

## NOTES



## PRAYER

*Heavenly Father, we come before You with grateful hearts, acknowledging that all we do—whether big or small—can be an act of worship to You. Thank You for giving us skills, talents, and opportunities to reflect Your glory in our work. May we serve You wholeheartedly in everything we do, finding joy and purpose as we honour You. Teach us to worship You through our work and glorify You in every task. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

## OPENING QUESTION (OPTIONAL)

“If you could have any job in the world, what would it be and why?” Get creative with your answers.

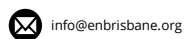
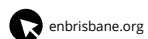


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## WORD

*“Bondservants, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ. For the wrongdoer will be paid back for the wrong he has done, and there is no partiality.”*

### [Colossians 3:22-25 \(ESV\)](#)

#### Reflections

Whether you're a student, a parent, or a professional, God calls you to glorify Him through your work. It is an opportunity to worship, to bridge the secular and sacred, to be a faithful presence, and to live with an eternal mindset. Work done in submission to Christ transforms mundane labor into meaningful worship, bringing heaven's light into everyday life. Here are five things to note:

##### 1. All Work is Worship

David Kinnaman observes in *Faith for Exiles* that young disciples thriving in their faith understand their work as a “calling” rather than just a job. He states, “Vocational discipleship teaches us to see every good work as an act of service to God, a way to participate in His kingdom coming to earth.” This perspective broadens the scope of worship to include every aspect of life. Timothy Keller echoes this in *Every Good Endeavor*, writing, “Work is as much a basic human need as food, beauty, rest, friendship, prayer, and sexuality; it is not simply medicine but food for our soul.”

We worship God not only through church ministry but through the faithfulness we bring to any task, recognizing it as an opportunity to reflect His image.

##### 2. Challenging the Secular-Sacred Divide

The tendency to separate “sacred” work (e.g., ministry roles) from “secular” work (e.g., corporate jobs) is rooted in misunderstanding God's design for work. Keller dismantles this divide, asserting, “Christians cannot restrict their lives to two separate realms—the sacred and the secular—because Christ is Lord over all of creation.” When believers bring a sense of calling to every sphere, whether teaching or trades, they glorify God in both “public” and “hidden” roles. Kinnaman, too, emphasizes the importance of Christians being “exiles” who remain faithfully engaged in culture rather than withdrawing from it: “Disciples understand that a vibrant faith doesn't insulate them from the world; instead, it equips them to engage deeply.” Our work becomes a mission field, whether we're fixing plumbing or designing software.

##### 3. Be a Faithful Presence

Faithful presence in the workplace means reflecting Christ through integrity, perseverance, and excellence. Keller writes, “The way to serve God at work is to do work well.” This calls believers to resist laziness or “eye-service” and instead work diligently, with sincerity of heart (Col. 3:22).

Kinnaman highlights that young Christians thrive when they let their light shine through countercultural habits, such as kindness, resilience, and honesty, reflecting Matthew 5:14-16: “Missional disciples shine as beacons, demonstrating what it means to live

faithfully even in the pressures of exile.”

Being a faithful presence also involves completing tasks with excellence, reflecting Jesus' faithfulness to the mission entrusted to Him. As Keller says, “A job is not primarily a thing one does to live, but the thing one lives to do.”

##### 4. Working Heartily for the Lord

Colossians 3:23 invites us to work “heartily, as for the Lord.” This perspective frees us from the trap of people-pleasing, redirecting our focus to God's approval. Keller ties this idea to our identity in Christ, writing, “Your work will only make sense, and can only bring satisfaction, if it is reconnected to God's purposes for you and the world.” By seeing our ultimate boss as Christ, we bring deeper purpose and joy to our labor, even in mundane tasks.

Kinnaman adds that faith-filled workers know their reward is eternal. He writes, “Disciples who are resilient in exile do not see success as worldly gain but as faithfully pursuing their calling under God's leadership.” This eternal mindset keeps our motivations pure and our labor meaningful.

##### 5. The Inheritance of Eternal Reward

Paul reminds us in Colossians 3:24 that our inheritance is from the Lord, not earthly employers. This truth empowers us to persevere in work that may seem undervalued. Keller reflects on this hope: “Through faith in Jesus Christ, the very same work that seems fruitless will be restored and made perfect in the new heaven and new earth.”

Kinnaman affirms this hope, especially for young disciples, writing, “God uses the ordinary rhythms of work and responsibility to shape His people into Christlikeness.” This understanding helps Christians trust that even small acts of faithfulness contribute to God's greater redemptive plan

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is one thing you enjoy most about your work (or studies)?
2. How does your work reflect God's character or values?
3. Have you ever struggled with seeing your work as worship? Why or why not?
4. What practical steps can you take to be a faithful presence in your workplace or school (e.g., integrity, finishing tasks well)?
5. How does knowing your work is ultimately for the Lord impact the way you approach it?

**Lord Jesus, we thank You for being the ultimate example of a servant leader who completed the work the Father gave You. We acknowledge You as Lord over our lives and over our work. Help us to see every task, role, and opportunity as a way to glorify You. Empower us to work with integrity, diligence, and joy, reflecting Your light in our workplaces and communities. We submit our lives and our work to You, trusting in Your perfect design. May we live for You and serve others, laying down our lives as You laid Yours down for us. In Your holy name, we pray, Amen.**