

Christians in the Workplace

Balance at Work: Christians Are *Not* Balanced People

Lesson 5

Introduction

The Doctrine of Calling, Re-Visited

Every Christian has the same *primary calling*: discipleship

Why “balance” is not the right goal

Our *secondary callings* are the things God has told us to do by virtue of direct command or providential circumstance

Three things we know about callings:

1. Secondary callings all support your primary calling
2. Your primary calling is primary
3. We all have the same goal for each of our secondary callings: to serve our Heavenly master (Matthew 25:14-30)



Balancing Multiple Callings

Scripture gives us a minimum standard for faithfulness in each of our secondary callings.

Scripture gives us responsibility to glorify God across all of our callings.

We have one boss (Jesus).

Some callings are fixed; some are not.

Our goal in all of our callings is to be counted as faithful

Common Secondary Callings

Your Calling in the Church

1 Cor. 12:12-31

Your Calling in the Workplace

1 Thessalonians 4:10-12, Ephesians 4:28

Your Calling in Marriage

“Marriage is not just one area of life to be balanced with others. Marriage is the context in which you live all of life. You approach work, church, etc. as a married man. It is not the same to say you approach marriage as a lawyer, etc. Married people are not to balance career with marriage, but to approach career as a married person.”

Advice on Putting Our Callings Together

Know When to Say No

Take Things Day by Day – But Evaluate Periodically

Look for Opportunities that Reinforce Your Callings

Sell Your Skill, Not Your Soul

Keep Your Eye on Long-Term Faithfulness

Course outline

The Story of Work

Lesson 1: Theology of Work

Lesson 2: Problem with Work

Our Work as the Redeemed

Lesson 3: Freedom in Christ at Work

How We Work

Lesson 4: Relationships at Work

Lesson 5: Balance at Work

Lesson 6: Ethics at Work

Lesson 7: Work in Different Stages of Life

Lesson 8: Finding the Right Work

Lesson 9: Faithfulness at Work

Further Questions?

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Suggested reading

- *Every Good Endeavour* (Keller)
- *God at Work* (Veith)
- *The Call* (Guinness)