



MADE FOR MORE

Discovering
God's Design
for Work

Prayer of petition to hear God's word

Leader: In a world filled with brokenness, confusion, darkness, mourning, and loneliness, God has called his people to bring the healing light of the gospel into every sector of our peninsula through every profession, institution, and calling.

There is no inch of this city where his gospel, cannot redeem.



Congregants: We repent of how we have overlooked this great calling we have been given. The Spirit is waking us to see this mission in God's world. We surrender all that we are to serve you, O Lord, our Rock, and King.



Congregants: We pray for your power, renouncing our selfish pride, to serve our city with excellence in our respective roles, jobs, and professions.

We rest in your unfailing love, which dissolves all bitterness, fear, anxiety, and resentment, so that this world will know we belong to you.

We ask that you would open our eyes to see how the gospel is powerfully at work to transform hearts, communities, and the world.



Joseph: Vocational Work

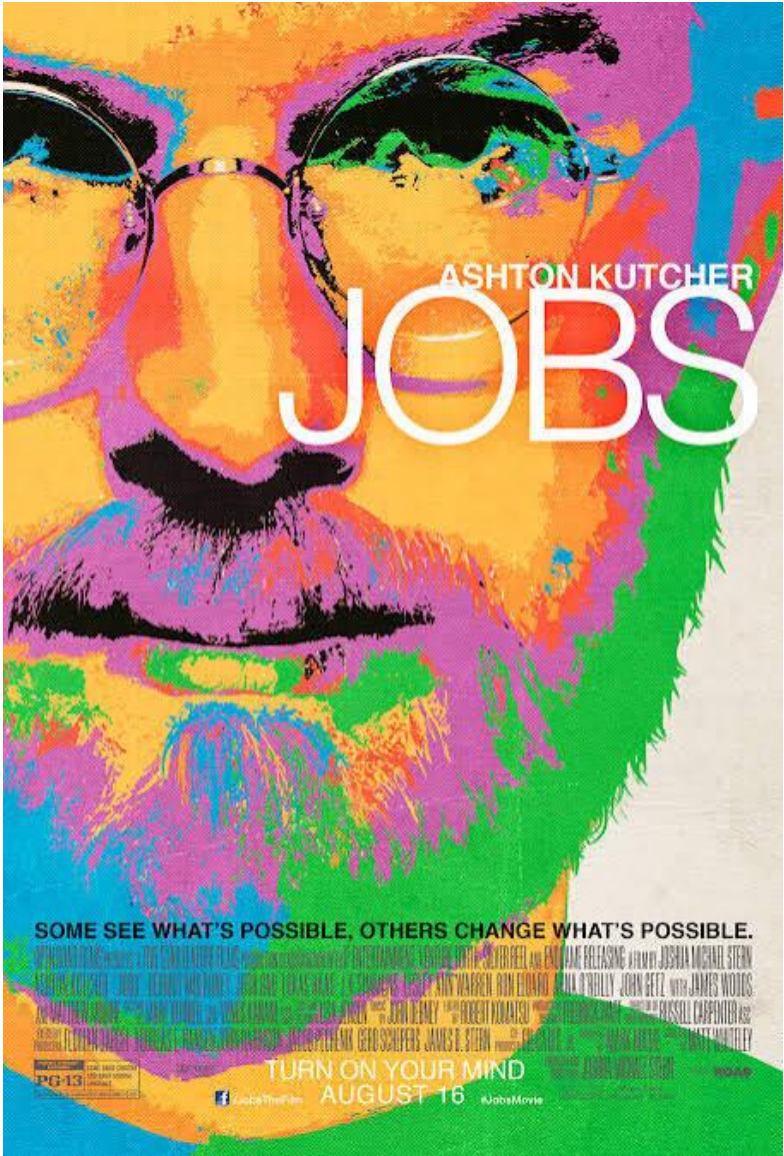
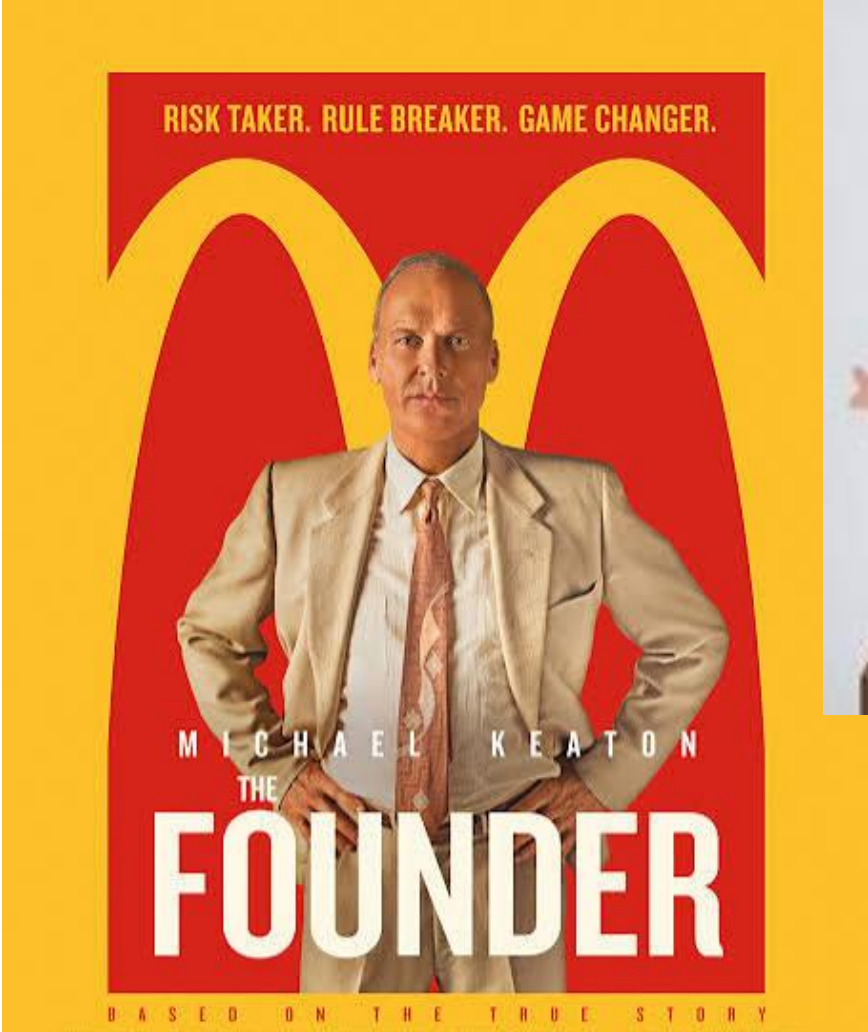
Work:

