God’s work and our work

Questions:

1. When do you find joy and satisfaction in your work (paid or unpaid)?

2. Read Gen 1:31-2:3. Describe how much work has God done to finish the creation of heaven and earth. What brings God to joy at his work?

3. Read Gen 1:26-28. What does rule over all the creatures, fill the earth, and subdue the earth mean? Were mankind asked to work with God as a partner or as a hired person? What’s the difference?

4. Desire to work and joy or work is in your DNA from God. How can that fact give you a fresh view of the work you have now?

=== Sermon notes ===

(slide 1) In the beginning God worked

Genesis 1:31 God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day. 2:1 Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.

1. How’s your work?
2. God works for the joy of it
3. Creation is massive work
   1. 1 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was without form and void.
   2. Let there be light, sky, lands/seas, sun/moon/stars, fish and birds, creatures, humans

(slide 2)

John 5:17 “My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I too am working.”

1. Work is in our DNA- retiring at 35?

(slide 3) God the gardener

Genesis 2:8 Now the Lord God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. 9 The Lord God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food.

1. God continue to work after creation
   1. Gen 1:2 The earth was without form and void
2. His work is art

(slide 4) God the carpenter

Mark 6:3 Isn’t this the carpenter? Isn’t this Mary’s son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon?

1. What may be Jesus thinking when he does the woodwork?
   1. I get to work on the wood Father and I have created

(slide 5) We work as God’s good steward

Genesis 1:26 Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

1. Rule over- as God does
   1. Caregiver
   2. Scientist, artist, gardeners, carpenters
2. The world belongs to the Father, and we are his stewards

(slide 6) Every work has value

Genesis 2:15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

1. Washing dishes
2. Labor work vs. knowledge work? Industrial work vs. service work?
   1. GSCC Janitor
   2. Test engineer?

(slide 7) Today, we work to advance the world materially, socially, and culturally

1. Efficient and discovery use of material- higher living standard
2. Well beings are more taken care of, social science also flourish
3. Creativity, diversity, music and art continue to progress

(slide 8)

Genesis 1:28 God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

(slide 9) God works in us in our work

Eph 2:10 10 For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

1. Our work is not without the effect of our limit and flaws
2. But we continue to work as steward of God to serve, to witness and to grow
3. We work to serve.
   1. Jane
   2. Pr. Chang
   3. God works in us when we serve