
IGNITE
@ Work

Ignite@Work

Objective: Help Christians at CPC develop a robust theological framework for work/vocation. Give believers a vision for how they can serve Christ and advance His kingdom through their work.

Why should we have this ministry?

- God cares about work and the bible speaks of it quite often. Nealy a third of our waking hours are spent working. However, many believers have an incorrect or underdeveloped theology of work. Many treat their work as an idol or a means to pleasure rather than as an act of worship and service to our Lord.
- We believe that there is an opportunity for greater discipleship in this important area of life.
- A way to reach our city and share the love of Christ with people who will never enter a church building

Mission of this ministry…

Igniting a passion to follow Jesus…AT WORK

Focus of the ministry:

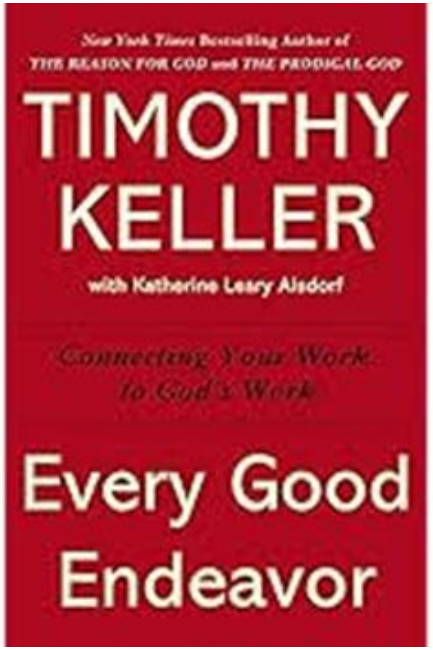
- **Pre-eminence of Jesus** in our work
- **Authority of the Word** to inform our theology of work
- God using us as **Redemptive Community** in His work
- **Biblical Unity in Diversity** of vocations and gender/ethic experiences
- How we can show others **Extravagant Grace** through our work
- **The Call to Go** to our workplace as salt and light

What you can expect each Month at our Breakfast gatherings

- A time of fellowship (and good food & coffee ☺)
- Teaching on the theology of work
- Panels or Speakers on how others are living out their faith in their work
- Highlights from other ministries in the community focused on Faith & Work
- Time at your tables to discuss application of principles discussed with other believers
- Starting and ending on time

What to expect over the next 7 months

Month	Topic	Optional Reading
January:	God's view of work vs the World's	
February:	Design & Dignity of Work	(1&2)
March:	Work as Cultivation & Service	(3&4)
April:	Work can be Fruitless & Pointless	(5&6)
May:	Idol or Idle in our work?	(7&8)
June:	New Story & Conception	(9&10)
July:	New Compass and Power	(11&12)



Join our mailing list for updates!



We’ll send out a topics interest survey in March/April

My mis-formed Theology of Work

- Parachurch ministry discipleship



- Marketplace messages

Frito Lay

Winning:
There Is No Substitute!

"Growth is our heritage, our tradition, our destiny"

"the key to controlling our future was to create it"

"nothing feels as sweet as being number one…whatever it takes"


Lay's
PARTY SIZE
Barbecue
wavy
Lay's

As a result….

- Questioning value and purpose of my work.
- Am I here just to witness?
- Am I here to just fund ministries through my giving?
- Is this just necessary “tent making” so I can do ministry within the church?



“most of the Christian community has accepted the idea of the “call”…..God “calls” only a few people to full-time Christian work….the rest of us are free to work in the secular world, where our main concern is to provide financial support to the handful of “full time” Christian workers”

- Myron Rush, Lord of the Marketplace

I needed to go back to the beginning





Tim Keller's Definition of Work



" Rearranging the raw materials of a particular domain to draw out its potential for the flourishing of everyone. "

That is what Adam was called to do in the garden, which is what we are called to do in our work today.

Messages from the world that can compete against right theology related to work

Message #1: An idealized view of work



"Pursue Your Passion"

"Do what you love and you'll never have to work a day in your life."

Messages from the world that can compete against right theology related to work

Message #2: "Work is your Identity"



itest Newsletters

The Atlantic

IDEAS

Workism Is Making Americans Miserable

For the college-educated elite, work has morphed into a religious identity—promising transcendence and community, but failing to deliver.

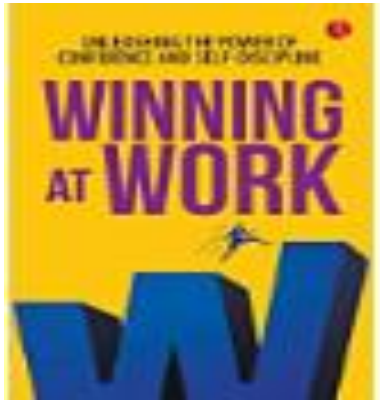
By Derek Thompson

"it is the belief that work is not only necessary to economic production, but also the centerpiece of one's identity and life purpose"

Messages from the world that can compete against right theology related to work

Message #3: "Work as self promotion"

"so humbled to be honored with this award"
"You are killing it"





Messages from the world that can compete against right theology related to work

Message #4: "Working for….."





