

## Faith and Work: Being a Christian in the Workplace

Your gifts, calling, and purpose go with you wherever you go. So do your most deeply-held values. As a follower of Jesus, how do you live into your gifts, purpose, and values in the midst of a life that often separates the secular from the sacred, where the work you do sometimes can feel so disconnected to your Christian faith? How do you be a person of faith in your place of employment?

**Spend time on your own or with your small group exploring the following passages. See where they build a Scriptural basis for work:**

- Genesis 1:28
- Genesis 2:15
- Psalm 127:1
- Exodus 31:1-4
- Isaiah 58:6-
- Colossians 1:9-14
- Ephesians 5:15-16
- 2 Timothy 1:7
- Deuteronomy 5:12-15
- Matthew 11:28-30
- 1 Peter 5:7
- Ephesians 6:7-18
- John 17:14-15
- Ephesians 2:10
- 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12
- Daniel 6:4-5
- 1 Peter 3:15-17
- Matthew 5:13-16
- 2 Corinthians 2:14-15
- 2 Corinthians 5:17-20
- 1 Peter 2:13-17
- 1 Peter 4:10

**Some key Biblical themes about work:**

- Genesis Chapter 1—God WORKS and delights in working.
- Genesis Chapter 2—God CREATES and CARES FOR His creation by *Providing*
- AND commissions humans to carry on His work of cultivating and providing and bringing order—this is all BEFORE everything goes haywire and humans take matters into their own hands.
- We were made for work and the dignity and purpose it gives us.
- We can seek work that fits how God has uniquely designed each of us.

**Continue your discussion with the following questions:**

- How do you think understanding God’s call, your God-given passions, and your spiritual gifts might help you in pursuing your career/vocation?
- What is meant by saying that work is a “**ministry of competence.**” [If God’s purpose for your job is that you serve the human community, then the way to serve God best is to do the job as well as it can be done.]
- How might you think about your work through the lenses of a Christian worldview?

- What might some of the particular challenges be for you as a believer in your chosen field of study/career?
- What parts of the dominant worldviews in your field are basically in line with the gospel, so that you can agree with and align with them?
- How could you work not just with excellence but also with Christian distinctiveness in your work?

**Some additional Scripture reminders:**

- **Colossians 3:17** “And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”
- “In the Lord, your labor is not in vain, “ **Paul, 1 Cor. 15:58.**

**Notes:**

Check out more on gifts, calling and purpose at [GodGiftsYou.com](http://GodGiftsYou.com).

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