





Clarification: What is work?

Work is whatever you rightly have to put your hand to today.

Theology

1. All labor is valuable and significant — because we were created to work.

2. Work is conflicted in blessing and curse

Take satisfaction in all labor by working for God and not men.



Dignity

1. Believe in the intrinsic dignity and worth of your work

Build the conviction in Christ

True of all work

Work is for everyone

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Psalm 78:70-72

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Integrity, then Skill, then Mission

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Colossians 3:23 "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men..."

Context: Slavery

ALL work

Work that stinks

Work that has bad outcomes

Work serving an evil master


THE ART
OF NORMAL

I have seen the **burden God** has laid on men...

...He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end."





Ecclesiastes 3:9-14

There is nothing better for men than to be happy and do good while they live. That everyone may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all his toil — this is **THE gift of God**



The Gift of God:

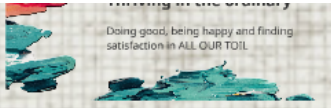
Thriving in the ordinary

Doing good, being happy and finding satisfaction in ALL OUR TOIL

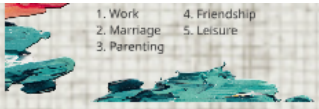
5 Ordinary Roles & Rhythms:

1. Work
2. Marriage
3. Parenting
4. Friendship
5. Leisure


YouTube



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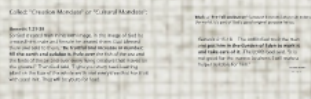


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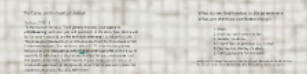
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1. **Work:** the toil of the day in your roles and responsibilities
2. **Vocation:** the specialization through which you serve others
3. **Employment:** work that you voluntarily trade

We are all called to **work.** Most will specialize in a **vocation**, allowing us to trade our specialized work through **employment.**

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Called: "Creation Mandate" or "Cultural Mandate":

Genesis 1:27-29
So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, "**Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over** the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground." Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food.

Work: a "**Pre-Fall Ordinance**"- because it comes before sin enters the world, it's part of God's good original purpose for us.

Genesis 2:15-18 The LORD God took the man and **put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it**...The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

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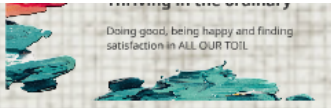
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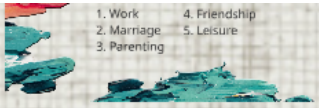
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The Curse: On the heart of creation

Genesis 3:16-19
To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your **pains in childbearing;** with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and **he will rule over *you***." To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you; **through painful toil you will eat of it** all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."

What do we find hardest in life to embrace:
What are the most conflicted things?

1. Work
2. Marriage and romantic love
3. Gender relations
4. Inter-tribe cooperation (economy)
5. Having and raising children
6. Caring properly for the earth

See a pattern: Things that are the most human are the most conflicted, and are the focus of Gospel redemption that came through the True Human Jesus

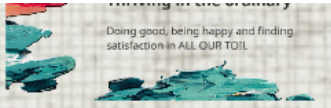
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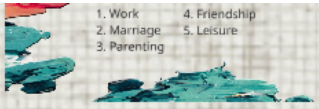
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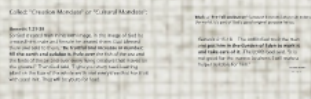


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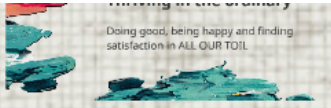
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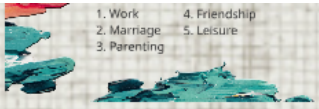
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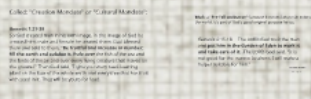


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