

Work: Finding Purpose
Genesis 2:15
Week of January 17

This week we begin a series on work. Though we might think of work as a consequence of the Fall into sin, work was always a part of what God had planned for people. Work was something that God was doing Himself from the beginning!

*As part of each prayer cast, we'll meet a Hoper and hear their thoughts on work and how it intersects with their faith. **Today's guest is Jody Hernandez.***

*As you enter prayer now, take a moment to settle your mind. Put aside your concerns and what needs to get done today, or what didn't get done today. Take a slow, deep breath. Center yourself in His Peace. He is the Alpha and Omega. The Beginning and End. You are found in Him.
Be Still.*

Pause and Pray.

Jesus, I am here because I want to experience You. As I meditate on this passage, draw to mind those things that You would have me become more aware of. Center my heart and mind on Yourself. Use your Word to draw my heart to You. Amen.

Genesis 2:15: The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

REFLECT.

What strikes you about this verse? I am first struck by the intentionality. God intentionally places the man in the garden for a purpose.

This rings true in my own life-I have always hungered for purpose, to be using my time and talents in a meaningful way. Can you relate?

Does your current work provide you with purpose and meaning? (Pause). If so, thank God for the ways you see your work bringing meaning to your life. (Pause.)

If you are struggling to find meaning in your work, take this time to present that struggle to God. (Pause.)

Consider one of your work days. Walk through some of your tasks, your interactions with others. PAUSE.

As you consider its details, ask God to speak to your heart about what He has for you this day. Where is He working that you can join Him? PAUSE.

How is He blessing others or the environment through the work of your hands? PAUSE.

If you know the work before you today, walk through each task and give it to Him. PAUSE.

Ask Him for the privilege today of seeing where He is working. PAUSE.

PAUSE, PRAY AND ASK.

Walking with the Lord is a great privilege, and we get to do it every day. Today, let's do it with intentionality. Lord, today I ask that You would use my work to bless someone else. PAUSE.

Lord, today I ask that You would use my work to be a blessing to You. PAUSE.

Lord, today I ask that You would use my work to bring a blessing to this world. PAUSE.

YIELD.

We return to the text.

Genesis 2:15: The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

CLOSE IN PRAYER.

Lord, as I go about my work today, may Colossians 3:23-24 be the prayer of my heart-that whatever I do, I do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord I will receive the reward of the inheritance; for I serve the Lord Christ.

Thank you for the privilege of working for you. May I bring you glory today in my work. In Jesus name, Amen.