

Gospel Shaped Work

Session Seven: *Work and The Common Good*

Watch Part One of Video

1. Read Matthew 25:14-30...

The man going on a journey is a picture of the Lord Jesus, who left this world when he ascended to heaven, and will one day return to it in power and glory.

- a. What should we be doing in the meantime, and how do verses 21 and 23 motivate us to do this?
 - b. How does the third servant's description of the master's character in verses 24-25 show that he misunderstood what his master was like? Was he really a servant at all?
2. You are in charge of an economy that has been entrusted to you by Christ – your own!
 - a. What is exciting about this idea?

Watch Part Two of Video

3. How can we, like the lawyer Jesus met, seek to limit the range of those whom we have to love?
 - a. Why is this tempting?
4. What will go wrong with our day-to-day choices and bigger life choices when we forget to consider either:
 - a. how to live with Christ-like compassion, or
 - b. that we need to live within our economic capacity.

Watch Part Three of Video

5. Which of the seven biblical economic principles that Tom listed did you find most surprising? Interesting? Challenging?
 - a. The value of private property
 - b. Safety from abuse of power
 - c. Dependable currency
 - d. Profit and incentive
 - e. Value added
 - f. Healthy families
 - g. Care for the poor

6. If there is no single, one-size-fits-all biblical economics, how should that affect the way we view politics, and the way we treat those with whom we disagree on economic or political issues?

7. As thoughtful students of the Bible, we see that economics is inseparable from cultivating a blessing and flourishing from the created order. Tom summarized economics as being:

“how we choose to use scarce resources that have alternative uses”.

 - a. What economic decisions will you face this week?

 - b. How has this session empowered and challenged you about those economic choices?