

Goal for “The work to be Done” series:

Help understand God’s plan for work by focusing on five characteristics of God in the Psalms and applying those specifically to our calling to represent God in our places of work.

Psalms & Themes:

Goodness (Psalm 65); Justice (Psalm 37); Beauty (Psalm 27); Compassion (Psalm 86); Wisdom (Psalm 111)

Intro/Outline: Psalm 65

Series intro/overview/goals – mention the survey we will send after

Read Psalm 65:5-13 (harvest psalm, thanksgiving themes)

Intro 3 aspects of goodness in the psalm: creation, provision, redemption

1. Goodness in Creation (5-8)

-Echoes of Gen 1&2 “And it was “Good”

-God as first work, we are imitators (image bearers) of his work

-Dorothy Sayers Quote – need for good work (LLI commercial)

2. Goodness in Provision (9-13)

-Business and Labor are the main ways we are applying because these are the main channels God is providing for the world

-Imagery: Abundance, Goodness, Plenty – applied to modern fields of work

-Adam & Eve in 2022 thought experiment

-3 Difficulties to see Goodness in our normal lives:

1. Mediated experiences through human inventions

2. We misunderstand abundance (us vs. them)

3. We misunderstand abundance (more is better)

(transition: set up the challenges of work/business and pain/guilt felt in the everyday challenges)

3. Goodness in Redemption (1-4)

-Loop back into the beginning of the psalm

-Show God’s response to prayer of forgiveness

-We find our identity not in the work we do, but the work Jesus did and work from that, not for it

“Close with prayer for worker in financial industry”