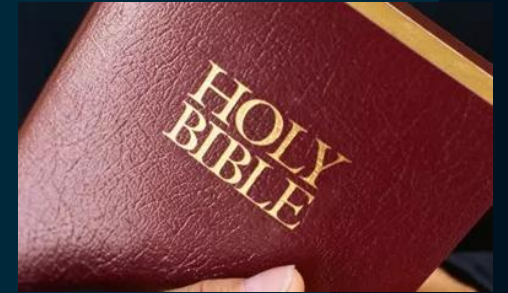
Fulfilling Our Obligations to God and Society

Work as a Christian Duty

Genesis 2:15; Exodus 20:9;
John 5:17, 9:4; Acts 20:33-35;
2 Thessalonians 3:6-12

05/10/2026

Lesson Text



GENESIS 2:15; EXODUS 20:9 (NKJV)

¹⁵ Then the Lord God took ^[a]the man and put him in the garden of Eden to ^[b]tend and keep it.

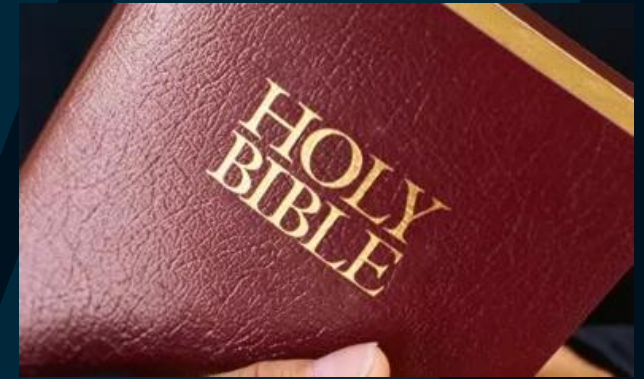
⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

05/10/2026

*Context Text

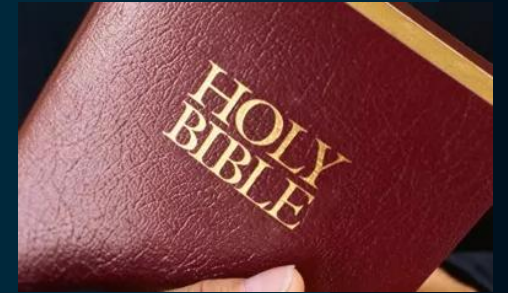
GENESIS 2:19 (NLT)

19 By the sweat of your brow
will you have food to eat
until you return to the ground
from which you were made.
For you were made from dust,
and to dust you will return.”



05/10/2026

Lesson Text



JOHN 5:17; JOHN 9:4 (NKJV)

¹⁷ But Jesus answered them, "My Father has been working until now, and I have been working."

⁴ must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.

05/10/2026

Commentary: Purpose

- Mankind has been created to find and seek God (**Acts 17:24-31**) and to be conformed into His Son's image (**Romans 8:29**)
- To accomplish this, God worked – 1. to create the universe and 2. – to redeem mankind
- In God, there is purpose in all things

05/10/2026

Commentary: Purpose

- Since we are created in the image of God, we too must have purpose in our lives.

That purpose comes thru:

- Labor
- Vocation
- Learning
- Giving
- Serving

05/10/2026

Commentary: Purpose

- He also gave mankind the task to have dominion over the Earth – to learn it, understand it, extract from it, and to care for it.
- From the very beginning, God gave Adam a purpose – to care for what God has created

05/10/2026

Commentary: Purpose

- Whatever the 'work' is or how much work is performed, or how frequently the work is performed, one's life should be dedicated to a purpose every day – a purpose that serves and gives to other people as such a life is pleasing to God and keeps us out of trouble

