

# My Work [as] My Worship

## Part 1 – My Work

### Ephesians 4.28

Work as Idol vs. Work as Irritation

#### **DO GOOD** – DNA: Ready to Launch

- Responsible Work – not passive or a parasite (2 Thes 3.10-12)
  - What if I don't love my job?
    - It will build character in you (Ward Furniture)
    - It will provide for you (gratitude as result)
    - It will allow you to live out your calling – calling and vocation don't have to be the same thing
  - Go to work so that you can fulfill your calling
    - Do I need to go into ministry? NO
- Release Good: bring order to chaos by creating and cultivating in God's good world
  - This is the vocational expression of "love your neighbor"
    - This limits the kind of work we do (can I say I love my neighbor by what I'm doing?)
    - But more than that, it is a channel by which I release good into the world
      - Lawn needs mowing, Garden needs tending – both are better because of creating and cultivating
  - What is my role in bringing order to chaos by creating and cultivating?
    - What do you make? – Great widgets, great art, etc.
    - What do you make safe? – Air Traffic Control / LEO
    - What do you make right? – Healthcare as example
  - Difference between blue and white collar – (Gen 1&2 / Gen 3)
    - Both are valued by God
    - Both are needed by the world

#### **SHOW THE GOSPEL** – DNA: Gospel Transformation

- No longer a thief
  - Steal or cheat with money, ideas, time, personnel
- Now a giver
  - This amputation of old life (or office policy) is a direct result of who God has made you to be (v.22-24) – it's not *so that* but *because of*

### ***Questions for Discussion***

1. What was the first job you ever had? What was the job you enjoyed the most? The least? What is your mindset toward your current “job,” whatever that may be? (The use of quotation marks is only intended to mean that you may or may not be drawing a paycheck from your vocation)
2. Martin Luther said, “God doesn’t need your good works, but your neighbor does.” How is that reflected in your vocational life right now? Do you find it easy or difficult to connect your “job” with love of neighbor? Why?
3. Read Genesis 1.28, 2.15, and 3.17-19. What is the big picture of work that those three set of verses paint? Which set (Genesis 1-2 or Genesis 3) do you identify with the most right now in your “job?”
4. What kinds of “jobs” do you find yourself most grateful for (i.e. the plumber who fixes my sink, etc.)? What kinds of “jobs” do you find yourself taking for granted (or not noticing at all)? Why do you think that is?
5. Most likely, you spend more time in your vocation (paid or not) than you do anywhere else. Based on the verse, how does the Gospel shape your ethics in your workplace? What is one step that you can take to show the Gospel in your “job?”