

5 Day Devotional

Day 1: Day 1: Work as a Gift from God

Devotional

Work is a gift from God that allows us to reflect His creative character as His image bearers. From the beginning, God invited humanity to participate in caring for His creation through the cultural mandate to be fruitful, multiply, and exercise stewardship over the earth. This calling transforms our daily labor into an act of worship that extends beyond Sunday services.

When we view our work as a gift from God, it changes our perspective. We begin to see our tasks, no matter how mundane, as opportunities to glorify Him. This mindset helps us find joy and purpose in our daily routines.

'God blessed them humanity and said to them, be fruitful and increase in number. Fill the earth, subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground. We often call that the cultural mandate. Why we are here.'

****Verse:**** 'For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.' - Ephesians 2:10

****Question:**** How can you view your daily tasks as opportunities to glorify God?

****Prayer:**** Lord, help me to see my work as a gift from You. May I approach each task with a heart of worship, knowing that I am reflecting Your creative character. Amen.

****Quote:**** 'Work is a gift from God. The Bible is very clear that we are image bearers of God. And one of the ways that we image God is through our work. Because God delights in his work.'

Bible Verse

Reflection Question

Day 2: Day 2: Vocation vs. Job

Devotional

There's an important distinction between merely having a job and embracing our vocation—our divine assignment in life. True satisfaction comes when we discover our 'sweet spot' where our unique talents and interests intersect with the world's needs. When we work 'as unto the Lord' rather than just for human approval, our labor becomes sacred.

Understanding our vocation helps us find deeper meaning in our work. It's not just about earning a paycheck but about fulfilling God's purpose for our lives. This perspective can transform even the most routine tasks into acts of worship.

'Vocation is more than what you do. It's who you are. It's your calling. John Calvin put it this way. It's your assignment in life. And God gives us various assignments, skills and talents to contribute to the flourishing of our world.'

****Verse:**** 'Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart as working for the Lord, not for men. Since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It's the Lord you are serving.' - Colossians 3:23-24

****Question:**** What unique talents and interests has God given you, and how can you use them to meet the world's needs?

****Prayer:**** Father, help me to understand my vocation and embrace it fully. May I use my talents and interests to serve You and meet the needs of those around me. Amen.

****Quote:**** 'Each job is a calling when viewed as a gift from God.'

Bible Verse

Reflection Question

Day 3: Day 3: Excellence in the Workplace

Devotional

Christians should be known in the workplace for excellence, responsibility, creativity, and integrity. When we work 'as unto the Lord,' our labor becomes a testimony of our faith. Our actions and attitudes can reflect God's character to those around us.

Excellence in the workplace is not about perfection but about doing our best with the resources and abilities God has given us. It's about being responsible, creative, and maintaining integrity in all we do.

'We never just nailed two by fours. We're building, constructing for the glory of God. We're not just teaching a class. We are readying young minds to live out the kingdom for the glory of God. We're not just keeping the books. No, we are stewarding God's resources.'

****Verse:**** 'Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart as working for the Lord, not for men.' - Colossians 3:23

****Question:**** How can you demonstrate excellence, responsibility, creativity, and integrity in your workplace?

****Prayer:**** Lord, help me to work with excellence, responsibility, creativity, and integrity. May my actions and attitudes reflect Your character and bring glory to Your name. Amen.

****Quote:**** 'Our boss is Jesus Christ, and our work can become a holy place in which we bring that worship to God.'

Bible Verse

Reflection Question

Day 4: Day 4: Guarding Against Work Idolatry

Devotional

While work is a gift from God, we must guard against making it an idol. The practice of Sabbath rest reminds us that our identity is found in Christ, not in our achievements. Taking time to rest and reflect helps us maintain a healthy balance and keeps our focus on God.

Work can become addictive, and we may find ourselves seeking validation and identity in our accomplishments. However, true fulfillment comes from our relationship with Christ, not from our work.

'Jesus asked a first century group of workaholics, what good is it if you gain the whole world but lose your soul?'

****Verse:**** 'Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.' - Exodus 20:8

****Question:**** How can you ensure that your work does not become an idol in your life?

****Prayer:**** Father, help me to guard against making work an idol. Remind me to find my identity in You and to take time for Sabbath rest. Amen.

****Quote:**** 'Work can become addictive. It can be in a God that we serve. It can even serve us to hide from other responsibilities.'

Bible Verse

Reflection Question

Day 5: Day 5: Eternal Significance of Our Work

Devotional

Every act of love and service done in our vocations has eternal significance, becoming part of God's new creation. Whether teaching, building, managing a home, or keeping books, all work matters eternally when done for His glory.

Our daily tasks, no matter how small, contribute to God's kingdom. When we work with a heart of service and love, we are participating in His redemptive plan for the world.

'Every prayer, every act of love and kindness, every minute spent teaching a special needs child to read or walk or listening to a lonely elderly person, and every work of art and music inspired by the love of God, every act of care for this earth, every act that spreads the good news of the gospel will find its way into that new creation that God is making and will one day bring to glorious completion.'

****Verse:**** 'Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart as working for the Lord, not for men.' - Colossians 3:23

****Question:**** How can you view your daily tasks as part of God's eternal plan?

****Prayer:**** Lord, help me to see the eternal significance of my work. May I approach each task with a heart of service and love, knowing that I am contributing to Your kingdom. Amen.

****Quote:**** 'Thank God for Mondays.'

Bible Verse

Reflection Question