

YOUR WORLD, YOUR WORK, AND YOUR DESTINY PART 1

“GOD’S PLAN FOR WORK”

SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 2

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INTRODUCTION

- Today we will be talking about God’s plan for work.
- The reality is that work is hard.
- The problem is we are often dissatisfied.
- The outcome is we live with a propensity to compare.

I. VOCATION IS OUR CALLING

- What if we viewed our vocations as a calling?
 - A calling to further God’s work?
 - Vocation comes from Latin word – vocare which means ‘to call’.
- What if we considered our work as our opportunity to be the hands and feet of God.
 - If we viewed our vocation as the chance to love our neighbors more than make money?
- What if we allowed our World View to change?
 - Seeing the world as Jesus does.
 - 1 Corinthians 15:58b, “Always work...for the Lord, ...nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless.”

II. WHY DO WE WORK?

- Genesis 2:1-3,15, “...²On the seventh day God had finished His work of creation, so He rested...¹⁵The Lord God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it.”
- In the Beginning there was work!
- Psalm 127:1, “Unless the Lord builds the house the builders labor in vain.”

- Work is essential to humanity flourishing mentally, physically, and spiritually.
- Our Current World View On Work:
 1. Tells us that work is a necessary evil.
 2. Leads us to believe that lower-status or lower-paying work is an assault on our dignity.

III. DIGNITY, DESTINY, AND WORK

- 2 Thessalonians 3:10-12, “...¹²We command such people...to settle down and work to earn their own living.”
- Without caution we can:
 - See work as meaningless.
 - See some work as beneath us.
- Scripture says work is life giving; not working is not a blessing. It means having no calling.
- Wisdom would tell us be cautious of thinking one kind of work is above another.
- Genesis 1:28, “...Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea...”
- Subduing and ruling is our participation in the work God began with Creation.

IV. VOCATION IS SERVICE

- 1 Corinthians 7:17, “Each of you should continue to live in whatever situation the Lord has placed you...”
- Paul is telling us and Jesus demonstrated that our work is our calling.
- Jesus demonstrated that work has purpose, value and is tied to our eternal partnership with the Kingdom.

CLOSE

- Psalm 147:10-15, “...the Lord’s delight is in those who fear Him, those who put their hope in His unfailing love ...”
- The question is “How, with my existing abilities and opportunities, can I be of the greatest service to others?”