



## Thank God It's Monday

### Week 4: The Future of Work

#### HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

There are four crucial components for a group to maintain its health: Word, prayer, relationships, and reaching out. In this guide, you will study the biblical passage in three steps: observation, interpretation, and application. As the group leader, you are free to use any part of this guide that can assist you in achieving this goal.

#### CONNECT

- What kinds of jobs do you expect to see more of in coming years? What kinds of jobs do you think will disappear?
- What are some ways this series on work has changed the way you think about your own work?
- What questions still feel unanswered for you regarding faith and work?

#### INTRODUCTION

In this final week of looking at what the Bible says about work, we're going to look to the future. In 1 Corinthians 3, Paul says that everybody's work is going to be tested when Jesus returns. Certain kinds of work will pass the test, others won't. Those who work in a way that passes the test will receive a reward, but those who's work is deemed worthless will suffer loss. So, a really important question for us is, "What kind of work will God reward?"

#### OBSERVATIONS & INTERPRETATION

**Read:** 1 Corinthians 3:5-15

- Paul sees his work as an assignment from the Lord (v. 5). What are some alternative, wrong ways to view work?
- Paul uses two major metaphors in this passage—one where work is like cultivating plants, and one where the test of our work will be like a house fire that destroys some things but not others. What are your main takeaways from these metaphors?
- The idea of working for a reward (v. 14) might seem strange at first. (After all, our salvation is by grace through faith.) Thinking about other Bible passages, what is a healthy way to think about rewards from God?

#### APPLICATION

- Do you think the way you're carrying out your assignment from God will pass the test? Why or why not?
- As 1 Corinthians continues, it becomes clear that a distinguishing mark of work that passes the test is that it's done in love. What does it look like for you to do your work to love others?
- The foundation of all good work is Jesus Christ (v. 11). How does the gospel shape or reshape the way you think about work?

#### PRAYER

- Spend time praising Jesus for his saving work.
- Ask God to clarify what his assignment is for you.
- Ask God for vision and hope regarding your work.