

Gospel Shaped Work

Session Four: Glorifying God through Work

Watch Part One of Video

1. How did you react to Tom's "confession" of having failed his church?
2. Which of these errors are you more likely to fall into?
 - a. Thinking you can only please God through your work if it directly promotes the gospel.
 - b. Thinking of yourself as a Christian only when involved in church activity.

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Read and Discuss Matthew 11:28-30

3. As you think of Jesus' image of a yoke, what do you find most encouraging?
What is most challenging?
4. *A Yoke for All of Life*
 - a. If Jesus yoke is for all of life, that means everything we do, including our daily occupation, paid or otherwise. "Jesus does not necessarily call us to change our job, but he does challenge us about how we do our job."

How have you been challenged so far working through this curriculum?

5. *A Custom-Made Yoke*
 - a. "Your work situation is a custom-made yoke for you. Jesus is using the unique way you are wired and gifted, along with the work situation you find yourself in, to provoke and lead you to maturity."

Think about the seven areas we looked at:

- i. To love your neighbor
- ii. To love justice

- iii. To share the gospel
- iv. To do good work, well done
- v. To create beauty
- vi. To worship God
- vii. To enable generosity

- b. Which of these primarily apply to how you serve God in your own work situation? How have you seen this play out in your work?
- c. Tom described the workplace as being like a classroom, where God is teaching us, and where we can learn and practice.

In which of these areas do you feel you have the most need to learn and practice? What are some practical ways in which you can grow in these areas?

- d. Growing often involves failure.... How might failing in any of these areas still provide an opportunity for glorifying God through our work?

Watch Part Three of Video

6. A Yoke that Offers Rest

- a. Why is it liberating to tie our identity to Christ and not to our work?
- b. If your work is frustrating, why is the “rest” of Jesus such good news?
- c. If you love your job or are successful in your work, what does the “rest” of Jesus help you remember?
- d. In both cases, what difference will this make in the coming week?