**Christ-Centered Work**

**Overview**

Two Sundays ago we discussed a biblical overview of work by tracing the theme of work through the story of creation, fall, and redemption. We talked about the fundamental goodness of work at creation as something God designed us to do as his image bearers (read Genesis 1:27-28 and Genesis 2:15). We discussed the negative impact the fall had on work in turning it into an experience of “painful toil” (read Genesis 3:17-18). And we discussed how work can be redeemed in Christ as we seek to put Jesus at the center of our work and do whatever we do “in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through him” (read Colossians 3:17).

This past Sunday we discussed in more detail the idea of putting Jesus at the center of our work and allowing our “fear of the Lord” to be the driving force that shapes how we engage in our work. We considered living a Christ-centered life at work that might actually stand out and lead a person to ask you “to give a reason for the hope you have” (read 1 Peter 3:13-16). We discussed various ways this Christ-centered life might play itself out, including examples such as these: managing people with love and care, working with integrity in ethically challenging contexts, shaping the overall culture of your company in kingdom-oriented ways, doing work that is excellent and competent, keeping a work-life balance, dealing with failure and adversity with grace, sharing your faith with someone at work.

**Discussion Questions**

1. As you consider the biblical overview of work, was there any new ideas for you? Did that put your work in a different light or give you a new perspective on how you view your work?

2. Consider how the fall impacts your work. As you consider being faithful to Jesus in the context of your specific work, what is the greatest challenge for you at this time (it might be an internal challenge/temptation, a challenge connected with your specific industry, a relational challenge, a cultural challenge, etc.)?

3. How specifically have you tried to be faithful to Jesus in the context of your work in a way that you think Jesus has honored?

4. As you’ve considered this topic over the past two weeks, what is one specific way you’d like to lean in to being more Christ-centered in your work in the coming weeks (you may want to consider the examples mentioned in the Overview above).