



## October 22nd Sermon Questions Foundations: Of Work

Genesis 1:26-28, 2:5-7, 2:15-22

Icebreaker: Who was your first job?

Discussion Questions: Read the scripture verses above.

1. In his sermon, Rob mentioned that the Hebrew word for "work" is AVODAH. Explain Avodah in your own words. What does/should Avodah look like in your daily life? Do you tend to think of work as something that is secular or sacred? Why do you think that is?
2. These early chapters of the bible reveal to us that God is the original worker. In creation, he labored, which means that when we work, we are simply imitating him. Have you ever thought of our Creator God as one who works? Why or why not? How might that reality alter your view of work?
3. In your life as an ISH (man) or ISHAH (woman), made in God's image, how do you need the perspective or help of an EZER (helpmate) based on how God has gifted you?
4. In Genesis 1-2, God gives our first parents Adam and Eve a job to do, which means that work and labor were a part of the original goodness of creation not a result of sin. Have you ever considered that fact before? How might that truth change your perspective of work?
5. These verses show us that God designed work to be done in community with others and with God. Are you working with Jesus in your work or trying to do it alone?

6. The command to "rule over" or "have dominion over" creation (1:18) is not an encouragement to selfishly dominate the environment, but rather to selflessly steward and care for it. What values and moral principles do you think are being communicated through your laboring? How might you seek to grow to be more selfless?
7. In your daily work, have you ever thought about the human knowledge and values embedded in the systems, objects, or services you build and create? What values would you change in those systems, objects, or services if you had the authority to manage (SUBDUE) and lead (RULE) with greater freedom in your workplace?
8. Is it more freeing or more empowering (or just plain scary) to think about your work in the world as being useful and present in the new heavens and new earth?
9. When Adam and Eve sinned, they tried unsuccessfully to hide from God. Can you do your work in God's presence or do you want to conceal your labors like they did? If the latter, why do you think that is the case?
10. Have you ever thought of death as a gift from God? How is death something to be resisted, but also something to be embraced?
11. As you know, all of us now do our work post-Genesis 3. We labor within a creation that has been spoiled and corrupted by sin. How do you experience the fallenness and brokenness of our world in your work? How do you respond? Is it driving you to Jesus or to idols like money, sex, and power?
12. How could this group help you to grow in developing a more biblical view of work, as well as encourage you to do your work more biblically?