



Work as a Calling

Note: Scripture used in this Bible Study is from the New King James Version.

Why we work

What does Genesis 2:3 have to say about why we work?

Genesis 2:3 - Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.

What does Colossians 1:16-17 have to say about why we work?

Colossians 1:16-17 - For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

Why does the creation need work to bring order to it?

What does Genesis 1:26 have to say about why we work?

Genesis 1:26 - Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

How does knowing that we are reflecting the image of God when we work add dignity to our work?

What are the two great commandments of God?

Matthew 22:37-40 - Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." "This is the first and great commandment. "And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' "On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

How can we love God if we separate our work life from our spiritual life?

How do we show love for our neighbor by the way we work?

What about disabled people who can not work? If a person becomes disabled and can no longer provide for their family, are they worse than an unbeliever?

Your job today is the will of God

How does it change your view of your job if you see it as the will of God for you?

Do you think many people feel what that worker felt about his job? What are the consequences of being in a job you hate?

Reference: Ephesians 6:5-9

"Servants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ; not with eye-service, as men-pleasers, but as servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, with good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men, knowing that whatever good anyone does, he will receive the same from the Lord, whether he is a slave or free. And you, masters, do the same things to them, giving up threatening, knowing that your own Master also is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him."

What kind of change can Christians make as they look at their job? What kind of change is described in our text?

How do you change your attitude?

What difference does understanding that your job is the will of God for you make?

Whom did Paul tell the servants that they are serving?

Why is it that whoever we serve, ultimately we are serving the Lord?

If your job is the will of God for you, who is your boss?

In the passage, what difference should it make if you know that when you're doing your work, you're really doing it for your Lord or Master, Jesus Christ.

Do you think the church has done a good job of reinforcing secular work as working for God?

What should we be telling people doing secular work?

Your Job is a Calling

What is a calling?

Look again at Ephesians 6:5-8, what is the attitude that comes when you are serving Jesus Christ on the job?

What does it mean we should do our work "*with fear and trembling*"?

We fear and tremble before whom?

What does it mean we do our work in "*sincerity of heart*" (v.5)?

What picture comes to mind when you think of "eyeservice"?

What is wrong with working as men-pleasers?

What does it mean that when we see ourselves working directly for the Jewish Carpenter that we will do our work with goodwill (v.7)?

What good should we be doing in our work (v.8)? Who should be benefiting from our work?

Do any of you have a sense that you are called by God to do the work that you do?

Why is it important for someone in ministry to have a call?

Why don't we usually think of secular pursuits in terms of a calling?

If we can see our work as a calling, no matter what that work is, how does that change what we do on the job?

If we have different work options, how do we know which job is the right one for us?