05/10/2026

Commentary: Physical Work

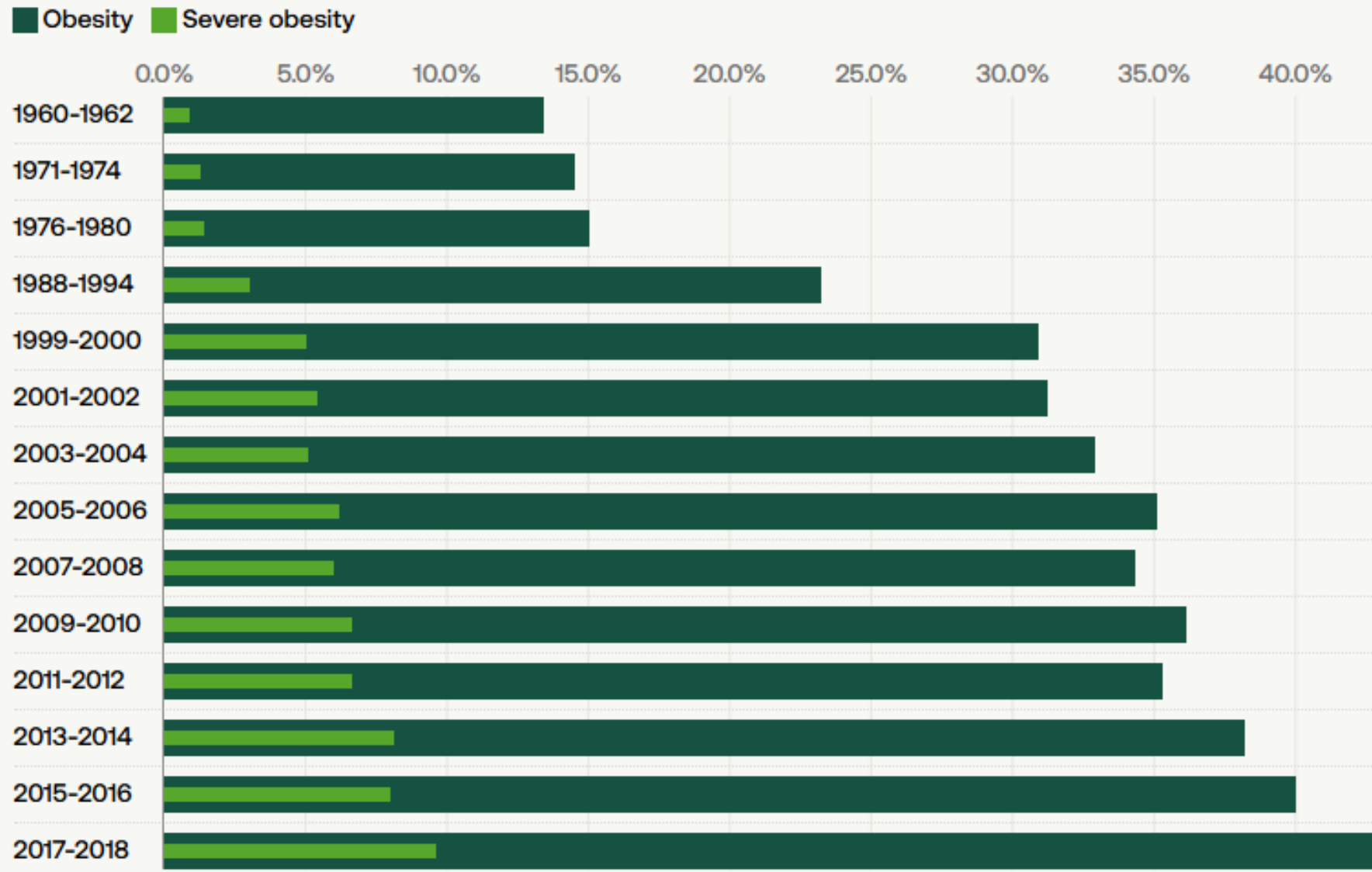
- For many of us, we do not work in fields that are physically demanding, but the body was made for such work
- If we find ourselves in such careers or vocations, it is good for one to exercise regularly and to keep the body strong and available for any work required

HEALTH

US obesity rates have tripled over the last 60 years

Nationwide surveys show that 40% of Americans are obese, while 10% are severely obese.

Age-adjusted nationwide obesity and severe obesity rates, 1960–2023



05/10/2026

Lesson Text

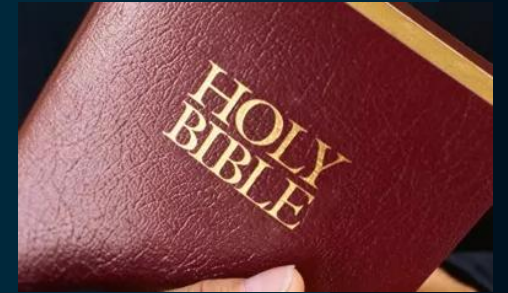


ACTS 20:33 – 34 (NKJV)

³³ I have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴ [a]Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me.

