

before you leave...



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BEFORE YOU LEAVE: YOUR JOB

The “Great Resignation” was coined by Anthony Klotz, a professor of management at Mays Business School at Texas A&M University, in May 2021, when he predicted a sustained mass exodus.

The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that 47 million Americans voluntarily quit their jobs in 2021.

A BRIEF THEOLOGY OF WORK

Christians should be the very best employees or students, the very best supervisors or tutors, and the very best teammates or classmates!

1. IN THE BEGINNING, THERE WAS _____.

GENESIS 1:26-28, 2:15

“While the Greek thinkers saw ordinary work, especially manual labor, as relegating human beings to the animal level, the Bible sees all work as distinguishing human beings from animals and elevating them to a place of dignity.”

-Tim Keller, Every Good Endeavor

2. GOD GIVES US THE _____ TO WORK.

DEUTERONOMY 8:17-18

3. OUR WORK SHOULD _____ THE GOSPEL.

PHILIPPIANS 1:12-14

PHILIPPIANS 3:20

“[Becoming a Christian] gives us a new perspective on every culture, every worldview, and every field of work. In the long run, the gospel helps us see everything in a new light, but it takes time to grasp and incorporate this new information into how we live and pursue our vocations.”

-Tim Keller, Every Good Endeavor

4. WORK WILL BE _____ IF WE CAN'T FIND JOY IN IT TODAY.

ECCLESIASTES 2:17-18

5. WE WILL WORK IN _____.

REVELATION 22:3-5

4 QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER BEFORE LEAVING YOUR JOB

1. IS GOD _____ WITH ME HERE?

PROVERBS 3:5-6

"People who follow Jesus ask this question: God, what problem in your world would you like for me to address?"

-John Ortberg

2. AM I _____ AT WHAT I'M DOING?

EXODUS 35:31-33

3. IS MY JOB DOING MORE _____ THAN GOOD?

ROMANS 13:10

4. ARE THOSE WHO _____ ON ME IN SUPPORT OF THIS DECISION?

2 THESSALONIANS 3:10-12

2 ESSENTIALS FOR LEAVING WELL

1. ON YOUR WAY OUT, BE A _____.

DEUTERONOMY 31:1-2, 6-8, 34:8-9

2. ON YOUR WAY OUT, FINISH _____.

PROVERBS 14:23

Prepare to finish well by reading today, *4th Quarter Fumbles: Keys to Finishing Strong* by Glenn Gunderson

Fill in the blanks: work, ability, advance, meaningless, heaven, done, skilled, harm, depend, blessing, strong

The following questions are provided for your personal reflection and application and for you to discuss with your family, friends, and Life Group. If you are missing any Study Guides, they are available at the Connect Center or online with the sermon archives each week.

OPEN UP

When you were a child, what job did you want to have as an adult?

READ THIS

Genesis 2:15

Exodus 35:35, 36:1-2

ASK THIS

How do you view work: a punishment? A necessary evil? A calling? A privilege? What shapes your viewpoint?

What God-given skills/gifts do you bring to your job (professional, volunteer, or family role)?

What God-given skills have you not been using/developing? Why not?

READ THIS

Ecclesiastes 5:18-19

ASK THIS

Do you find joy in your everyday tasks (home, work, volunteer)? What would help you enjoy your work more?

ASK THIS

For whom (yourself, God, your family, your coworkers) do you toil in the different areas of life?

How much satisfaction do you find in your work?

READ THIS

Colossians 3:23-24

ASK THIS

How do you live these verses out at work? At home?

Do you view yourself as a representative of Jesus in the workplace/your family/everyday life? Why or why not? How seriously do you take that role?

Knowing that “you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward” for your work, how can you be re-energized in your work today?

DO THIS

Identify one area of your work/home life where you have allowed bad habits to slip in - whether in attitude, attention, or overall effort. What's one change you can make this week to view your work as a service for the Lord? Try inviting God into your daily tasks with prayer, like the one below:

Father, I invite You into my day: into the tasks, chores, and assignments I have before me. I pray that through Your Spirit in me, I may be attentive to the needs of others, aware of opportunities to shine Your light, and a worthy representative of Your power and grace. Amen.