Any purposeful activity – whether manual, mental, or both, whether paid or not.

Work is counterbalanced with leisure, rest, and Sabbath, though the line between them cannot always be drawn exactly.

(Paul Stevens, *Work Matters: Lessons from Scripture*, Eerdmans, 2012, page 2)





Joseph: Vocational Work Calling

Vocation

Assumes a caller

Does not change

Work

Job/Career

“Whatever your hand finds to do”

May change often

Sabbath



Joseph: Vocational Work

God's word for us:

- *Your sense of calling will shape your work*
- *Let MY calling shape your work*



Joseph: Vocational Work

The calling comes through this family line

- **Abraham**

² And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, **and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.**"

Genesis 12

"Bless" is the opposite of "Curse"



Joseph: Vocational Work

The calling comes through this family line

- Abraham

¹³ Then the LORD said to Abram, “Know for certain that your offspring will be **sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there, and they will be afflicted for four hundred years.** ¹⁴ But I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions.

Genesis 15



Joseph: Vocational Work

Three ways God's calling shapes work

1. It captures the heart
2. It sustains the heart
3. It frees the heart



Joseph: Vocational Work

1. God's calling captures the heart

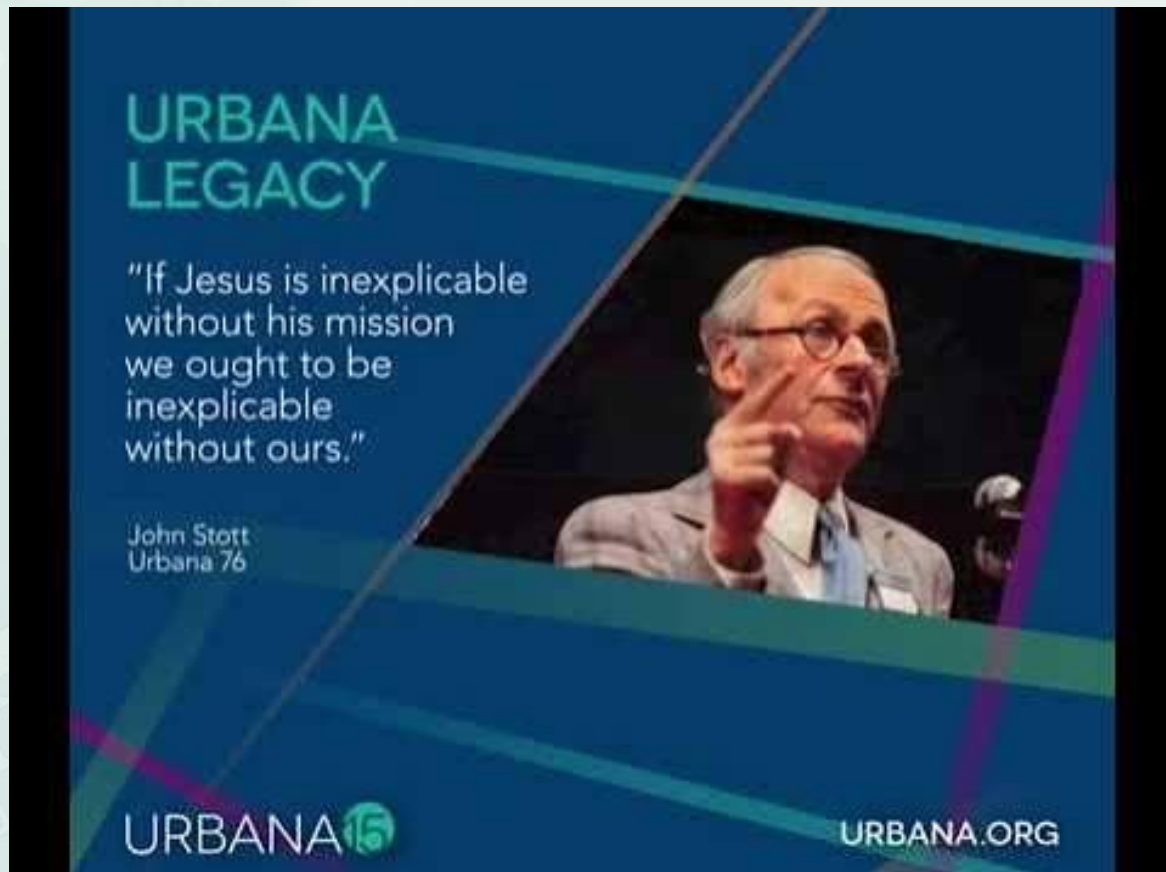
Personal experience & realization of the calling (Dreams)

⁵ Now Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers they hated him even more. ⁶ He said to them, "Hear this dream that I have dreamed: ⁷ Behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and behold, my sheaf arose and stood upright. And behold, your sheaves gathered around it and bowed down to my sheaf."

Genesis 37



Joseph: Vocational Work



John Stott



Joseph: Vocational Work



Don



Gene



Joseph: Vocational Work

2. God's calling sustains the heart

Through work as

Slave

Inmate

Vice-President



Joseph: Vocational Work

2. God's calling sustains the heart of a slave

²The LORD was with Joseph, and he became a successful man, and he was in the house of his Egyptian master. ³**His master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD caused all that he did to succeed in his hands. . .** ⁵**the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; the blessing of the LORD was on all that he had, in house and field.**

[To Mrs. Potiphar] “How then can I do this great wickedness and **sin against God?**”

