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Beyond a McJob

Genesis 1:26-28

“²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” ²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. ²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” (Genesis 1:26-28, ESV)

Introduction

The Meaning of Bearing God’s Image (Genesis 1:26-27)

(See also Genesis 2:5-9 (esp. v. 7), Psalm 8, James 3:9)

Conduit for God In Our Work (Genesis 1:28)

Fill

Subdue and Rule

Martin Luther: “God milks the cows through the vocation of the milk maids.”

(Compare Nehemiah 4:6 and 6:16, and see also Psalm 90:16-17, Psalm 127, 1 Corinthians 7:17)

A New Bottom Line

Dorothy Sayers: “The habit of thinking about work as something one does to make money is so ingrained in us that we can scarcely imagine what a revolutionary change it would be to think about it instead in terms of the work done. To do so would mean taking the attitude of mind we reserve for unpaid work – our hobbies, our leisure interests, the things we can and do for pleasure – and making that the standard of all our judgments about things and people. We should ask of an enterprise, not “will it pay?” but “what is his work worth?”; of goods, not “can we induce people to buy them?” but “are they useful things well made?”; of employment, not “how much a week?” but “will it exercise my faculties to the utmost?”” (*Why Work?* Access your own copy at tinyurl.com/whywork-by-sayers.)

Job Selection

View of Work (Us and Others)

For Picking Majors

Digging Deeper into Work

This week’s passages:

Monday: Genesis 1

Tuesday: Psalm 8

Wednesday: Psalm 127

Thursday: Psalm 90

Friday: 1 Corinthians 7, especially vv. 17-24

Weekend: Review the most meaningful passages of the week.

Each day this week you are invited to read the day’s passage and then respond to the following questions. You might find it beneficial to use a journal or notebook to record insights.

1. **Read** the passage prayerfully, listening for the voice of God and asking him to speak to you.
2. **Record** or write down the word, phrase, or verse that God impresses upon you.
3. **Reflect** and write down what it is about this word, phrase or verse that is meaningful to you.
4. **Respond** by writing a prayer or recording what it is that you think the Lord wants you to do in response to his word (“*Be doers of the word and not hearers only*” James 1:22).