

Sermon Discussion

24 January 2021

Read Genesis 2:4-15 together.

Dig Deeper

The overall picture of Eden presented in these verses suggests that the park-like garden is part of a divine sanctuary. The man is put in the garden to work it and keep it. The term “**work**” denotes preparing and tending, and “**keep**” adds to that idea.

Since this command comes before Adam sinned, work did not come as a result of sin, nor is it something to be avoided. Productive work is part of God's good purpose for man in creation.

Later, the same two verbs are used together of the work undertaken by the priests and Levites in the tabernacle (“minister” or “serve” and “guard”; *Numbers 3:7-8; 18:7*).

1. Identify unhealthy perspectives that the world and even some Christians have regarding work. Why are such perspectives detrimental?
2. Is one person's work nobler than another person's profession? Why? Why are both just as important to the glory of God?
3. Why is it essential to understand that God delights in work and has designed our work?
4. How are we prone to make an idol out of work?
5. How does God use our “work” to work through us?
6. Try to remember what the Bible says that mandates rest. How is this connected to our work?
7. Why must the gospel dictate both how we rest and how we work?

Application & Prayer

- Has this sermon pointed any area in your life that you need God to transform? Ask someone to pray with you about it.
- Praise God for His good gift of work, which He designed for our good and His glory. Pray we will find delight in our work just as He does. Ask God to help us be good stewards of creation and developers of culture. Praise Christ for His sufficient work of salvation and freedom. Pray we will all use our freedom in Christ to love others and worship God through our work. Pray we will all work hard to advance the mission of God.