Genesis 39



Joseph: Vocational Work

2. God's calling sustains the heart of an inmate

⁶ When Joseph came to them in the morning, he saw that they were troubled. ⁷ So he asked Pharaoh's officers who were with him in custody in his master's house, "Why are your faces downcast today?" ⁸ They said to him, "We have had dreams, and there is no one to interpret them." And Joseph said to them, **"Do not interpretations belong to God?"** Please tell them to me. Genesis 40

¹⁶ Joseph answered Pharaoh, **"It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh a favorable answer."** Genesis 41



Joseph: Vocational Work

2. God's calling sustains the heart of a vice-president

³⁸ And Pharaoh said to his servants, “Can we find **a man like this, in whom is the Spirit of God?**” ³⁹ Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “**Since God has shown you all this**, there is none so discerning and wise as you are. ⁶ So when the famine had spread over all the land, Joseph opened all the storehouses and sold to the Egyptians, for the famine was severe in the land of Egypt.

⁵⁷ Moreover, *all the earth* came to Egypt to Joseph to buy grain, because the famine was severe over *all the earth*.

Genesis 41



Joseph: Vocational Work

3. God's calling frees the heart of one betrayed

⁷ And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here, but God. Genesis 45

¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰ As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.

Genesis 50



Joseph: Vocational Work

3. God's calling frees the heart of a dying man

24 And Joseph said to his brothers, "I am about to die, but God will visit you and bring you up out of this land to the land that he swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob." **25** Then Joseph made the sons of Israel swear, saying, "God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here." **26** So Joseph died, being 110 years old. They embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.

Genesis 50



Joseph: Vocational Work

Three ways God's calling shapes work

1. It captures the heart
2. It sustains the heart
3. It frees the heart



Joseph: Vocational Work

How to receive a calling that captures and sustains the heart, frees it from bitterness and prepares it for eternity

22 By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones. Hebrews 11

Let his calling shape your work



Benediction: Going with God's assurance

Pastor: And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"

Congregants: Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."

Pastor: Go into the world: work, build, design, write, dance, laugh, sing, and create.

Congregants: We go with the assurance of God's great commission.



