

## To the Work

### I. Introduction

A. The song *To the Work* expresses the zeal and motivation God's children should have for working in His kingdom. Consider some principles taught in Scripture that are alluded to in this hymn. **Hymns for Worship, Song 508**

### II. "We are Servants of God..."

- A. The song opens by noting the zeal we should have for working for the Lord in consideration of the fact that we are His *servants*. **Song 508, v. 1a; Philippians 1:1**
- B. The perfect example of working fervently for the Father is seen in the Son. As the song goes on to note, we should follow our Master's path as we work. **Song 508, v. 1b; 1 Peter 2:21**
- C. The Lord's counsel provides strength to those laboring diligently for Him. **Song 508, v. 1c; Ephesians 6:14-15**
- D. Strengthened by this guidance, following the Master's example, and with a servant's motivation, we should "do with our might what our hands find to do," as the song further exhorts. **Song 508, v. 1d; 1 Corinthians 15:58**

### III. "Let the Hungry Be Fed..."

- A. Verse 2 expresses the fervor we should have for sharing the truth. Those who spiritually hunger can be filled with the nourishment our Lord provides. **Song 508, v. 2a; John 6:35**
- B. Those who are spiritually thirsty need to be led to the "fountain of Life," which is part of the work the song exhorts us to pursue. **Song 508, v. 2b; John 7:37**
- C. When we work as we should in the Lord's kingdom, we can glory in the cross of Christ. **Song 508, v. 2c; Galatians 6:14**
- D. Part of what we have to glory in is that whoever is willing can take this water of life *freely*. **Song 508, v. 2d; Revelation 22:17**

### IV. "In the Strength of the Lord..."

- A. The third verse begins by referencing the strength the Lord provides to labor in His vineyard. **Song 508, v. 3a; Ephesians 6:10-11**
- B. Working for Christ as we should will ultimately result in a "robe and a crown" (i.e., a home in heaven with God). **Song 508, v. 3b; 2 Timothy 4:7-8**
- C. While the work we do for the Lord demands diligence, it will yield permanent comfort in the direct presence of God with the faithful of all ages, as the end of verse 3 alludes to. **Song 508, v. 3c; 1 Thessalonians 4:17**

### V. Conclusion

- A. The chorus goes on to encourage "toiling on" for the Lord as long as the opportunity continues. Our work on earth will one day end, but until that time, we should be watchful, prayerful, and diligent laborers in His vineyard. **Song 508, Chorus; John 9:4**