

The gospel and work

How should the gospel shape my working life, how ambitious should I be?

As a Christian what should be my ambition in life?

- Matthew 6:32-33
- Philippians 2:7-11
- 1 Corinthians 10:31

How should these ambitions shape my working life / Career (whether as Boss or worker)?

In what way is this different to the world's attitude to ambition and career?

What problems can the world's attitude to ambition cause?

If Jesus is my boss think about the following areas of work (and life):

TAKE TIME TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING

Am I too busy?

- Do we feel guilty when we take time off?
- Are we constantly checking our phones in case we missed something?
- Are we getting enough sleep?
- Do we have time for lunch?

What drives my need for busyness?

How can we manage our time in view the following verses?

Matthew 6:33

Luke 10:38-42

Proverbs 6:6-8 the story of the ant

In economics there is a term called **Opportunity cost**

An opportunity cost is defined as the value of a for gone activity or alternative when another item or activity is chosen

Time is an opportunity cost, therefore we need to choose carefully how to use it

Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom Psalm 90:12

Did I need to review my use of time? Is there something that needs changing?

What is the goal of our careers?

Tim Chester, helpfully suggests three models to consider. Based on the fact that gospel should shape the goals of our careers, therefore you could view work as:

1. **Lifestyle Career:** Opting for fewer responsibilities so that you have time for church and mission, instead of progressing as far as you might

2. **Income generation:** Developing a career to generate income to support church and mission work

3. **Economic and social renewal:** Seeing your career as an opportunity to bless the wider community, apply Christian values and use your position as a witness for Christ

As we review the these models, how can we ensure these are the genuine aims, rather than a cover for selfish personal pursuits.

Think about your work and identify 10 ways you can bring glory to God

- 1.

- 2.

- 3.

- 4.

- 5.

- 6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

Additional Resources:

Gospel centred work - Tim Chester (The Good Book Company)

Making work work - Marcus Nodder (The Good Book Company)

Revolutionary work - William Taylor (10ofthose)

