

# MADE FOR MONDAYS – PART 2: GARDENS

**Introduction:** God has a purpose and plan for each of us, not only on Saturday mornings or within the four walls of the church building, but in our everyday lives and workplaces. In fact, He wants us to elevate our workplaces by using the gifts He's given, all for His glory! He has served us so that we can serve one another. Let's learn more as we continue our "Made for Mondays" series!

## ICE BREAKERS

- ☐ What is the most kind thing that someone has said to you or done for you at work?
- ☐ How would you describe your workplace right now?

## EXPLORE

Just as God gave Adam and Eve a garden to care for in Genesis 2:15, we also have our “gardens;” our places of work that God has placed us in. Even in very difficult circumstances such as exile and slavery, God has work for us to do. What do you notice in these texts?

- ☐ Read Jeremiah 29:4-9
  - Even in exile God had a plan for blessing others through Israel. What does that say about God's plan for you in your workplace?
- ☐ Read Colossians 3:22-4:1
  - Paul's advice here eventually led Rome to abolish slavery. Why do you think it was so effective?
  - What stands out to you about this passage for what God might be telling you about your work?

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ☐ What do you do at work that makes life more worth living for others?
- ☐ Have you ever viewed your work as a service for others? Why or why not? How would this change your view of work?
- ☐ How can employees maintain a good attitude in a bad work situation? Have you experienced a time when work was difficult in this way? What helped?
- ☐ We gave five ideas to help care for our work more. Which of these feels most helpful to you? Why?
  - Look for God in the “ordinary.”
  - Pray for your colleagues and business.
  - Put your wages to work for others.
  - Strive for excellence.
  - Love.
- ☐ How will you prioritize people in your workplace this coming week? Is there anything this group can do to support you?

## PRAYER & PRACTICE

In any group some people feel they have good work situations, and others don't. If it would be helpful, set up some texts or calls for encouragement during the week to remind one another of what we learned this week. Then pray for each other as you close.

