

## WELCOME TO GOD'S BEAUTIFUL ALTERNATIVE

If you've had enough of the heartache, hardship, and hate of a world at war with God and you're ready to absolutely THRIVE in the life-giving, eternity-changing calling your Designer has designed you to fulfill, you're right where God wants you to be! We are a community of imperfect people sincerely pursuing God's absolute best for ourselves and everyone around us. That means if there is anything we can do to help you take your next step in following Christ and finding His calling on your one and only life, we are right next to you at whatever cost. If you've got questions, or want to speak to a pastor, or would like to ask for prayer, grab that pen you got with this handout and fill out one of those CONNECT CARDS that was along for the ride. Other than that, we sincerely hope you have an incredible morning marked by a life-changing encounter with the risen and reigning King Jesus Christ.

## EVERYONE WANTS TO BUILD SOMETHING GREAT

The problem is finding the right opportunity. Fortunately, we've got a gaggle of life-changing, eternity-shaping options for you. When you serve with One Missoula Church, you help other people rise to become all that God made them to be. Here are a couple key areas we can multiply your time, energy, and willingness to help others:

- KidsMin (birth-5<sup>th</sup> grade) – bring love, joy, and biblical wisdom to young lives
- Host & Greeter Team – MASSIVELY important opportunity to help people know they are not only welcome, but WANTED here
- Event Team – help us put together anything from special events to simple hangouts so that we can make connections, deepen friendships, and make memories
- Production Team – leverage lighting, screen, computer, and sound systems to make the eternity-shaping message of Christ accessible to all
- Worship Band – sing or play guitar, bass, drums, and keys with others while building the church and pointing one another to Christ



## A BIBLICAL UNDERSTANDING OF WORK

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### Myth #1 - Work was created as a result of "The Fall"

*Genesis 1:1-5* - In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup> And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. <sup>4</sup> And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

*Genesis 1:26-28* -Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." <sup>27</sup> So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. <sup>28</sup> And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Truth - God demonstrated work by working himself, and commanded us to work as His plan for the world.

Implication - You were designed to work, and while working, you image God.

Myth #2 - Only "spiritual" work is honored and valued by God, and is the only work that "builds" Christ's kingdom.

*Matthew 6:7-10* - "And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. <sup>8</sup> Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. <sup>9</sup> Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. <sup>10</sup> Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

*Matthew 13:53-56* -And when Jesus had finished these parables, he went away from there, <sup>54</sup> and coming to his hometown he taught them in their synagogue, so that they were astonished, and said, "Where did this man get this wisdom and these mighty works? <sup>55</sup> Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? And are not his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas? <sup>56</sup> And are not all his sisters with us? Where then did this man get all these things?"

*Mark 6:1-3* - He went away from there and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. <sup>2</sup> And on the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished, saying, "Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands? <sup>3</sup> Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.

*Acts 18:1-4* - After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. <sup>2</sup> And he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome. And he went to see them, <sup>3</sup> and because he was of the same trade he stayed with them and worked, for they were tentmakers by trade. <sup>4</sup> And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and tried to persuade Jews and Greeks.

*Acts 20:33-35* - I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. <sup>34</sup> You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. <sup>35</sup> In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

Truth - All forms of honest work have dignity, honor God, and can be included in building culture and Christ's Kingdom.

Implication - God has uniquely gifted you as His hands and feet, to bring heaven to earth by participating in building Christ's Kingdom through doing your work, and doing it well.

*2 Thessalonians 3:6-12* - Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us. <sup>7</sup> For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us, because we were not idle when we were with you, <sup>8</sup> nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you. <sup>9</sup> It was not because we do not have that right, but to give you in ourselves an example to imitate. <sup>10</sup> For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. <sup>11</sup> For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. <sup>12</sup> Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.

*Colossians 3:23* - Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men,

Myth #3 - Work is only for our time on earth, but heaven will be a time of disembodied leisure, where we will no longer have to work.

*Matthew 25:1, 14-30, 31-34* - "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom... <sup>14</sup> "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. <sup>15</sup> To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup> He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. <sup>17</sup> So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. <sup>18</sup> But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. <sup>19</sup> Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup> And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' <sup>21</sup> His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have

been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>22</sup> And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.' <sup>23</sup> His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>24</sup> He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, <sup>25</sup> so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.' <sup>26</sup> But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? <sup>27</sup> Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup> So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. <sup>29</sup> For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. <sup>30</sup> And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ... <sup>31</sup> 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. <sup>32</sup> Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup> And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. <sup>34</sup> Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

Truth - Working well now carries the eternal reward of more and better work, without the marring of sin, for eternity in heaven.

*John 5:17 -But Jesus answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I am working."*

Implication - If you are breathing and able, faithfulness to the King, requires you to get to work.

#### APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- What are you gifted in, and passionate about, that if money was not a consideration, you would do as work?
- How does your current work image God?
- How does your current work contribute to common grace, and the flourishing of humanity?
- Do you currently work with an excellence that honors and images God well? What could you do to improve?
- What work will retirement or success allow you to transition into, that you may continue to engage in building Christ's kingdom on earth?

As a result of what I have heard today, I will....



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