

Series: WHAT DO YOU WORK FOR? Your Part in a Larger Story

Message: The Story Begins. Work is Good.

Scripture: Genesis 1:1, 2:6 - 2:3, 15, 18

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Genesis 1:1

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Genesis 1:26-2:3

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

*²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.*

²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

²⁹ Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. ³⁰ And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so.

³¹ God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

2 Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.

² By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. ³ Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

Genesis 2:15

¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

Genesis 2:18

¹⁸ The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

- CREATION IS GOOD. Matter matters.
- MANKIND IS GOOD. We are made in the image of God.

Psalm 8:1-9

¹ *LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!*

*You have set your glory
in the heavens.*

² *Through the praise of children and infants
you have established a stronghold against your enemies,
to silence the foe and the avenger.*

³ *When I consider your heavens,
the work of your fingers,*

*the moon and the stars,
which you have set in place,*

⁴ *what is mankind that you are mindful of them,
human beings that you care for them?*

⁵ *You have made them a little lower than the angels
and crowned them with glory and honor.*

⁶ *You made them rulers over the works of your hands;
you put everything under their feet:*

⁷ *all flocks and herds,
and the animals of the wild,*

⁸ *the birds in the sky,
and the fish in the sea,
all that swim the paths of the seas.*

⁹ *LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!*

- WORK IS GOOD.

Genesis 2:1-3

¹ *Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.*

² *By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. ³ Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.*

Genesis 2:15

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1. Cultivation
2. Service
3. Culture Making
4. Shalom

1. Work as Cultivation – Celebrating Beauty and Healing Brokenness;
Promoting Good and Opposing Evil.

2. Work as Service to Human Flourishing.

3. Work as Culture Making

4. Work as Part of Shalom.

- NOT BEING ALONE IS GOOD. We do this as families... in community.

- STOPPING IS GOOD. Sabbath before the fall. We were made for Someone more important than work.