

GROUP CONVERSATION GUIDE

WEEK OF September 15, 2024

Series: Sacredness of the Secular
Title: Work As Worship
Text: Exodus 31:1-11
Focus Verse: 1 Corinthians 10:31

Before Your Small Group Meeting:

- Attend or Watch Pastor Brandon Rieb's Message: churchatviera.com/live/

Beginning the Conversation

Our daily work can be an act of worship when done with the right heart. Worship isn't confined to church services or spiritual moments but includes every aspect of life, including our work. God calls us, gifts us, and partners with us in our work, making it a meaningful and worshipful act when done for His glory.

Icebreaker Questions

- What do you think it means to worship God with your work?
- How do you currently view your work—whether it's your job, volunteering, or serving at home?
- Have you ever considered your work as a form of worship? Why or why not?

Conversation Questions

1. Read Exodus 31:1-11

- **Key Points:** God called Bezalel and Oholiab, gifted them with craftsmanship, and gave them specific work for His purposes. Their labor was more than just a job; it was worship.
- **Discussion Questions:**
 - What stands out about how God called and equipped Bezalel and Oholiab for their work?
 - How does this passage challenge your perspective on your work?

2. Read 1 Corinthians 10:31

- "So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."
- **Discussion Questions:**
 - What does it look like to do your work to the glory of God?
 - In what areas of your life do you struggle to see your work as worship?

Four Realities of Work as Worship

1. We Are Called (Exodus 31:2)

- **Discussion:** God has called each of us to different tasks and roles. When we focus too much on what we wish we were doing, we can miss out on worshipping God through our current work.
- **Reflection:** Are you content with the calling God has given you right now? How can you honor God through your current responsibilities?

2. We Are Gifted (Exodus 31:3)

- **Discussion:** God has gifted us with unique abilities to fulfill our calling. Working in alignment with our gifts brings both ease and effectiveness.
- **Reflection:** How can you identify and use your gifts in your daily work or service?
- **Action Step:** Take the [Spiritual Gifts Survey](#) to understand better your spiritual gifts and how they can be used in your work.

3. We Are Not Alone (Exodus 31:6)

- **Discussion:** God places others around us to work alongside us. We are part of a community that contributes to God's greater plan.
- **Reflection:** How can you collaborate with others in your workplace, church, or community to reflect God's kingdom through your work?

4. We Have Abilities (Exodus 31:6)

- **Discussion:** God gives us specific talents and abilities to serve Him and others. Operating within those abilities is an act of worship.
- **Reflection:** What abilities has God given you, and how can you use them to glorify Him in your work?

Application

How Do We Worship God Through Our Work?

1. **Obey His Commands:** Stay faithful to God's guidance in your work.
2. **Pursue Excellence:** Strive to do your best in all you do, reflecting God's excellence.
 - **Discussion:** How does pursuing excellence in your work point others to Christ?
3. **Do What Brings You Pleasure:** Find joy in your work as a reflection of the abundant life found in Christ.
 - **Quote:** "The world doesn't need more grumpy Christians trudging through life. The world needs Christians who ooze exuberant joy that gives evidence of the abundant life found in Christ alone." – Jordan Raynor
 - **Reflection:** How can you cultivate joy in your work, even under challenging tasks?
4. **Work With God, Not Just For Him:** Remember that God is working through you, not expecting you to work for Him.
5. **Wonder at God's Work While You Work:** Appreciate the beauty and purpose in the work God has given you to do.

Deeper Conversation

- **Romans 12:1** reminds us to present our bodies as a living sacrifice, our spiritual worship. How can you present your work as a sacrifice to God this week?
- **Challenge:** Identify one way to shift your mindset to view your daily work as an act of worship. Share your thoughts with the group next week.

Worship Together

"Holy Spirit" by Jesus Culture - <https://youtu.be/qNwnOfZ5N8A?feature=shared>

Inviting the presence of God into every part of life, this song encourages believers to welcome the Holy Spirit into their work and everyday tasks.

Prayer Focus

- Pray for God to reveal His purpose in your daily work and for the strength to serve Him with joy and excellence in everything you do.

This guide helps participants reflect on how their work can be seen as worship and how they can apply this mindset in their everyday lives.