

Work ethics

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Work and achieve; Your work is being witnessed

“Say: “Work (Righteousness) for your work is witnessed by God, and His messenger and the believers. Soon you will be brought back to the knower of the seen and unseen and He will tell you what you did”

At-Tawba (Repentance) 9: 105

Do the work to the best of your ability

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

(Allah loves for every one of you to do his work to
the best of his ability)

Baihaqi

The Bible tells us to excel in our work

Proverbs 22: 29

“Do you see a man who excels in his work? He will stand before kings; He will not stand before unknown men”

Any activity can be an act of worship to God

If it fulfills two criteria:

1-What we do is good

2-Our intention is to please God

If we do our work to the best of our ability and are honest, then we are worshipping and serving God

If we are good to our families and neighbors then we are serving God

If we help those who need our help then we are serving God

All these activities are as good as our prayers

We must confirm our faith in the work that we do

**The work that we do is not accepted unless it
fulfills two criteria:**

1-Our intention is good

2-Our work is good

**PS Charity given to be recognized is not accepted
as a good deed**

**Wishful thinking is not good enough, we must
work to achieve results**

What counts is our deeds and our motivation

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

(God does not look at your faces or your
possessions, but He looks at your hearts and
your deeds)

Muslim

The Bible urges us to do good for the sake of the Lord

Colossians 3: 17

“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him”

Colossians 3: 23 & 24

“And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men. Knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance: for you serve the Lord Christ”

Our deeds must confirm our faith

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

(**Avoid what is forbidden**, you become the best of worshippers; and **be content** with what God has willed for you, you become the most wealthy among mankind; and **be good to your neighbor**, you become a believer; and **love for others what you love for yourself**, you become a Muslim)

Termedhi

Our intentions and motivations explain why we do what we do

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

(Deeds are dependant on intentions and motivation, and every person gets what he intends to do: If his motivation is to migrate to God and His messenger, then his migration and deeds are for God and His messenger; but if his motivation is towards worldly gain or to marry a woman, then his striving is for what he strived for)

Bokhari & Muslim

Words alone are not enough, confirm your words with deeds

“Who is better in speech than one who invites others
to God and does righteous deeds”

Fusselat (Explained in detail) 41: 33

Words alone are not sufficient, we must confirm that in
our character & behavior

“To God ascends all words of purity, and the good
deeds allows it to mount up to God”

Fatir (Originator) 35: 10

What makes our words accepted by God is our work
that confirms what we say

Charity is a good deed

“Obligatory charity is for the poor, and the needy, and those employed to administer the funds, for those whose hearts has been reconciled to the faith, for those in bondage and in debt, in the cause of God and for the wayfarer; thus it is ordained by God, and God is full of knowledge and wisdom”

At-Tawba (Repentance) 9: 60

Work, be self-sufficient and give in charity

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

(Every Muslim should give charity every day of his life).

His companions said: Suppose he does not have money to give? He said: (Then he works, become self-sufficient, and gives in charity). They said: Suppose he does not work? He said: (Then he should help those in need of his help). They said: Suppose he does not do that? He said: (He should guide to what is right). They said: Suppose he does not do that? He said: (He should not harm others, and for him it will be considered a charity)

Termedhi

Those who do good and those who do evil are not equal

“Not without purpose did We create heaven and earth and all between. That were the thought of unbelievers; Woe to the unbelievers of the fire of Hell. Shall We treat those who believe and do good the same as those who do mischief on earth? Shall We treat those who guard against evil the same as those who are wicked?”

Sa D 38: 27 & 28

God's messengers were ordered to work and strive

“O messengers enjoy things good and pure,
and work righteousness, for I am well
acquainted with all that you do”

Al-Mumenoun (The Believers) 23: 51

How do we know that what we do is correct and accepted by God?

1-All religions teach morals & ethics

2-Our conscience will tell us if what we do is good and pure, even if we suppress it by following our vain desires

3-If we follow the character and behavior of God's messengers we will be guided

**We must obey the messenger for our
deeds to be accepted and succeed**

**“Say: “Obey God and obey the messenger; but
if you turn away he is only responsible for
the duty placed on him, and you are
responsible for the duty placed on you. If
you obey him you shall be guided. The
messenger’s duty is only to preach the clear
message”**

An-Nur (The Light) 24: 54

Those who work righteousness will be rewarded

“Whoever works righteousness, man or woman, and has faith We will let him/ her live a good life, and We will reward them according to the best of their deeds”

An-Nahl (The Bees) 16: 97

Sometimes we feel that our good work is wasted

1-We may fail to achieve results

2-No one recognize what we do

3-We keep on working but nothing changes

We must be assured that our good work is recognized by God, and that nothing is wasted.

