

# FOUNDATIONS

## LESSON 21 - THE GOSPEL AND WORK, PART 2

Week 2: How the Gospel Fits Into Our Work

Resources: Traeger, Sebastian and Gilbert, Greg. *The Gospel At Work*. Zondervan, 2013

Guinness, Os. *The Call*. W Publishing Group, 2003

Keller, Timothy, *Every Good Endeavor*. Dutton, 2012

Veith, Gene Edward, Jr. *God at Work*. Crossway, 2002

**Main Point:** *The work of Jesus on the cross redeems people, redefines work, and offers new rewards.*

### I. Work After the Fall – The Challenges of Toils, Temptations, and Trials

#### A. Toils of Work

1. Work becomes toilsome, futile, and compulsory for survival (Genesis 3:16-19)
2. Things don't work the way they were supposed to (Romans 8:18-25, Mark 4:19)

#### B. Temptations of Work

1. We are tempted to make work an **idol** (Luke 4:8, James 4:4, 1 John, 5:21, 1 Corinthians 10:14, Luke 18:18-29, Ephesians 3:14-19)
  - a. When work is our primary source of satisfaction (Daniel 4:30)
  - b. When work is all about making a name for yourself (Ecclesiastes 9:10, Genesis 11:4, 12:2, Matthew 18:1-4, James 4:6)
  - c. When work becomes about making a difference in the world
2. We are tempted to become **idle** in our work (2 Thessalonians 3:6-15)
  - a. When work is merely a means to an end; serve our own needs (1 Corinthians 10:31)
  - b. When work totally frustrates you (Romans 5:3-5)
  - c. When Work is divorced from your Christian discipleship (Colossians 3:22-24)

#### C. Trials of Work

1. Challenges with People (Psalm 1:1, 2 Peter 3:3, John 15:18-19, Romans 3:23)
2. Challenges with Ethics (2 Corinthians 5:17, Romans 12:2, Proverbs 10:9, 28:6)

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## II. Work After the Cross – Jesus' Work Changes Everything

### A. Redemption of People (John 1:29, Luke 19:10, John 17:4, 19:30)

1. Redeemed people repent of idolatrous attitudes toward work (Colossians 3:2-4, Isaiah 36:25-26)
2. Redeemed people can worship God again through our work (Colossians 3:17 Ephesians 2:1-10)
3. Redeemed people work for the name and glory of the one who purchased us (1 Corinthians 7:23, 10:31)

### B. Redefinition of Work

1. We work for a new master (Romans 6:18, Galatians 3:26-29, 1 Peter 4:10)
2. We have a new assignment (Matthew 28:37-40)
3. We have new hearts (Ezekiel 36:26, Philippians 4:19, Galatians 4:6, 5:22-23)
4. We have new responses (Titus 2:10)
  - a. Love your neighbor as you love yourself (Mark 12:31)
  - b. Love your enemies (Matthew 5:44-45)
  - c. Do not repay evil for evil (Romans 12:17-21)
  - d. Be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger (James 1:19-20)
  - e. Tame your tongue (James 3:1-12)
  - f. Season your words with grace (Colossians 4:6)
  - g. Look for evidences of grace (1 Corinthians 1:1-9)
  - h. Remove the plank in your own eye (Matthew 7:3-5)
  - i. Speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15)
  - j. Reprove and correct where possible (Proverbs 9:7-9, 15:32)

### C. Rewards of Work (1 John 2:15-17, 1 Peter 1:4, Matthew 6:20, Matthew 25:14-30, Luke 19:11-27)

1. Freedom to trust (Romans 8:28, Philippians 1:6, 4:12-13)
2. Freedom to rest (Proverbs 23:4)
3. Freedom to serve (Mark 12:29-31, Philippians 2:4, Ephesians 6:5-9, Galatians 6:10)
4. Freedom to excel (Proverbs 22:29)