

# Masterpiece part 5— 2/6/22

Pastor Rick: Work...Your Calling?

## Message Summary:

“At the end of life no one will say, I wish I spent more time at work.”

The Bible is a book written by workers for workers...

Your “work” is a huge part of God’s plan/calling for your life!

*Exodus 20: 8-11*

*Genesis 2:15*

Observation: Work is a gift from God to us, before sin entered the world!

So how do we find God in our work? How does work move us towards being the masterpiece God desires us to be?

### **1. Discover and focus on your strengths!**

Bezalel (*Exodus 31:1-5*)

Stop focusing on improving your weaknesses, instead name and develop your strengths! --Marcus Buckingham

“Work is not, primarily a thing one does to live, but the thing one lives to do.”

Strengths Finder Test at [Marcusbuckingham.com](https://www.marcusbuckingham.com)

### **2. Honor God with your work**

*Colossians 3:23-24*

*Mark 10:45*

### **3. Make your work your calling**

*Matthew 22:37-39*

“We were made in God’s image to continue his work of making the earth flourish...All work is designed by God to be priestly work. It’s not just professional clergy or missionaries who are called by God.” The Me I Want to Be, by John Ortberg

You have a calling—You have been gifted—You are a priest!

## Discussion Questions:

1. Icebreaker: what is the first job you had—and/or the worst job?
2. What are some of your God-given strengths? If you have difficulty identifying them, have your group take turns sharing what strengths they see in one another.
3. How is God honored in your work? See *Colossians 3:23-24* and *Mark 10:45*
4. If Jesus was your direct supervisor, how would you do your work differently?
5. How can your definition of work be expanded? Do you see your work as a calling? Why or why not?

### BONUS CONTENT – Read and discuss your thoughts

In John Piper's *Don't Waste Your Life*,

“According to [Genesis 2:2](#), God himself rested from his work of creation, implying that work is a good, God-like thing. And the capstone of that divine work was man, a creature in God's own image designed to carry on the work of ruling and shaping and designing creation. Therefore, at the heart of the meaning of work is creativity. If you are God, your work is to create out of nothing. If you are not God, but like God — that is, if you are human — your work is to take what God has made and shape it and use it to make him look great.”

That is your calling today in whatever God has given you to do: *make God look great*. According to [1 Corinthians 7:17–24](#), your job (assuming it's not inherently unethical or immoral) is a ministry assignment from God. It may not be your career assignment, but it's today's assignment. And God wants you to carry out that assignment with dependent faith, diligence, and excellence.

(Read more at: <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/christian-your-job-is-a-ministry-job>)

PRAY over these suggested applications and choose one area to focus on:

- Seek to identify and develop your God given strengths, rather than focus on improving your weakness
- Identify the larger meaning of your work that makes it a calling
- Review your attitude regularly
- Get feedback on how you can grow
- Enjoy your work. See your work as a gift from God!
- Ask God to go before you in your work