

FAITH AND WORK:
A PRACTICAL THEOLOGY OF WORK

The Value of Work; Decision Making and
the Connection to:
Personal, Spiritual, and Worklife

Introduction 2

- I. Housekeeping
- II. Questions: Mine, yours and ours
- III. Connections
- IV. Key terms
- V. Value of Work
- VI. Decision Making

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I. Housekeeping 3

- I. What is said by those here; stays here
 - A. What I mean
 - B. The exception
- II. Reflect on what I say, we discuss
- III. Ask questions
- IV. Your expectations

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II. My Question 4

How (why) did you enter the job, do the work, practice the vocation you currently have?

What did/do you want from this work?

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IIa. Your Questions 5

A. How do I integrate my faith and work?

1. How do I know I'm doing the Lord's work vs pursuing selfish ambition?
2. Are work and calling the same thing?
3. How to I remember the value of my work when times are tough?

B. Calling/Guidance

1. How do I know I'm doing my life's work, especially when I feel like I'm not?
2. Are work and calling the same thing?
3. What is calling; am I doing the Lord's work or following my own selfish ambition?
4. How to feel/remind oneself that one's work has value when things are tough.

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IIb. Your Questions 6

D. Work specific:

1. How is a Christian, Christian employer different than a non-Christian?
2. How does a Christian company look/act different than a non-Christian?
3. How does a Christian approach innovation, creativity?
4. How do I witness have an impact - at work; when working at/from home full-time?

E. What other questions has occurred to you?

1. Email me or
2. Use a blank survey

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IIc. Our Questions – We'll Address 7

- A. What is work?
- B. Why work?
- C. Is some work of greater value than other types?
- D. When making decision: How do I discern God's will?
- E. How is the workplace my ministry?
- F. What does my worklife have to do with my spiritual life?

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III. Connections 8

- I. Three key points from last week – Genesis 14
 - A. Did Abraham do the right thing attacking Kedorlaomer king of Elam in order to save Lot?
 - B. Abraham's focus – his legacy
 - C. Abraham took care of his people
- II. Current Sermon Series

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IV. Key Terms 9

- A. Theology
 - 1. What it is
 - 2. What do we believe about
 - a. Character of God
 - b. Person of Christ
 - c. Role of Holy Spirit
 - d. Creation
 - 3. Implications
- B. Belief Shapes Behavior; What do We Believe About
 - 1. God the Father
 - 2. Person of the Christ
 - 3. Nature of the Holy Spirit
 - 4. Creation

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IVa. Key Terms - Continued 10

- C. Philosophy
 - 1. What it is
 - 2. American Pragmatism
 - 3. Implications

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V. Value of Work 11

- A. Instrumental
- B. Intrinsic
- C. As Image Bearers

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VI. Decision Making 12

- A. God's Will
- B. Seeking God's Will
- C. Understanding Guidance
- D. God's Will and Our Spiritual/Personal/Work life

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Next Week: Case Study 13

- A. Saul
 - 1. Chosen by . . .
 - 2. Called to . . .
 - 3. Skill set, expertise
 - 4. Flaw
- C. David
 - 1. Chosen by . . .
 - 2. Called to . . .
 - 3. Skill set, expertise
 - 4. Flaw
- D. Solomon
 - 1. Chosen by . . .
 - 2. Called to . . .
 - 3. Skill set, expertise
 - 4. Flaw

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Next Week: Case Study 14

- A. Nehemiah
 - 1. Chosen by . . .
 - 2. Called to . . .
 - 3. Skill set, expertise
 - 4. Difference
- B. Daniel
 - 1. Chosen by . . .
 - 2. Called to . . .
 - 3. Skill set, expertise
 - 4. Difference

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Case Study: Lessons Learned 15

- A. Connection of Spiritual/Personal/Work Life
- B. God's Will
- C. Seeking God's Will
- D. Understanding Guidance
- E. Starting Well Isn't Sufficient
- F. It's "A Long Obedience in the Same Direction"
- G. And . . .

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