05/10/2026

Lesson Text



ACTS 20:35 (NKJV)

35 I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, **that you must support the weak.** And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' "

05/10/2026

Commentary: Work with Purpose

- For Paul, work was not about the acquisition of material goods, nor to live off the work of others (even though as an apostle he could have)
- It was about working for a cause – to provide for those in need and always being in position to give

05/10/2026

Commentary: Work with Purpose

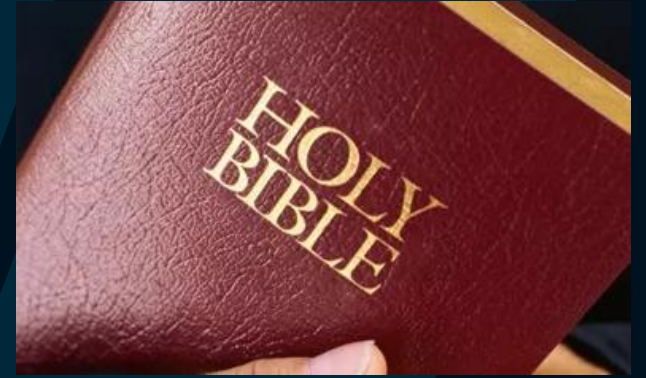
- Selfish ambition is not the goal for a Christ follower.
- One should ask themselves 'WHY' I do what I do? Would God be glorified in what I'm doing? Does it provide a meaningful contribution to society and my community

05/10/2026

Lesson Text

2 THESSALONIANS 3:6 (NKJV)

⁶ But we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly and not according to the tradition which ^[a]he received from us.

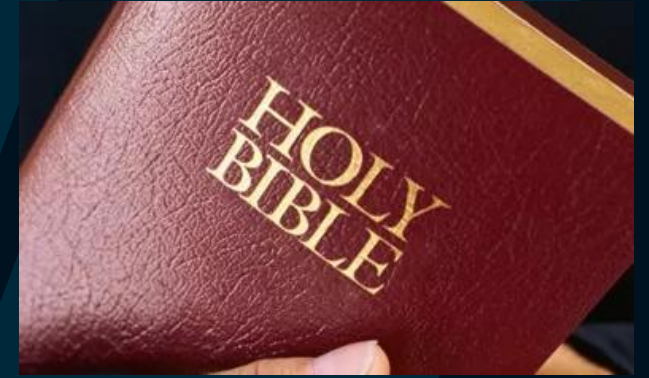


05/10/2026

Lesson Text

2 THESSALONIANS 3:7 (NKJV)

⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to follow us, for we were not disorderly among you;

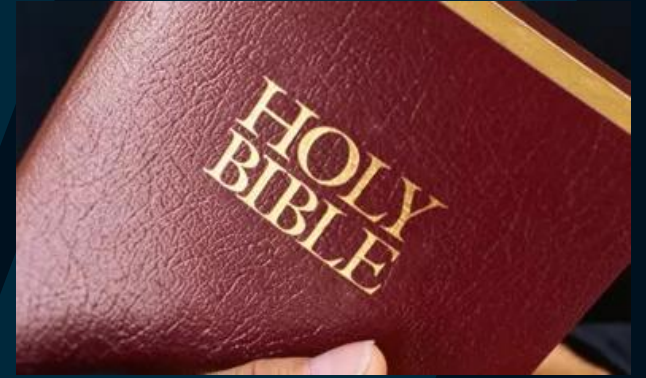


05/10/2026

Lesson Text

2 THESSALONIANS 3:8 (NKJV)

⁸ nor did we eat anyone's bread [b]free of charge, but worked with labor and toil night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you,



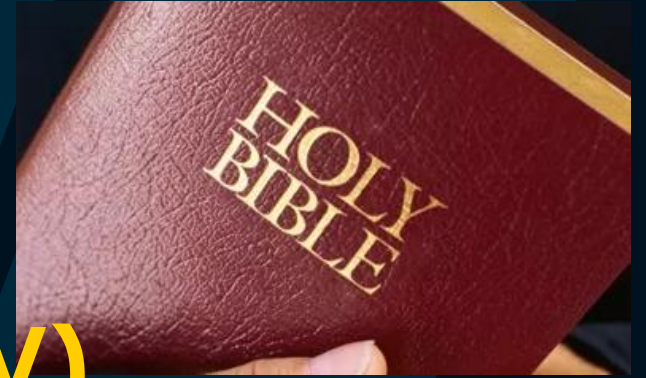
05/10/2026

Lesson Text

2 THESSALONIANS 3:9-10 (NKJV)

⁹ not because we do not have authority, but to make ourselves an example of how you should follow us.

¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: **If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat.**

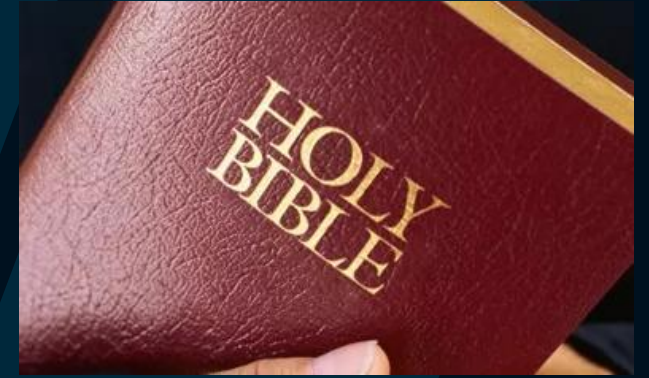


05/10/2026

Lesson Text

2 THESSALONIANS 3:11 (NKJV)

11 For we hear that there are some who walk among you in a disorderly manner, not working at all, but are busybodies.

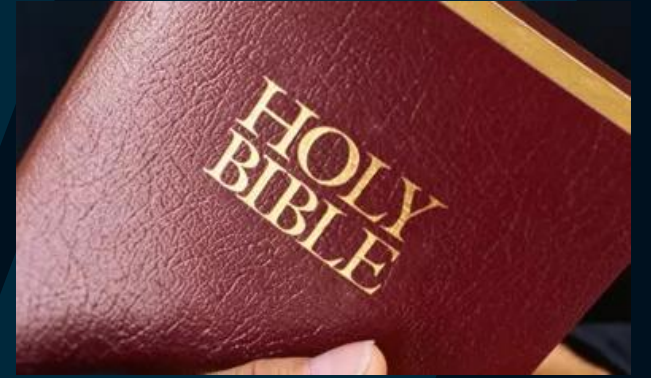


05/10/2026

Lesson Text

2 THESSALONIANS 3:12 (NKJV)

12 Now those who are such we command and [c]exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread.



05/10/2026

Commentary: Stay Busy

- It is often said 'an idle mind is the devil's playground'. There is much truth in this in that when one does not live a purposeful life, they are prone to dwell on things that are not fruitful to the spirit and therefore not fruitful to other people

05/10/2026

Commentary: Stay Busy

- Things like gossip, personal intrusion and need for attention can begin to fester, which can lead to all sorts of problems
- When you stay purposefully busy, you do not have time to entertain fruit of the flesh (**Galatians 5:19-21**)

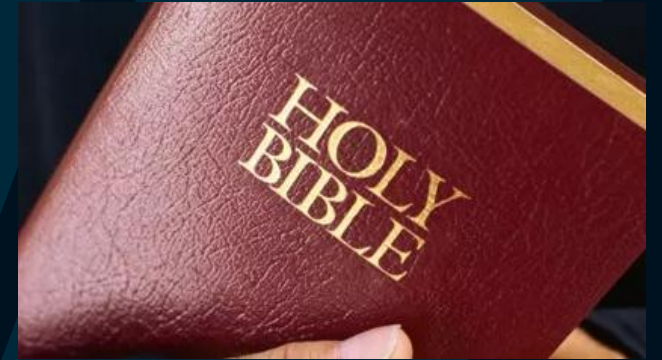
05/10/2026

Commentary: Beware Prosperity Gospel

- Unfortunately, we often see ministries promoting a false gospel where one can have whatever the 'name and claim' without work citing 'promises' from the Bible to 'believers' with 'itchy ears' (**2 Timothy 4:3-4**). These 'blessings' are also promised to those who give large sums of money to such ministries

Mount Zion A.M.E. Church of New Brunswick, NJ By Paul T. Bennett Church School Superintendent
05/10/2026

Scripture References



1 TIMOTHY 5:8

“Worse than an infidel”

Mount Zion A.M.E. Church of New Brunswick, NJ
05/10/2026

By Paul T. Bennett Church School Superintendent

Church School Creed

Our Church School must grow & grow
And we must help to make it so
Every member a Christian
Every Christian a worker
Every worker trained
A worker that will not be ashamed
This we ask in Jesus' name

-AMEN

Mount Zion A.M.E. Church of New Brunswick, NJ
05/10/2026

By Paul T. Bennett Church School Superintendent

Church School Benediction

We have come

We have studied

We have learned

So until our next coming together

To study God's word

May His rich blessings reside with you

And may His Grace be eternally yours

-AMEN