

Outward Group Discussion Guide September 7, 2025 (Salem)

SUMMARY

In this message, we're challenged to reconsider our approach to work through the lens of faith. The central theme revolves around how our work ethic can 'adorn the doctrine of God our Savior' (Titus 2). We're reminded that work isn't just a secular activity, but a sacred calling given by God Himself. The sermon draws from numerous Proverbs, emphasizing that diligence, skill, and integrity in our work are not just professional virtues, but spiritual ones. It encourages us to see our jobs, whatever they may be, as opportunities to reflect God's character and serve others. This perspective shift can transform our Monday mornings from drudgery to purpose-filled mission fields. As we internalize this teaching, we're invited to examine our own work habits and attitudes, asking ourselves: Are we truly working 'as unto the Lord'? How can we better represent Christ in our workplaces?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. How does the concept of 'adorning the doctrine of God our Savior' challenge your current approach to work and service?
- 2. In what ways might you be unintentionally creating a divide between your 'sacred' and 'secular' life, particularly in your work?
- 3. How can we reconcile the biblical emphasis on hard work with the modern focus on work-life balance and self-care?
- 4. What specific skills or talents has God given you that you could use more effectively to serve others, both in your workplace and in ministry?
- 5. How does understanding work as a God-given blessing rather than a curse change your perspective on your daily tasks?
- 6. In what ways might you be 'slack' in your work, and how can you address this to better reflect God's character?
- 7. How can we cultivate a servant's heart in our work life without being taken advantage of or burning out?

- 8. What does it mean practically to 'work heartily as unto the Lord' in your specific job or role?
- 9. How might the example of Jesus, who came 'not to be served, but to serve,' reshape your attitude towards your work and ministry responsibilities?
- 10. In what ways can you use your work or career as a platform for 'good works' that reflect the gospel and serve others?