

Course outline

The Story of Work

Week 1: A Biblical Theology of Work

Week 2: The Problem with Work

Our Work as the Redeemed

Week 3: A New Boss: How Jesus' Work Changes Our Work

Week 4: A New Goal: Success is Faithfulness

How We Work

Week 5: Motivation: Faithfulness Changes Why We Work

Week 6: Relationships: Imaging Christ in the Workplace

Week 7: Balance: Christians Are *Not* Balanced People

Week 8: Gender: Being Who You Are in the Workplace

Week 9: Ethics: Case Studies for the Modern Workplace

Week 10: Finding a Job: Putting First Things First

Week 11: Evangelism: Sharing Christ with Your Colleagues

Week 12: Work at different stages of life

Week 13: Panel Q&A

Questions? E-mail jamie.dunlop@capbap.org or
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Suggested resources:

- *Rethinking Retirement* (Piper)
- *The Gospel at Work* (Traeger, Gilbert)
- *The Call* (Guinness)

Core Seminars – Engaging the World
Christians in the Workplace
Week 12



Work in Different Stages of Life

I. Introduction

“Exceptional” callings: as a student, retired, unemployed

II. Are These Callings Really Callings?

Review: our primary calling as Christians is *by* Christ, *to* Christ, that we might do good work *for* Christ. Our secondary callings are those things Christ calls us to do—by virtue of his providence or circumstance.

Four principles:

1. The purpose of your work is to glorify God (1 Cor. 10:31)
2. All legitimate work can bring glory to God
3. Our work matters to the extent it reveals who God is. In other words, we are called to be faithful.
4. God is in control of our circumstances.

III. Called to Be a Student

How can our studies bring God glory?

1. We can work hard as unto the Lord
2. We can develop God's gift of the mind
3. We can develop our skills

Some implications:

- Aim for Christ's commendation, not your teacher's
- Remember that Christ owns your time (Titus 3:1)
- See education as preparation for *all* your callings

IV. Called to Be Retired

God doesn't turn off your callings when you turn 65!

Paul's mindset: "My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith" (Philippians 1:13-15).

What are the unique resources we have in retirement?

- Flexibility
- Wisdom
- Bible Knowledge
- Perspective
- Money

Worth does not come from what we accomplish. Even as opportunities for service slip away, opportunities for faithfulness never do.

V. Called to Be Unemployed

How can we be unemployed to the glory of God?

1. Work hard to find a job
2. Use the time well
3. Provide opportunities for others to do good (to you)
4. Trust God

VI. Conclusion