

The 5 Commandments of Work
Various Passages

Introduction (choose 1):

1. What do you like the most about your work; what do you like the least?
2. What do you like to do on a “day off?”

Understanding (choose 4-6):

1. *Read Genesis 2:15.* God had purpose in giving Adam work in the Garden of Eden, just as He has purpose in giving us the work we do today. How does this impact your view of “work?”
2. We are called to be stewards over what He has given us. This means “utilizing and managing all resources God provides for the glory of God and the betterment of His creation.” How does this change the way you use & manage the things He has given you?
3. *Read Colossians 3:23.* How does “working for the Lord” differ from “working for men?” Which is your tendency?
4. *Read John 13:35.* Love speaks and reveals to others that we are His Disciples. What do your actions reveal to your co-workers about who you are?
5. As Disciples of Christ, we are all called to love God with all of our heart, mind, soul, and strength. We are then called to “love your neighbor as yourselves.” Pastor Ted gave two practical ways we can love our co-workers (speak the truth, put people over profits). Share some other practical ways you have loved your co-workers.
6. *Read Matthew 11:28-30.* In our human nature, we often try to do our work in our own strength. This leads to weariness and burn out. Jesus invites us to come to him and he will give us rest. What are some specific ways we can work with Christ, instead of in our own direction and strength?
7. *Read Genesis 2:3-5.* We are challenged to follow Jesus’ example and rest. When was the last time you took a Sabbath? How did it make you feel? And how did it impact those around you?

Application:

1. Pastor Ted challenges us to do one of the following things: take dominion over your work, team, classes, or home; whatever your job is, do excellent work; love the people you work with (share God's love with those around you); remember you're not alone (work with Christ); and lastly, take a Sabbath. Be intentional about doing one thing, and share with your Small Group what you did and what the outcome was.
2. Practice incorporating a Sabbath into your life. Set aside one day a week to step aside from your 'work.' Spend more time with God, in His Word and prayer; spend time with family and friends, do something you enjoy. Keep it simple. Record how you feel as you practice the Sabbath and make it part of your weekly routine.

Lectio Divina

- **Opening Prayer:** Ask God for insight into His Word, for open hearts and minds, for hunger to know Him better, and for an attitude of learning from one another.
- **Reading:** Have someone from your group read the passage aloud. It is best to print out a copy for each group member so they can read along, make notes, or go back as needed.
- **Meditation:** Spend *an entire minute in complete silence*, contemplating what was just read. Feel free to re-read the passage quietly to yourself or jot down thoughts/highlight what stuck out to you.
- **Sharing:** At the leader's signal, invite group members to share their insights for about 5 minutes.
- **Repeat:** After the 5 minutes are over, repeat the process 2 more times using the same passage. Listen/read like you haven't heard this passage before. If there are longer moments of silence, the leader can prompt discussion with the following questions:
 1. What did you hear and what seems important?
 2. What is the Holy Spirit impressing on you?
 3. What does it make you think of from your life?

Genesis 1:26-28

²⁶ "Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals,^[a] and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

Colossians 3:23-24

²³ Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, ²⁴ since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

Matthew 22:36-39

³⁶ "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

³⁷ Jesus replied: ““Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’^[c] ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’^[d]

Matthew 11:28-30

²⁸ “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”