

An Aspiring Christian

1 Thessalonians 4:11-12

Make This Your Goal

- **1Thess 4:11-12** “...make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and attend to your own business and work with your hands, just as we commanded you, so that you will behave properly toward outsiders and not be in any need.”
- Ambition is usually set on worldly things such as fame and fortune.
- But as Ecclesiastes teaches us, these are empty.
- God teaches us a godly goal for life under the sun.
- It doesn't promise fame or fortune, instead it has the promise of unending love, eternal life and heavenly treasures.

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- To set a goal that you attempt to reach
 - **Romans 15:20** "*And thus I aspired to preach the gospel, not where Christ was already named, so that I would not build on another man's foundation;*"
 - **2Corinthians 5:9** "*Therefore we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him.*"

1st Goal: Lead A Quiet Life

- **Luke 23:56** "*Then they returned and prepared spices and perfumes. And on the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.*"
- **Acts 11:2,18** "*And when Peter came up to Jerusalem, those who were circumcised took issue with him, ... When they heard this, they quieted down and glorified God, saying, "Well then, God has granted to the Gentiles also the repentance that leads to life."*"
- **Pro 1:33** "*“But he who listens to me shall live securely And will be at ease from the dread of evil.”*"
- **1Tim 2:2** "*for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.*"

2nd: Attend To Your Own Activities

- **1Tim 5:8** "*But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.*"
- **1Peter 4:15** "*But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people's matters.*" (NKJV)

3rd: Work With Your Own Hands

- **1Thess 2:9** "*For you recall, brethren, our labor and hardship, how working night and day so as not to be a burden to any of you, we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.*"
- **Eph 4:28** "*He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have something to share with one who has need.*"

The Desired Results

- Behaving properly towards outsiders
 - **Colossians 4:5** "*Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity.*"
- Having no need
 - **2Thess 3:10-12** "*For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either. For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread.*"