

# ABOUNDING IN THE WORK

Text: 1 Corinthians 15:57-58

## Introduction:

1. This week we begin a New Year!
2. It is a time of reflection on the past and of consideration of the future.
3. As we plan for the coming year, let us resolve to abound in the work of the Lord.

## I. A Work of Congregations

- A. Paul addressed his “beloved brethren.”
  1. Not only elders (cf. 1 Pet. 5:3)
  2. Not only deacons (cf. 1 Tim. 3:10)
  3. Not only preachers (cf. 2 Tim. 4:5)
- B. All Christians must be workers. Each Christian must be a worker (Matt. 25:14-30; 1 Cor. 12:12-21).
- C. There may be differences, but no exceptions (cf. Acts 8:4).

## II. A Work of Conviction

- A. Steadfast – “Sitting, seated; immovable, firm”
- B. Unmovable – “Not stirring or removing; not to be moved; firmly persistent”
- C. The work in Corinth was hindered by their doubts, debates, and divisions.
- D. Grounding in the Word and conviction in Truth will remove doubt, end debates, and eliminate divisions.
- E. Then, time and energy can be devoted to the work of the Lord!

## III. A Work of Constancy

- A. Always – “At all times; every when”
  1. Christianity is the religion of always.
  2. Pray always (Luke 18:1)
  3. Please always (John 8:29)
  4. Triumph always (2 Cor. 2:14)
  5. Confident always (2 Cor. 5:6)
  6. Blessed always (2 Cor. 9:8)
  7. Thankful always (Eph. 5:20)
  8. Obey always (Phil. 2:12)
  9. Rejoice always (Phil. 4:4)
  10. Ready always (1 Pet. 3:15)
- B. To work always is to “be instant (urgent) in season, out of season” (2 Tim. 2:4).
  1. Young or old
  2. Sunday or any other day of the week
  3. When watched or when unseen
  4. When praised or unacknowledged

## IV. A Work of Consistency

- A. Abounding – “To be in excess; to overflow; to excel; to super-abound”

- B. God expects His children to abound in good works (cf. 1 Thes. 3:12; 41; 2 Thes. 1:3; Rev. 2:19).
- C. Abounding service is willing, fervent service (Rom. 12:11; Eph. 6:6; Mt. 6:33).

V. A Work of Consolation

- A. The work is not in vain, but beneficial to others, strengthening to us, and glorifying to God.
- B. The work flows out of gratitude to God.
- C. The work stands upon victory in Christ.
- D. The work prepares us for the resurrection and the Lord's return.

Conclusion:

1. "I will do more."
  - a. I will do more than belong – I will participate.
  - b. I will do more than care – I will help.
  - c. I will do more than believe – I will practice.
  - d. I will do more than be fair – I will be kind.
  - e. I will do more than forgive – I will encourage.
  - f. I will do more than earn – I will enrich.
  - g. I will do more than teach – I will inspire.
  - h. I will do more than give – I will serve.
  - i. I will do more than live – I will grow.
  - j. I will do more than be friendly – I will be a friend.
2. Abounding in the work of the Lord means happiness here and Heaven hereafter.
3. Am I abounding in the work of the Lord?