



# Nine to Five

## 5-WEEK STUDY

on Why our Work Matters to God

### WEEK 1

DISCUSSION GUIDE

**Work and Creation**

Genesis 3:15





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## WEEKLY READING

Primary text from this week: Genesis 3:15

## GETTING STARTED

**Goal for this session:** To understand the idea that work began in

**Missed the sermon?** Watch it at [www.youtube.com/venturamissionary](http://www.youtube.com/venturamissionary)

**Break the Ice:** As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Ask everyone in the group to share what they do (or did) for work. **Note:** *In addition to working outside of the home, this question includes going to school, taking care of a home, raising children...*
2. Have you ever heard a sermon specifically about our jobs/work? Why do you think this subject doesn't get talked about much at church even though most people spend so much of their lives at work?
3. As you think about your job (this could include your current "work" or your previous work if you are retired), how do you integrate your faith with your job?
4. Have someone in the group read **Ephesians 2:8-10**. Notice that the word *work* (Greek: *ergon*) shows up twice, once in verse 9 and once in verse 10, basically reminding us that we're not saved **by** good works, but instead **for** good works. What do you think this has to do with our normal, everyday work?
5. Have someone in the group read **Romans 12:1** in the NIV translation and then in the Message paraphrase (you can find it on your phone by searching for "Romans 12:1, The Message"). What implications does this verse have for how we should think about work?
6. Have someone in the group read **1Peter 4:10**. What does it mean for you to use your gifts to serve others in your job (whether your job is vacuuming your house, feeding your family, raising children, taking care of loved ones, studying Biology, running a business, or working for an employer)?
7. Have someone in the group read **Colossians 3:23**. What implications do you think this has for how Christians do their jobs?



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## PRAYER

**Pray for (the group) each other:** Pray that everyone in the group would discover new ways to integrate their faith with their work this week.

**Pray for yourself:** Pray that God would remind you of this discussion while you are at work this week.

**Pray for your four:** Identify four people who don't know Jesus (friends, family, neighbors, or co-workers/classmates), and commit to pray for them consistently. Pray that **(1)** God would reveal Jesus to them, **(2)** that God would turn their hearts towards Him, **(3)** that God would put Christians in their path to represent Christ, and **(4)** that God would give you an opportunity to share what Christ has done in your life.

## ACTION STEPS

This week, before you start your workday (in the home or outside the home) take a moment to read **Romans 12:1** to remind yourself that your life (and your work) is a living sacrifice to God. You can even set a reminder in your phone to remind you to pause and read this passage before you start your workday.

## NOTES

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