



July 20th 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? (Genesis 1:26-2:3)

Week 2: When work seems Insignificant (Ecclesiastes 2)

Week 3: Working as an example to Others

Week 4: Working as unto the Lord

Week 5: Working for Heavenly Rewards

Summary of Ecclesiastes:

“Where does one start to build a way of life that transcends the meaninglessness of the world? Can purpose for life be found in nature, money, self-indulgence, property, position, intelligence, philosophy, and religious observances?

Obviously, some of these pursuits are better than others, but all encounter some crowning frustration that invalidates them as solutions to the problem of living. **The world does not contain the key to itself. It can be found only in God.**”

J. Stafford Wright from the Expositors Bible Commentary, vol. 5



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Pastor Jim Folk

Ecclesiastes 2

When Work Seems Insignificant

Ecclesiastes: “The Preacher” is on a _____ to find personal _____ and the meaning of life.

Things to keep in mind when reading Ecclesiastes:

1.

2.

2:1-11 The Emptiness of...

2:12-16 The Emptiness of...

2:17-23 The Despair of...

2:24-26 The Alternative:



July 20th, 2008
 Sermon Application Questions



July 21-27, 2008
 Daily Readings

For Starters:

1. What are three things that you enjoy most in life? What activities help you relax the most?
2. How would you describe your personal work philosophy? What concepts or ideas do you consider most important in your work? (Work Ethic, Diligence, Punctuality, Leadership, Enjoyment, Creating New Ideas, etc.)
3. What role does education or training play in your work? Do you think you have been given natural gifts or abilities you are using right now? Are there God-given abilities you think you have but are not using currently?

For Further Study:

4. When have you looked to your work or accomplishments to give you satisfaction you could only find in God?
 Read Ecclesiastes 5:18-19 and Colossians 3:22-25.

This week we will continue our series “Our work—God’s Work” by studying 2 Thessalonians 3:6-12 and exploring how our work should be an example to others. The daily readings come from 1-2 Thessalonians.

Mon. July 21	1 Thessalonians 1-2
Tues. July 22	1 Thessalonians 3-4
Wed. July 23	1 Thessalonians 5
Thurs. July 24	2 Thessalonians 1
Fri. July 25	2 Thessalonians 2
Sat.- Sun. July 26- 27	2 Thessalonians 3