We will get our reward as God sees fit

Our good work is recognized and is not wasted

“Those who believe and do righteous deeds
We do not allow their work to go un-noticed
or become wasted, but take account of their
good deeds”

Al-Kahf (The Cave) 18: 30

God is well aware of what we do

“Establish regular prayers and give in charity.
Whatever good you forward to yourselves
you will find it with God, for God is well
aware of all that you do”

Al-Baqara (The Cow) 2: 110

God is well aware of what we do

“Therefore shape up and live your life upright and straight as you have been commanded, and those with you who turn to God in repentance, and do not transgress, for God sees all that you do”

Hud (Prophet Hud) 11: 112

**Our good work is rewarded and we
are given more**

**“As to those who believe and do good deeds
He will give them their rewards, and will
give them more of His grace”**

An-Nesa'a (The Women) 4: 173

You do not always get what you pray for

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

The prayer of a believer to God is always answered: either he is given what he called for; or his reward is delayed till the Day of Judgment; or a bad fate is lifted off his shoulder: unless he is calling for sin, or he separated himself from his relations, or he said: “I called on You Lord but You did not answer me”)

Ahmad

Understand your accountability to God

“O you who believe be conscious of God, and let every soul look at what it has done for tomorrow, and fear God for God is well-acquainted with all that you do”

Al-Hashr (The Gathering) 59: 18

We are accountable to God for what we do

“On the day when every soul will be confronted with all the good it has done, and all the evil it has done. It will wish there were a great distance between it and its evil. But Allah cautions you to fear Him, and Allah is full of kindness to those that serve Him”

Al-Imran (The Family of Imran) 3: 30

When we do good we benefit our own souls

“Whoever does good benefits his own soul;
whoever does evil it is against his own soul;
Your Lord is never unjust in the least to His
servants”

Fusselat (Explained in detail) 41: 46

Our good deeds are multiplied

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

(God, Glory be to Him, said: “If My servant intends to do something good, but he did not do it count it for him as one good deed. If he does that good deed write it on his behalf as 10 up to 700 good deeds. If he intends to do an evil deed but did not do it, it will not count against him; if he does an evil deed count it against him as one bad deed)

Muslim

Our good deeds are multiplied

“He that does good shall have ten times as much to his credit; he that does evil shall only be recompensed according to his evil; no wrong shall be done unto them”

Al-Ana'm (The Cattle) 6: 160

“If any does good the reward to him is better than his deed; but if any does evil, the doers of evil are only punished to the extent of their deeds”

Al-Qasas (The Stories) 28: 84

Do good before you die

“And spend in charity out of what We bestowed on you, before death should come to any of you and he should say: “O my Lord if you only give me another chance I should give in charity and do good”. But no soul will God grant respite when the time appointed for it has come, and God is well-acquainted with all that you do”

Al-Munafeqoun (The Hypocrites) 63: 10 & 11

We should do good while we have a chance before we die

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

(When Man dies all his deeds cease except for three things:

- 1-A charity that continues to help others
- 2-A knowledge that benefits others
- 3-A righteous son or daughter that prays to God on his behalf)

Muslim

Only our good deeds will help us in our accountability

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

(Three things follow the dead person to his grave, two come back and only one thing remains with him; his family, and his money and his deeds follow him; then his family and money return, and only his deeds remain with him)

Bokhari & Muslim

Difference between hope and wishful thinking

Raja'a (Hope) is to hope for God's mercy and blessings: it is associated with the effort to achieve results, and with fear of God and understanding our accountability to Him.

Tamanny (Wishful thinking) is associated with being lazy and not working at all

Wishful thinking and hope

“Not your desires, nor those of the people of the Book can prevail: whoever works evil will be requited accordingly, nor will he find besides Allah any protector or helper. If any do deeds of righteousness, be they male or female, and have faith, they will enter heaven and not the least injustice be done to them”

An-Nesa'a (The Women) 4: 123 & 124

The Bible orders us to work and not sit idle

Proverbs 14: 23

“In all labor there is profit, but idle chatter leads only to poverty”

The Bible tells us to work and not just wish for riches

Proverbs 28: 19

“He who tills his land will have plenty of bread,
but he who follows frivolity will have poverty
enough!”

**Hope requires that we do our work,
then we can hope for God's mercy**

“Those who recite the Book of Allah, establish regular prayer, and spend in charity, out of what We have provided for them, secretly and openly, hope for a commerce that will never fail. For He will pay them their mead, no He will give them even more out of His bounty; for He is often-forgiving, most ready to appreciate service”

Fatir (Originator) 35: 29 & 30

Do your work then hope for God's mercy

“Those who believed, and those who immigrated and strove and struggled in the path of God, they have the hope of the mercy of God, and God is often-forgiving, most-merciful”

Al-Baqara (The Cow) 2: 218

Work here refers to immigration and striving. Once we have discharged our responsibility then we can hope for God's mercy

The worker is better than a worshipper

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was told about two brothers: one stays in the mosque praying and fasting; the other works. He asked: (Who is supporting the worshipper?). He was told: The brother who is working. He said: (The worker is better than the worshipper)

Work and do not become dependant on the charity of others

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

(It is better for a person to go to the woods, cut wood, carry it on his back and sell it and earn a living and become self-sufficient, than to beg and ask someone, who may or may not give him. The upper hand (that gives) is better than the lower hand (that receives) and start by supporting your own family)

Bokhari

**If you hope of God's mercy then do
good and have faith**

**“Whoever expects to meet his Lord, let him
work righteousness, and worship none
except his Lord”**

Al-Kahf (The Cave) 18: 110

-good deeds

-Faith

**Those who deny their accountability
will get what they earn**

**“Those who rest not their hope on their
meeting with Us, but are pleased and
satisfied with the life of the present, and
those who heed not Our signs: their abode is
the Fire because of the evil they earned”**

Yunus (Jonah) 10: 7 & 8