

Gospel Shaped Work
Session Two: Work and the Fall

1. What is the most frustrating thing about your daily occupation?
2. Read Genesis 3:1-19
 - a. How did Adam and Eve fail in the garden?
 - b. How is the woman's work now more difficult?
 - c. How is the man's work now more difficult?

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3. How does the fall impact work?
 - a. What are examples of work as broken **creation**?
 - b. What are examples of work as broken **collaboration**?
 - i. With reference to God
 - ii. With reference to others
 - c. What are examples of work as broken **cultivation**?
 - d. "Seasons of fruitfulness are often quickly consumed by times of hardship." Have you experienced this yourself or seen it happen elsewhere?

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4. Why is work difficult now? Because without faith in Christ, human beings are not reconciled to God.
5. Discuss thorns that we face in our work and how these thorns relate to our relationship with God.

- a. Relational conflict
 - b. Ethical complexity
 - c. Injustice
 - d. Work feeling meaningless
 - e. Workaholism
 - f. Slothfulness
6. Discuss the implications of these thorns?
- a. We are part of the problem.
 - i. Can you think of examples from your own job or daily occupation where your sin has had a negative impact on your work or on those you work with?
 - b. We should be realistic.
 - i. Are we surprised by difficult days or troubled seasons?
 - ii. Are we grateful when things work well?
 - c. Work is marred by the results of the fall. But as Christians we will want to act in a way that honors God. How might a Christian respond to the following?
 - i. A co-worker who regularly tells inappropriate jokes
 - ii. A manager who bullies their staff
 - iii. A colleague who encourages you to work less hard so that you don't "show the rest of us up"
 - iv. A client who objects to you mentioning your faith

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- 7. How does Genesis 3 help you understand the frustrations of your workplace?
- 8. How might Genesis 3 give you hope as you face the frustrations of your work?