



# Avodah Project: Revitalizing Work

## Objectives

1. Commissioning of Vocations During Worship Services - once a month we will interview someone from a particular vocation (education, science, art, service, government, etc) during the worship service. They will give a testimony about how they are integrating faith and work. Then we will have all the people in the congregation who work in that same vocation stand up while we pray for them and commission them to be on mission in their work places. GOALS: Raise awareness of the need, support workers through corporate prayer.
2. Gospel Academy Elective - our adult education ministry is called "Gospel Academy." We will offer an elective course, taught by Dr. David Gill, on the integration of faith and work. This elective will affirm the goodness of work, teach about vocational calling, and discuss the application of biblical truth to the workplace. This elective will be open to churches from around the Bay Area to attend. GOALS: In-depth study of biblical teaching on work and possible development of partnerships with other local churches.
3. Vocational Affinity Groups - we will form various vocational affinity groups where people from our congregation can meet together once a quarter to learn about integrative faith and work, tell stories about their experiences in the workplace, encourage each other, and pray for each other. These groups will be led by lay-leaders in consultation with Dr. Gill and our church staff. GOALS: Foster vocation-specific integration of faith and work, provide vocation specific relational support.
4. Gospel Academy IV - the fourth course in our Gospel Academy is called "Mission" and focuses on applying scriptural truth to the context of work, family, and service in the church. Part of this course focuses on integrating faith and work and has been developed in consultation with Dr. David Gill. GOALS: Instruction on how faith and work integrations serves the overall goals and mission of the church.
5. Faith and Work Conference - workplace and vocational challenges affect Christians and non-Christians alike. A one day conference addressing common workplace concerns could serve to catalyze the ministry, build momentum and reach the non-Christian with work concerns. GOALS: Momentum building, training, outreach to non-Christians and networking among Christians in similar fields.
6. Preaching - we believe that preaching must be an integral part of edifying the church as it pertains to faith and work. Preaching expository sermons that incorporate faith and work concerns will prepare the way for this ministry and sustain momentum. We will dedicate at least two sermons to the topic in the summer and fall and will continue to sprinkle issues of faith and work into our regular application of texts.

GOALS: Edification as relates to faith and work, maintaining regular application of scripture to faith and work issues.

7. Financial Stewardship Course - we will offer a financial stewardship course to the congregation as part of our adult education. GOALS: Encouraging godly stewardship of resources derived from work.

8. Career Counselors - We will provide referrals for people who need more extensive career counseling than our pastoral staff can provide. At least one congregant is a trained career counselor and willing to assist in this area. GOALS: Help workers find work that aligns with giftedness and calling, addressing issues of imbalance and/or unhealthy work patterns.