



**Teaching Notes:** Ray Davis  
October 14, 2012  
**gospel in life –**  
**Grace Changes Everything**

## desert breeze community church

### Part 6: Work – Cultivating the Garden

We worship our work, work at our play & play at our worship until we encounter Christ & all of life becomes worship including work & play. In other words God wants us to live life to its fullest in every area of life and that includes work. The meta-narrative of the whole Bible: Creation, Fall, Redemption, & Restoration.

Colossians 3:23-24

- 1) Every part of our lives is to be lived for the Glory of God. V23a “Whatever you do...” 1Cor10:31; Phil4:4
- 2) Work is a blessing not a curse though sin often can make it difficult. V23b “work heartily (breath, life, vitality, energy)...” Gen2:15, 3:17
- 3) You cannot have a meaningful life without work, but don’t make your work the meaning of your life (idolatry). V23c “as for the Lord and not for men...” Gen2:2
- 4) All work is dignified by God and a calling from God. V24a “knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward...” Gen2:2, 7, 14; Mark 6:3; 2Thess3:10
- 5) My work is a witness to the world and worship to God. V24b “You are serving the Lord Christ.” Eph6:5-9; Matt5:16; 1Thess4:11-12  
  
"A Christian is a walking sermon. They preach far more than a minister does, for they preach all week long." ~ J.C. Ryle
- 6) Three keys to fruitful and fulfilling work:  
Look in to your gifting. Eph2:10  
Look out to what people need. Titus 3:14  
Look up to the one who has called you. Col3:23-24

- 7) The quality of our work is inescapably connected to the quality of our rest. Gen2:1-3; Ex20:8-11
- 8) It takes the deep rest of Christ’s finished work for your salvation to avoid over-work. Heb4:1-10; Matt.11:28-30; Luke 10:38-42



# Growing

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- 1) What is the panoramic view (meta-narrative) of the whole Bible and of what God is up to on planet earth? How significant of a role do we play as followers of Jesus Christ & where does our work fit into that?
  
- 2) Read Colossians 3:23-24. Paraphrase these two verses and apply specific to your work? Living for God's Glory in every part of our lives & your deepest & most durable satisfaction are one in the same pursuit & not dependent on People, Things & Circumstances (1Cor10:31; Phil4:4). Explain
  
- 3) How is work a blessing and not a curse though sin often can make it difficult (Gen2:15, 3:17)? You cannot have a meaningful life without work, but don't make your work the meaning of your life (idolatry). Explain.
  
- 4) How does knowing that all work is dignified by God & a calling from God & that menial & manual work should not be despised or demeaned (Mark 6:3; 2Thess3:10)? How is our work a witness to the world and worship to God (Eph6:5-9; Matt5:16; 1Thess4:11-12)? What are the keys to fruitful & fulfilling work?
  
- 5) Why is the quality of our work inescapably connected to the quality of our rest (Gen2:1-3; Ex20:8-11)? How does the deep rest of Christ's finished work for our salvation help us to avoid over-work (Heb4:1-10; Matt.11:28-30; Luke 10:38-42)? What is God speaking to you from this study? Pray that db would be known to be a light in this dark work world (Matt.5:16).