Morning Lesson

THE LITTLE RED HEN (THE DIGNITY OF LABOR) 2 Thess. 3:7-13

INTRO:

- 1. The Little Red Hen is an American fable.
- 2. Aesop's fable about the ant and the grasshopper. Prov. 6:6; 30:25
- 3. Scriptural theme from the very beginning of time. Gen. 2:15
- 4. Why should I be industrious?

I. TO BE LIKE GOD.

- A. He created everything in six days then rested on the seventh because he was through, not tired. Ex. 20:11
- B. How often do we see Jesus being idle? Mark 6:31
- C. Jesus is our perfect example and we are to be an example to others. 1 Pet. 2:21; 1 Thess. 4:11, 12

II. TO PROVIDE FOR MYSELF AND OTHERS.

- A. Work produces gain. Prov. 10:4, 5; 13:4
- B. Laziness will bring nothing positive. Prov. 19:15; 23:21; 24:30-34
- C. A Christian is to be benevolent. Eph. 4:28
- D. A person that will not work to provide for his loved ones might as well deny the existence of God; the result will be the same. 1 Tim. 5:8

III. TO GET TO HEAVEN.

- A. Following Christ requires effort. Rom. 10:17;
 2 Tim. 2:15; Matt. 6:19-21, 33; 7:7, 8
- B. Paul had to work at it. 1 Cor. 9:27
- C. We cannot get lazy in our journey. Heb. 4:9-11; 6:12

CONC:

- 1. Benevolence is a good thing.
- 2. Learn to work smart. Eccl. 10:10
- 3. There is something fulfilling in being so tired that you fall asleep with your clothes on and don't even remember doing it. Eccl. 5:12