

Stop Hating Monday // Ben Hilson // May 16th, 2021

The pandemic has changed how we experience our work and see our purpose. One recent study shows that one in four employees is seriously considering a job change. While more people are working from home, others are on the front lines. Then there's the work of home life. You will likely work 90,000 hours in your lifetime, so work is worth thinking about. Work impacts your happiness, your health, and even shapes who you become. What if your understanding of work is distorted? What if it's not about changing your job, but changing the way you see your life? What if work could be different?

Bottom Line: Find meaning and purpose in your work by connecting your Sunday to your Monday.

Scripture: Genesis 1: 26-31, Genesis 3:17-18, Matthew 25:34-40

Getting Started:

- 1. If you could do anything (time and money aside) for work, what would it be and why?
- 2. Share one word that summarizes where you are at with your current work situation and explain.

Jumping In:

3. Have you ever considered that God had a plan for work even before sin entered into the world? Share how that idea lines up with your understanding or experience of your work? Are you more likely to consider work a curse or a blessing?

Discuss:

- 4. Read Genesis 1:26-31 and 3:17-18 together as a group and take note of what stands out to you in these passages.
- 5. Ben noted that God created you to create. What does this mean? List some examples of this from different types of employment. To what degree would you say that you are participating in God's creative work?
- 6. What does it mean to be made in the image of God and reflect him to others (see Genesis 1:27-28)? Share some examples of how you think you can reflect him in your current job.
- 7. How does the idea of reflecting God at your work infuse what you do with new meaning and purpose? How can you partner with God this week to tap into that new meaning?

- 8. Ben said, "One of the best ways to serve God is to do your work the best way it can be done." What are the practical implications of this for your Monday-to-Friday world?
- 9. According to Gen 3:17-18, why did work become hard? What are some of the ways that work can be a difficult experience for you? What difference does the gospel make?
- 10. If you prayed the prayer that Ben challenged us to pray this week (How can I reflect you well today?), what did you sense God telling you to do? If not, spend some time as a group praying for one another and asking God that question.

Moving Forward:

How can you connect your Sunday to your Monday? Go back this week and reflect on Genesis 1-2 and invite God to speak to you and help reframe the way you think about work.