

Title: A Different Calling

Series: What Different Does

Gen. 2:15; Ecclesiastes 2:24; 2 Thessalonians 3:10-11; Proverbs 22:29; Isaiah 6:8; Psalm 127:1; Colossians 3:23-24

Review -

A different faith

A different family

A different economy

Calling is sometimes referred to as Purpose

Ask, What has been your least desirable job?

Our view of work should be different

Genesis 2:15 ESV

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.

- **Work was not a result of the fall or a curse. Sin did not burden us with work but sin made work a burden. Sin sours our attitude towards work.**

Ecclesiastes 2:24 ESV

There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God

Original sin brought identity to our work. Before sin our identity was found in our Creator but sin has fooled us into believing our work determines our identity.

Discuss - What we do is not who we are.

Our typical effort should be different

Don't be lazy but don't pervert this concept either. The flip side is overwork and sacrifice family/health.

2 Thessalonians 3:10-11 ESV

For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies.

Be skilled in your work

Proverbs 22:29 ESV

Do you see a man skillful in his work?

He will stand before kings;

he will not stand before obscure men.

Exodus 31 - skilled craftsmen (extra study this week) 2 men mentioned by name

Our work and calling should work together

Isaiah 6:8 ESV

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me."

Ask, How does your purpose line up with the mission of God?

Ask, What might living on mission look like in your life?

Psalm 127:1 ESV

*Unless the Lord builds the house,
those who build it labor in vain.*

*Unless the Lord watches over the city,
the watchman stays awake in vain.*

Colossians 3:23–24 ESV

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

Ask, What about stinky jobs and bosses? What does it look like to work unto the Lord?

Practical steps -

If you struggle with laziness, imitate someone who loves their job and/or their boss. Dress the part. Get up and get moving.

1. Work for Jesus. Act like you love your boss. Work as unto the Lord.
2. Let your work be your calling until God shows you differently.

Take time to share prayer requests.

Pray.