

Made For More: Work

Discussion Guide for October 10 and 11, 2026

Summary

This message continues the Made for More series with God's design for work. Genesis shows that God works, God rests, and God made us to do the same. Work is a good gift, important but not all-important, and its toil comes from sin's curse. Using the Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14–30), we learn four principles: we work for God, work is stewardship, we are called to be diligent, and our goal is to be found faithful. The message closes with a challenge to ask God how to be a faithful worker this week.

Ice Breaker

Think back to your first paid job, or the first time you were left in charge of something important. What did you do, and what did that experience teach you about work and responsibility?

Key Verses

1. Genesis 2:1–3
2. Genesis 3:17–19
3. Matthew 25:14–30
4. Colossians 3:23–24
5. 1 Corinthians 10:31

Discussion Questions

1. If you woke up tomorrow with enough money to never work again, what would you do? What does your answer reveal about how you view work?
2. Is your sabbath day distinguishable from a regular work day? What practices could help you use it in a God-centered way?
3. Where are you tempted to find your identity in your work or performance rather than in Christ?
4. Work is not the curse; the toil is. Where do you feel the "thorns and thistles" of work most right now, and how does Genesis 3 change the way you see it?
5. Whose approval most drives your work: people's or God's? What would change if you worked as if God were your only audience? (Colossians 3:23)

6. Which servant in the Parable of the Talents do you most resemble right now? What gift might you be "burying," and what would diligent, not workaholic, effort look like in your season?

Life Application

This week, take time to seek God's answer to this question: *How can I be a faithful worker?* Ask God to reveal any ways you haven't been working as if you were doing it for the Lord and not for people. Then take one concrete step. Examine your weekly calendar and offer it up to the Lord, including your sabbath. Pray for your boss, your co-workers, and your place of employment. Ask God where He wants you to use your talents and gifts in this season. If the Lord has been nudging you toward a new work, such as writing a book, starting a business, or entering a new field, prayerfully consider whether He is asking you to step out in faith. Come ready next time to share what you did and how it affected you.

Key Takeaways

1. God works, God rests, and God created us to do the same: we were made for work and rest.
2. Work is a good gift from the beginning; the toil of work is the result of sin's curse, not work itself.
3. Work is important but not all-important: our identity is rooted in Christ, not in our job.
4. We work for God. We are stewards of the gifts, talents, and skills God has entrusted to us, and we are called to be diligent in using them.
5. Our goal is to be found faithful, and faithful work is an offering of worship that brings joy to our Master. **Soli Deo Gloria: glory to God alone.**