Don't be Fooled
You are Called To Produce
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

"Idleness causes disorder. If we ignore the reason we were made, we will leave chaos in our wake. It is only when we live by the rule that God has given that our lives are correctly regulated. Once this way of living is set aside, nothing but confusion remains. This should also be noted by anyone who is tempted to ignore God's commands. God has created us so we can be useful to other people." (John Calvin)

The following are two basic summary statements concerning the doctrine of work in the Bible (Genesis 1:27-28; 2:15; 3:16-19; 1 Corinthians 13:7):

(1) God made us to be productive for ourselves and others, and that includes the local _____.

(2) Since God created us to be productive, there are physical, emotional, and spiritual _____ to ourselves and others when we aren't.

There are three lessons we can learn about Biblically productive work in 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13:

(1) Every Christian is called to a standard of productive _____ for others to repeat! (3:6-9)

(2) In the body of Christ (the local church), unproductive people are supposed to be confronted and led to _____. (3:6, 10-12)

(3) Don't allow other people's laziness and complacency to be your _____ to do the same! (3:13)

Challenge: Whether it's in your personal walk with Christ, or in context to your family, friends, local church, or job, identify where your complacency, laziness, or jankiness is draining the system instead of blessing it. Confess it to those affected by it, be honest about the things your efforts are going to instead, and invite the people affected by it to hold you accountable to a _____ standard of production.