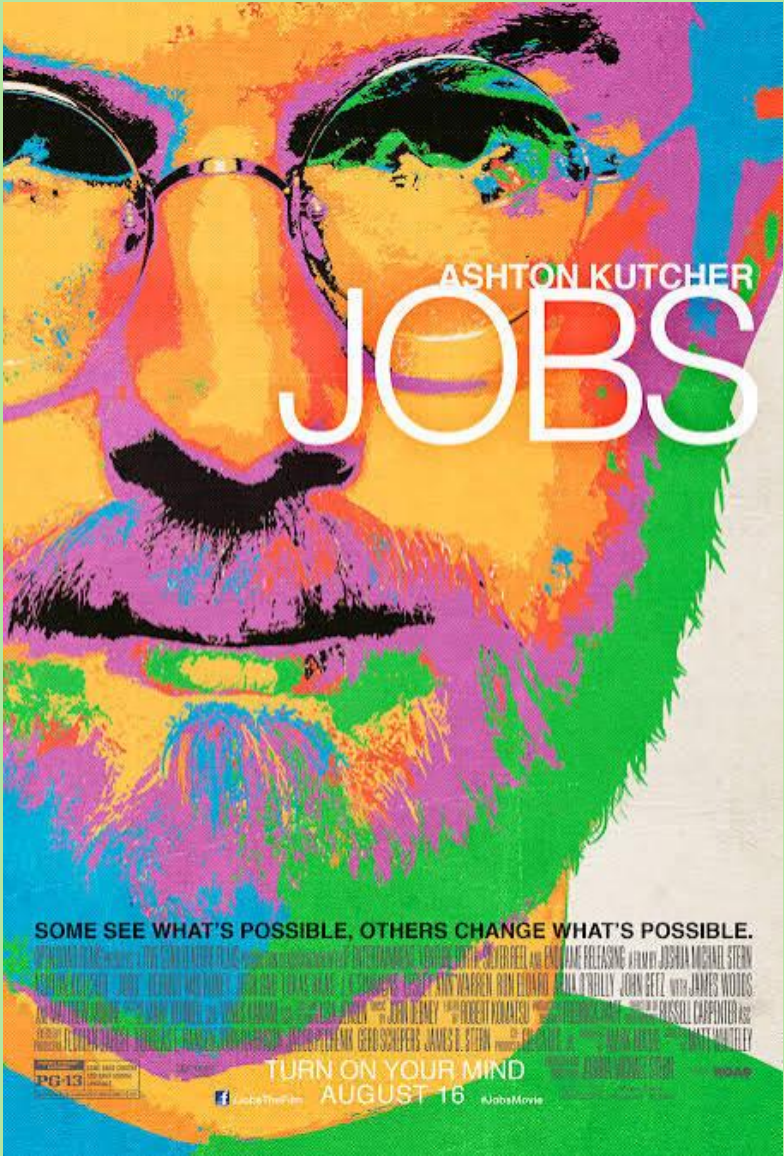
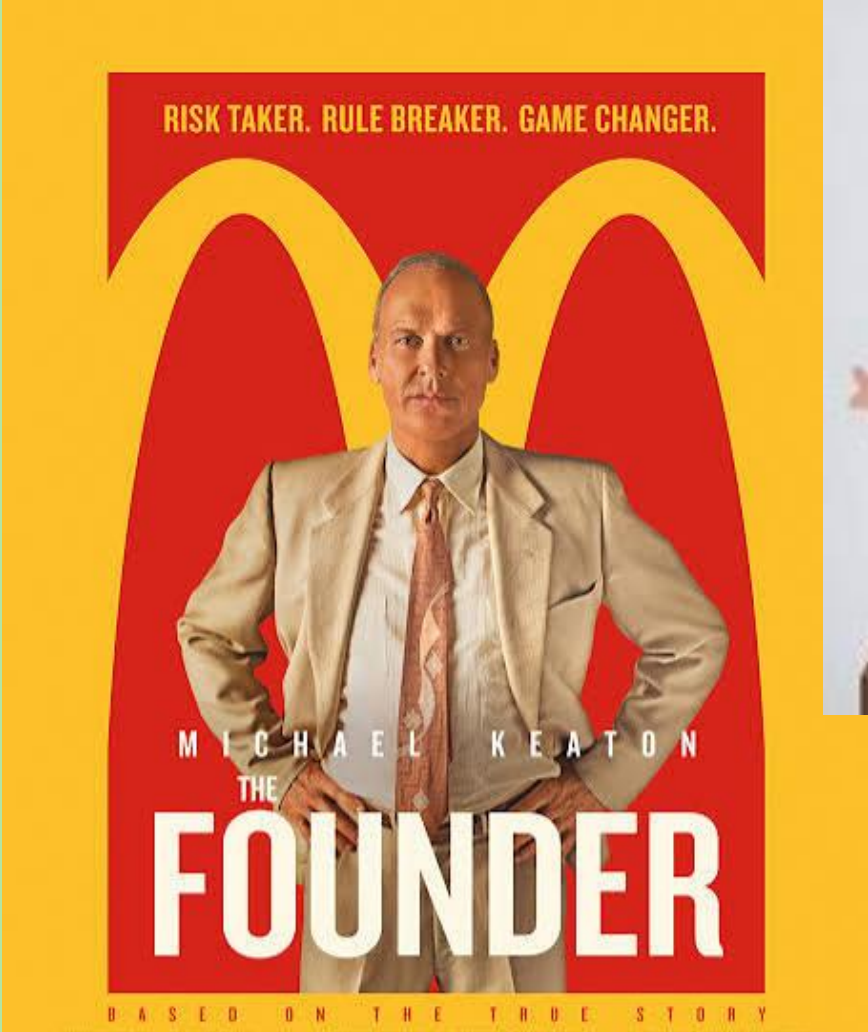
Pastor: Go into the world: risk, explore, discover, and love.

Congregants: We go with the assurance of God's abundant grace.

Pastor: Go into the world: believe, hope, struggle, persevere, and remember.

Congregants: We go with the assurance of God's unfailing love.





DREAMWORKS

JOSEPH KING OF DREAMS

