*Proverbs 14:23: In all labor there is profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty.*

*Colossians 3:23: Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men*

Have you ever felt the sweet relief of a job well done?

Have you ever had a big task that required energy and time and stress?

You know that feeling when you’ve accomplished your goal?

That relief. That long exhale.

What a great feeling that is.

Recently, at my job, we had to close the month of January.

One of my accounts alone is responsible for 7,906.8 tons.

We buy material from one company spread out into five different supplier locations.

It is delivered into 5 different receivers in six different facilities.

Every load has to be accounted for and entered accurately into the system.

Each location has different pricing both from the supplier to the receiver.

Each transaction has freight charges that depend on where the load is from and where it is going.

Depending on how heavy the load is, it may require a light load chargeback, which I won’t even begin to explain how we calculate it.

Each facility has a different processing charge, one facility has two.

These loads get unloaded, sorted, re-baled, and shipped back out into two of our mills.

Each load is about 20 tons.

So, saving you the math, that is about 395 loads.

This month, this one account has had a mid-month price change applying to every load.

Among other things, on the day we were meant to close the month, we found out that we would have to change the way we enter the loads.

So, 395 loads had to be reopened and changed, putting weight into a digital inventory, and pulling it back out again.

Upon finishing this task, my neck got sore, my throat got sore, I got a headache, I felt like I ran a marathon, and, needless to say, I wanted sleep!

Knowing that it was finally out of my hands was such a relief.

It’s interesting that even my body reacted to it.

Isn’t it funny how our body reacts when we’re stressed?

It buries it in us so we can complete a task.

What I found most interesting is how, during this whole month, I only prayed about this account once.

The day before we closed the month.

I felt like I could handle this to the point where I didn’t ask God for help.

Did I think God wasn’t concerned with cardboard bales?

Why wouldn’t I turn to Him when I needed Him?

I wonder if I asked for His help sooner, maybe my neck wouldn’t hurt.

Maybe my body wouldn’t react the way it did.

Trying to do things on our own is hard!

It’s stressful!

God wants to be a part of every detail.

God tells us to be in constant prayer.

We need to include Him in our work.

Sometimes we forget that the things we find important are important to Him too.

He cares about what we care about.

Our jobs provide for our families, pay our bills, and sustain our daily lives.

Of course we’ll put a lot of effort into that, right!?

Well, it only take a little effort to say a prayer and invite God to sit with you at your desk.

He’ll relieve your stresses.

He’ll help manage things better than you could imagine He would.

*2 Timothy 2:12-13: If we endure, we will also reign with Him; If we deny Him, He also will deny us; If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.*

God is faithful.

We need to have faith.