

Summary

This sermon emphasizes two fundamental ingredients for Christian living: recognizing Jesus as Lord and understanding our purpose as God's workmanship created for good works. The pastor explains that Jesus' lordship means He has complete control and ownership over our lives, not just as Savior but as the one who decides our lot. The second ingredient focuses on how we are created to work and that our workplaces are primary mission fields where we serve as ministers of reconciliation. Work is presented not as a curse but as a blessing and opportunity to demonstrate Christ's character, practice spiritual disciplines like forgiveness and grace, and be the only Jesus some people may ever see. The sermon concludes with real-life examples of people who view their secular jobs as ministry opportunities to influence others for Christ.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank You for bringing us together today to study Your Word. As we dive into this discussion, we ask that You open our hearts and minds to what You want to teach us. Help us to be receptive to Your Spirit's leading and to see our lives and work through Your eyes. May we be willing to be challenged and changed by Your truth. We pray that You would speak to each person here in the specific way they need to hear from You today. In Jesus' name, amen.

Ice Breaker

What's your favorite type of comfort food that reminds you of home, and what makes it so special to you?

Key Verses

1. Romans 10:9-10
2. Ephesians 2:8-10
3. Colossians 3:23-24
4. 2 Corinthians 5:18
5. Matthew 5:16

Questions

1. What does it practically mean for Jesus to be Lord of your life, not just your Savior? How does this show up in your daily decisions?
2. The sermon states that we are God's workmanship created for good works. How does this perspective change the way you view your purpose and identity?
3. How has your view of work been shaped by culture versus what Scripture teaches about work

being a blessing rather than a curse?

4. The pastor mentioned that our workplaces are where we grow as disciples through practicing grace, forgiveness, and other spiritual disciplines. Can you share an example of how work has helped you grow spiritually?
5. What does it mean to be 'the only Jesus some people may ever see' in your workplace or daily interactions? How does this responsibility feel to you?
6. How can you demonstrate the character of Christ (integrity, peace, hope, love) in your specific work environment this week?
7. The sermon emphasized that we are all in full-time ministry as ministers of reconciliation. How does this change your perspective on your current job or role?
8. What are some practical ways you can view your workplace as a mission field and look for opportunities to plant seeds of salvation or hope in others' lives?

Life Application

This week, choose one specific way you will intentionally demonstrate the character of Christ in your workplace or daily interactions. Whether it's showing extra patience with a difficult coworker, offering encouragement to someone who seems discouraged, or simply working with excellence as unto the Lord, commit to being a minister of reconciliation in your everyday environment. Look for opportunities to be salt and light, and pray for God to use you as His hands and feet to touch the lives of those around you.

Key Takeaways

1. Jesus is Lord means He has complete control and ownership over every detail of our lives, not just our eternal salvation
2. We are God's workmanship created for good works that He prepared beforehand for us to walk in
3. Work is a blessing from God, not a curse, and our workplaces are primary mission fields where we serve as ministers
4. We are all in full-time ministry as ambassadors and ministers of reconciliation, regardless of our occupation
5. Our workplace may be where we are the only representation of Jesus that some people will ever encounter

Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for this time of discussion and reflection on Your Word. We acknowledge You as Lord over every area of our lives, including our work and daily interactions. Help us to see ourselves as Your workmanship, created for the good works You have prepared for us. Give us eyes to see our workplaces and daily environments as mission fields where You have strategically placed us. Grant us wisdom, courage, and love to be effective ministers of reconciliation wherever You have us. May our lives reflect Your character and draw others to You. Use us as Your hands and feet to touch the lives of those around us. We commit to working heartily as unto You, knowing that our true reward comes from You. In Your precious name we pray, amen.