



How to Find Meaning in Your Work // Jeff Brodie // May 9th, 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: Don't look to your work to bring you meaning; bring meaning to your work.

Scripture: [Galatians 3:28](#), [Colossians 3:22-4:1](#)

Getting Started:

1. What's the worst job you ever had? What's the best job you ever had?
2. Would you say you "work to live" or "live to work"? How so?
3. Often our passion for our jobs can rise and fall. What are the key factors that cause your passion for your work to be in flux?
4. If you had to rate the meaning you are currently receiving from your job on a scale of 1-5, where would you score it?

Jumping In:

5. What would you say are the most meaningful moments for you in your work? Jeff shared that 85% of the people he polled at Connexus said the moments of meaning in their work came from a personal connection with a colleague, client, customer, student, patient, etc. Does that surprise you? Why or why not?
6. When you look at working over your lifetime, or at the people you've worked with, why do you think so many people aren't happy at work?

Discuss:

7. Read [Galatians 3:28](#) NLT. Given the transactional, hierarchical culture Paul was living in, how do you think Jesus followers might have struggled with their new freedom and equality found

in Christ as they navigated their relationships? How do you think this might have challenged their views of marriage, parenting, or relationships with different groups of people?

8. In light of this new found freedom and equality, Paul had to help slaves who chose to follow Jesus figure out what it meant to navigate their relationship with their master. Read [Colossians 3:22-4:1](#) NLT. How do you think slaves who were following Jesus would have heard this?
9. We would clearly be against the practice of slavery today, but there are some key principles here that help us find meaning in our work today. What struck you most about what Jeff shared in the message?
10. The apostle Paul talks about serving those who are over you sincerely. What do you think this looks like? What could you change to make this a regular practice for you?
11. Paul challenges his listeners to work as though they were working for the Lord, not their earthly master. How would that perspective impact the way you see your work? Name one of your regular tasks that you could frame differently to give it more meaning in light of this?
12. If you were to look at your performance through the lens of being the employee who you would want working for you, how would that change your work tomorrow?
13. In Colossians 4:1, Paul issues a challenge to those in charge who follow Jesus. What do you think it means for a manager, boss, or owner to create a meaningful work environment?
14. If you are (or could be) a manager or a boss, what does it mean for you to be a better supervisor than the one you wish you had?
15. What's one area of your work that you will look at through the light of today's conversation in order to bring more meaning to it?

Moving Forward: Read 1 Corinthians 10:31: "So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." This week look to bring God glory as you participate in the sacred act of work. Look to your relationship with Jesus, not your circumstances, to bring meaning to your work.