

SESSION 4

Redeeming Work

Work = Energy Expended ≠ Energy _____

10 STRATEGIES FOR REDEEMING WORK

1. Providing for your _____

But those who won't care for their relatives, especially for their own household, have denied the true faith. Such people are worse than unbelievers.

— 1 Timothy 5:8

2. Skillful and excellent work _____ God

Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good.

— Genesis 1:31

3. Finding God's _____ through _____

Do you see a man diligent and skillful in his business? He will stand before kings: he will not stand before obscure men. (ESV)

— Proverbs 22:29

4. Work shapes your _____

You who are slaves must accept the authority of your masters with all respect. Do what they tell you — not only if they are kind and reasonable, but even if they are cruel. For God is pleased with you when you do what you know is right and patiently endure unfair treatment.

— 1 Peter 2:18–19

5. _____ is your megaphone for _____
6. Doing what you were _____ to do

Traps for Those Wanting to Work in Ministry

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

7. Make money so you can be _____
8. Take _____ to work

Jesus made a whip from some ropes and chased them all out of the Temple.

— John 2:15

9. Transferring skills between _____ and _____
10. Don't miss the _____ moments

I gave you land you had not worked on, and I gave you towns that you did not build.

— Joshua 24:13

“The Church in our time has forgotten that the secular vocation is sacred. Forgotten that a building must be good architecture before it can be a good church; that a painting must be well painted before it can be a good picture; that work must be good before it can call itself God’s work.”

— Dorothy Sayers

Discussion Questions

1. Review the statements below that highlight the 10 Strategies for Redeeming Work. Take a few minutes to rate yourself in each area using the following scale:

1 = I am doing well in this area.

2 = Not sure how well I am doing in this area; or at best I am inconsistent.

3 = This is an area where I definitely have room for improvement.

I provide for the needs of my family _____.

I demonstrate skill and excellence at work _____.

I am a diligent worker _____.

Work is shaping my character _____.

I have integrity at work _____.

I get to do what I do best at work _____.

I am generous with my money _____.

I have integrated my faith and work _____.

My work and ministry skills transfer _____.

I am thankful for God's faithfulness _____.

2. Have you experienced a time when you felt that your work was "redeemed" and used for God's glory? Discuss the details that led to that experience.

3. Spend the final time in your group praying for one another. Thank God for your "Shechem moments" and his provision in your work place. Pray specifically that each individual will have opportunities to see the redemptive value of their work.