



July 13th 2008

Sermon Notes

“Our work- God’s Work”

A five-week sermon series looking at the redemptive purpose of work in our lives:

Week 1: Work- Good, Bad, or Neutral?

Week 2: When work seems Insignificant

Week 3: Working as an example to Others

Week 4: Working as unto the Lord

Week 5: Working for Heavenly Rewards



July 13th 2008
Pastor Jim Folk

Genesis 1:26-2:3

“Work: Good, Bad, or Neutral?”

Work is inherently Good because God is the Originator of work.

1. Being created in the image of God means we have a God-given mandate for work. (1:26-30)
2. God’s goodness is expressed in the pattern of work and rest he established. (1:31-2:3)
3. Even though work is corrupted by sin, God intends for us to express his tender care through our work. (2:15-17, 3:17-19)



July 13th, 2008
Sermon Application Questions



July 14-20, 2008
Daily Readings

For Starters:

1. What is the best job you ever had? What is the worst job? What are the criteria for a “good job”?
2. Describe your ideal job- what do you dream of doing for a living? Which would you rather have- a job that pays more, or a job that is more enjoyable?

For Further Study:

3. One concept in the passage today was mankind being created in “the image of God”. Read Genesis 9:1-11. What is the reasoning behind capital punishment (v. 6)? How do you think the “image of God” in mankind should have moral and ethical implications in our society?
4. Read Genesis 3:1-13. This is the account of sin entering the world through the serpent- Satan. How did Adam and Eve try to avoid taking responsibility for their sin? What is your natural tendency? Do you try to hide from God or avoid him? Do you try to blame others, or blame the devil?
5. James 4:6-10 gives a picture of how we can approach God and have fellowship with him after we recognize our sin. What is one thing on your mind right now that you need to confess and draw closer to God?

This week we will continue our series “Our work—God’s Work” by studying Ecclesiastes 2 and asking the question, “Why does work seem insignificant?” Ecclesiastes Chapters 1-5 gives a broader context to Solomon’s despair, even though he accomplished many things.

Mon. July 14th	Ecclesiastes Chapters 1-2 Ecclesiastes was written by King Solomon. After all of his accomplishments, how does he see the meaning of life? What gives your work (or toil) purpose?
Tues. July 15th	Ecclesiastes 3-5 In these chapters Solomon continues his quest for meaning. What is the proper attitude towards wealth and prosperity?
Wed. July 16th	Genesis Chapters 29-30 Jacob works for Laban seven years and then is tricked into marrying Leah instead of Rachel. How do you deal with defeat when your work seems to count for nothing?
Thurs. July 17th	Matthew 25:14-30 In this parable Jesus tells the importance of using the resources God has given to each of us.
Fri. July 18th	Nehemiah 3-4 Nehemiah charges the people with rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem. How should we deal with opposition to our work? (4:1-12)
Sat.- Sun. July 19- 20	Deuteronomy Chapter 8 What do we need to remember in times of prosperity? (11-19)