

Redeeming Work: God Has Gifted You For Work

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / Oct 8, 2017

1. You need to give credit where credit is due. You can do what you do only because God gifted you to do it!

James 1:16,17

¹⁶ Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷ **Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.**

John 3:27

²⁷ John answered, “**A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven.**”

If we fail to acknowledge our skills and abilities as gifts from God, we essentially give ourselves credit and glory that belongs to God alone.

1 Cor. 4:7

⁷ For who sees anything different in you? **What do you have that you did not receive?** If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?

What about you? What skills and abilities do you put to work every day, but perhaps forget God gave them to you? How can you give God glory for these things starting tomorrow?

2. You need to see your work as a daily divine appointment to glorify God by serving Him and others.

Eph. 2:10

¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand**, that we should walk in them.

Col. 1:10

¹⁰ so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit **in every good work** and increasing in the knowledge of God;

Remember—Bezalel had a specific, personal calling & giftedness for a work that needed to be done, that could be observed by others and bring glory to God. (Ex. 31:1-6)

What about you? How can you be more aware of the daily divine appointments God gives you to serve others and bring glory to Him?

3. You need to be motivated less by those who pay you and more by the One who paid for you—Jesus Christ.

Col. 3:17,23 ¹⁷ And **whatever you do**, in word or deed, do **everything** in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him...²³ **Whatever you do**, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, ²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. **You are serving the Lord Christ.**

Questions for Personal Reflection and/or Small Group discussion:

- (A) Every good gift comes from God (James 1:17). Name two or three seemingly mundane, but divinely given abilities for which you should be thankful to God. (These are things that enable you to do your work everyday.)
- (B) Read Psalm 139:13-16. In the context of our daily work, what does that tell you about how God designed and gifted you?
- (C) What are specific abilities, talents & gifts the Lord has given you that you use everyday?
- (D) How has God providentially arranged your present circumstances to serve others and please Him?
- (E) Come up with an “I will...” statement, stating one thing you will do in light of the sermon that was preached.