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Work. What Is It Good For? Genesis 2-3; Colossians 3:22-25 Guest Speaker: Lance Terrill

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Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



Today we will be exploring what the Bible says about work. The work that each of us has been given to do, whether vocational, in the home, or in ministry, is a significant part of our lives. In many ways, our attitude towards work influences our views of success, our family, and our relationship with God. In order to live well and to live in a way that is aligned with God's will, we must allow Him to shape our view of work.



Read Genesis 2:15-22 (NET Bible)

¹⁵ The Lord God took the man and placed him in the orchard in Eden to care for it and to maintain it. ¹⁶ Then the Lord God commanded the man, “You may freely eat fruit from every tree of the orchard, ¹⁷ but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will surely die.”

¹⁸ The Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a companion for him who corresponds to him.”

¹⁹ The Lord God formed out of the ground every living animal of the field and every bird of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them, and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. ²⁰ So the man named all the animals, the birds of the air, and the living creatures of the field, but for Adam no companion who corresponded to him was found. ²¹ So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep, and while he was asleep, he took part of the man’s side and closed up the place with flesh. ²² Then the Lord

God made a woman from the part he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

Read Genesis 3:16-19 (NET Bible)

¹⁶ To the woman he said,
“I will greatly increase your labor pains;
with pain you will give birth to children.
You will want to control your husband,
but he will dominate you.”
¹⁷ But to Adam he said,
“Because you obeyed your wife
and ate from the tree about which I
commanded you,
‘You must not eat from it,’
cursed is the ground thanks to you;
in painful toil you will eat of it all the days
of your life.
¹⁸ It will produce thorns and thistles for you,
but you will eat the grain of the field.
¹⁹ By the sweat of your brow you will eat
food until you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken;
for you are dust, and to dust you will
return.”

Read Colossians 3:22-25

²² Slaves, obey your earthly masters in every respect, not only when they are watching—like those who are strictly people-pleasers—but with a sincere heart, fearing the Lord. ²³ Whatever you are doing, work at it with enthusiasm, as to

the Lord and not for people, ²⁴ because you know that you will receive your inheritance from the Lord as the reward. Serve the Lord Christ. ²⁵ For the one who does wrong will be repaid for his wrong, and there are no exceptions.

● EXAMINE His Word (Observation) (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passage.

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.

③ EMBRACE His Word (Application) (For Community Group discussion)

Why does this MATTER to me?

13. Share with the group what kinds of work God has given you to do at the present time in your life. Don't forget to consider work inside the household and educational work.

14. How does God sometimes use difficult times or environments in the workplace to accomplish the demonstration of His glory? Share specific examples from your life, if possible!

15. Extra Credit: Is work in ministry more valuable to God than vocational work? Why or why not? Do you think that Pastor Kirk would agree with your answer?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to **KNOW**, to **FEEL**, and to **DO**...

Sermon Notes