Financial
Independence
Retire
Early



Messages from the World:

- Idealized view of work
- Work as Identity
- Using work for Self Promotion
- Working for my idol

Christians have been listening….

"In nothing has the Church so lost her hold on reality as in her failure to understand and respect the secular vocation. **She has allowed work and religion to become separate departments**, and is astonished to find that, as a result, the secular work of the world is turned to purely selfish and destructive ends"

- Dorothy Sayers

What is needed

Renew our Minds through a theologically informed view of work and God's calling in all vocations

"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."

Wisdom/Encouragement to navigate challenging environments with unique areas of brokenness – in the community within the church

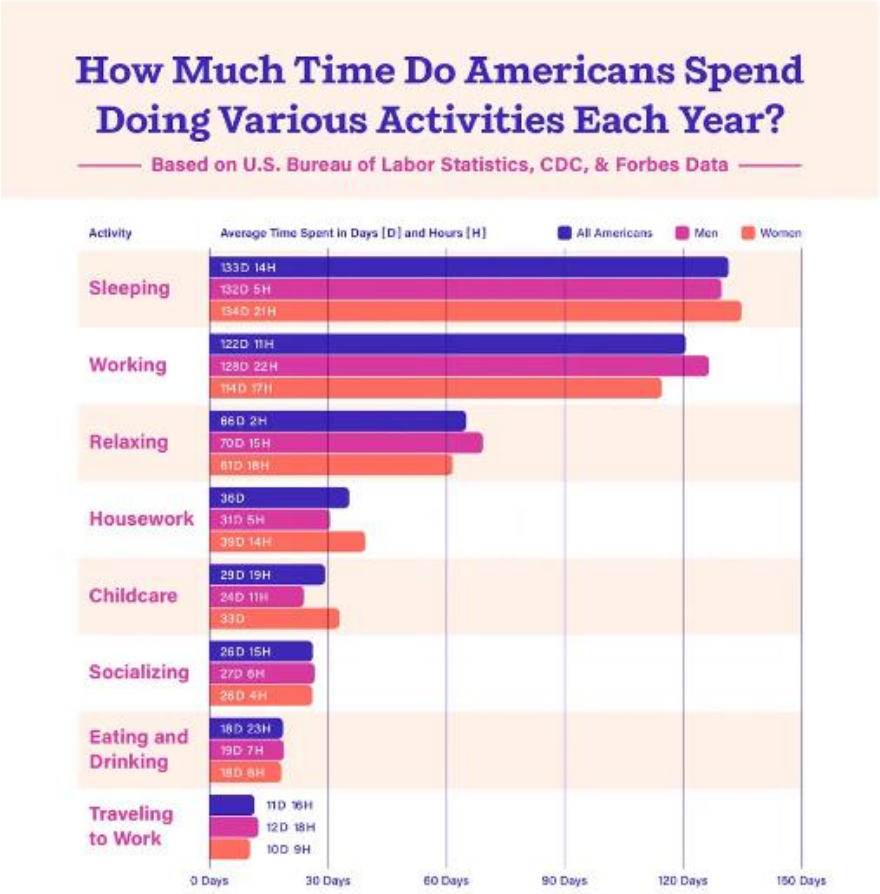
What we will be talking about over the next 6 months

– We were designed by God to work. It is gift and we should seek to reflect Him in our work

– We were created to be stewards and partner with God in His work (co-creation and serving others)

– Work as a place where discipleship happens. God uses work to sanctify us

The Opportunity



God is sovereign over <u>every</u> area of our lives.

Monday – Friday matters

The Opportunity



- 57% seldom or never in religious service attendance (Gallop 2023)
- 32% trust clergy (Pew 2024)

The Opportunity



"Our job is to make the invisible God visible — to mirror and mimic what he is like to the world. We can glorify God by doing our work in such a way that we make the invisible God visible by what we do and how we do it."

— John Mark Comer, Garden City: Work, Rest, and the Art of Being Human.

Round Table Discussion



Pick a leader at your table and discuss the questions for the next 15 minutes

Round Table Discussion

1. **How do you see the following beliefs at your work?**
- Idealized view of work
- Work as Identity
- Using work for self promotion
- Working for my idols

2. **Is there one of these that you feel you more often struggle with?**

3. **How do you hope to personally grow through Ignite@Work?**

Prayer for our Work

