



Sermon Discussion Notes
@Work - Part 4

Opening Thought

Balance is the key to life. It is easy for us to get into extremes when it comes to work. Having a healthy work/rest rhythm is essential to life.

Discussion Questions

1. Discuss the passages below regarding the value God places on work.

***2 Thessalonians 3:10-13** 10 For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "If a man will not work, he shall not eat." 11 We hear that some among you are idle. They are not busy; they are busybodies. 12 Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the bread they eat. 13 And as for you, brothers, never tire of doing what is right. NIV*

***1 Timothy 5:8** 8 If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. NIV*

2. What are the two extremes of work? Do you have a certain tendency toward one extreme or the other?
3. Why did God rest after creation?

***Genesis 2:2-3** 2 By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. 3 And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done. NIV*

4. According to the message what did Pastor Danny say were some of the root causes of why people become workaholics?
5. Have the group recite the story of Zacchaeus in Luke 19:1-10. What may have been the cause of his drive to achieve position and wealth?
6. What was meant in the message by the term "practical atheist" when it came to money and resources?

7. How did God take care of Elijah in 1 Kings 17:3-6? Maybe this method wasn't exactly the standard Elijah preferred but he was provided for. Consider the verse below about being open to God taking care of us the way he chooses to.

1 Timothy 6:6-8 6 But godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. 8 But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. NIV

8. Read this portion of the Sermon on the Mount cited below as a group. Discuss the fundamental assurance of God's care. If we over-work is it because we think it is all up to us?

Matthew 6:25-34 25 "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? 27 Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? 28 "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. 29 Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. 30 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? 31 So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. 33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. NIV

9. When we take a Sabbath or a break each week and we rest what are we ultimately acknowledging? How does the practice of tithing and giving money each week also illustrate this?
10. Consider the Sabbath verse below as a group. Why did God invent the Sabbath?

Exodus 20:10-11 10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. 11 For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. NIV

Concluding Thought

When we think of work we think of a toolbox or a briefcase. Maybe you have a different item that represents work for you. However, God is not just a God of the toolbox or briefcase He also is the God of the hammock and has called us to rest. When we rest we are conveying we fully trust him to take care of us.