

NOTES



PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we come before You in awe of Your beauty and majesty. We thank You that You are a God who creates beauty out of chaos and brings order to our lives. Lord, we celebrate Your holiness and the beauty of Your presence. As we gather today, help us to worship You in the splendor of Your holiness and recognize Your hand in every beautiful and meaningful aspect of our lives, including our work. May our hearts be drawn to You as we seek to reflect Your creativity and purpose in all we do. In Jesus' name, Amen.

OPENING QUESTION (OPTIONAL)

"What is something beautiful that you've discovered in the most unexpected of places?"

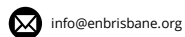


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WORD

Then the LORD said to Moses, "See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with ability and intelligence, with knowledge and all craftsmanship, to devise artistic designs, to work in gold, silver, and bronze, in cutting stones for setting, and in carving wood, to work in every craft. And behold, I have appointed with him Oholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan. And I have given to all able men ability, that they may make all that I have commanded you: the tent of meeting, and the ark of the testimony, and the mercy seat that is on it, and all the furnishings of the tent, the table and its utensils, and the pure lampstand with all its utensils, and the altar of incense, the altar of burnt offering with all its utensils, and the basin and its stand, and the finely worked garments, the holy garments for Aaron the priest and the garments of his sons, for their service as priests, and the anointing oil and the fragrant incense for the Holy Place. According to all that I have commanded you, they shall do."

[Exodus 31:1-11 \(ESV\)](#)

Reflection: Doing the BEST Work for His Glory

This passage calls us to embrace God's vision for our work, where He desires us to do our best work for His glory. Here are three key points to consider:

- 1. Created in His Image:** Our ability to work reflects the image of God within us. Just as God is a Creator who brought order out of chaos, we are called to be productive and purposeful in our tasks. When we engage in work, we reflect His character by bringing structure, creativity, and excellence to whatever we do.
- 2. Worship Through Skill:** God granted Bezalel and Oholiab specific skills to create beautiful things. Our skills are gifts from God and using them to make beautiful things is an act of worship. As Tim Keller notes in *Every Good Endeavor*, "Work becomes a form of worship when we use our talents to create things of beauty and goodness for His glory." Practicing your skill if done for the glory of God is therefore also a form of worship.
- 3. Restoring Dignity Through Work:** God's original intent was for work to be meaningful and fulfilling. Keller writes, "All work has dignity because it reflects God's image in us, and also because the material creation we are called to care for is good." Our work is an opportunity to restore this dignity, both in the tasks we perform and in the lives we touch. We are called not only to make beautiful things but also to make things beautiful, bringing God's order and purpose to the world around us.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does seeing yourself as created in God's image change the way you view your work, whether it's in your job, studies, or responsibilities at home?
2. In what ways can we see our skills as a form of worship? Can you share an example of a time when you felt you were honoring God through your work?
3. How can we work to restore dignity in the people and tasks we encounter every day? What are some ways we can bring beauty and order into our workplaces or communities here in Brisbane?
4. How might embracing God's design for work as beautiful and meaningful help us find more fulfillment in our daily tasks? What steps can you take this week to do your work as an act of worship?

Lord Jesus, we acknowledge You as Lord over all, including our work. We thank You for being the Creator of the universe and for giving us the gift of work as a way to reflect Your character. We pray for Your Spirit to fill us, just as You filled Bezalel, that we may approach our tasks with skill, creativity, and a heart of worship. Help us to see our work as a meaningful part of Your purpose for our lives. We lay down our lives before You and ask that You use our efforts for Your glory and the good of others. For those who do not yet know You, we pray they would come to see the beauty of a life lived in relationship with You. We trust in Your design and commit ourselves to live for You as we occupy the spaces You have called us to. In Jesus' name, Amen.