

## WHAT I TEACH MY CHILDREN 5: DILIGENCE AND HARD WORK!

After God created the earth, the Bible tells us that He planted a garden in the East and placed the man whom He had formed there. For what reason? According to Genesis 2:15, in order for Adam to cultivate and keep it. Contrary to what many people believe, God did not curse man by telling him to work because the command to work was given a chapter before he sinned. But why did God require the man to cultivate the garden He planted, which we can be sure was perfectly made? This was because if he just continued to take from it and not replenish it, that garden would ultimately become barren. On the flip side, from experience, I discovered that if you cultivate barren land, you will someday convert it into a fruitful garden. Love for hard work is an important trait our children should develop because Proverbs 10:4 (ESV) says "A slack hand causes poverty, but the hand of the diligent makes rich."

Most parents work hard to give their children a good education. Some are even willing to go into debt just to make sure their children go to the best schools. But while knowledge is important, I am learning that this is useless if the person will not couple it with the willingness to work, and work hard . Unfortunately, some parents even protect their children from having to work. They do this by hiring helpers to do the difficult jobs for them. Love for work is a difficult trait to develop, and a child needs to learn it as a habit. If our children are not used to working while they are young, they will have a hard time acquiring this habit when they get older.

Diligence and hard work are important traits that God wants every person to have. Second Thessalonians 3:10 (ESV) tells us, "...If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat." I realize that the good future I want for my children will greatly depend on their willingness to work hard. The education I will give them and the inheritance I hope to leave to them will be useless if I do not develop this very important trait in them.

Note:

Teaching children the importance of work is one of the reasons why we developed Semilya's REBOOT and Jumpstart training programs. We are offering these because some parents have shared with us their frustration in not being able to develop in their children important traits like submission, hard work, contentment, etc. They asked us to come up with a program that will help their children learn and develop these traits so they can have a better future.