



THINK IT THROUGH

Questions	In your workplace
What opportunities are there to work with excellence and with Christian distinctiveness?	
What opportunities are there for a) Serving people? a) Helping society? a) Witnessing to Christ?	



PRAY IT THROUGH

- *Thank God for the work he has given you do.*
- *Pray for those who are seeking work.*
- *Confess any ways you not representing Jesus as you should in your work place.*
- *Pray that He would help you learn how to bring the gospel into your work.*
- *Share any particular issues / struggles / pressures at work and pray for each other.*

GOSPEL IN LIFE

SMALL GROUPS SHEET
WEEK BEGINNING 13 OCTOBER 2013

6. WORK – Cultivating The Garden



FOR STARTERS

How do you feel on most Monday mornings about your work (whether our work is for a company or for our family, whether it is paid or unpaid)?

Discuss the following statement based on Sunday evening's DVD:

- *"Generally we seal off our faith from our work and the way in which we do our work."*



INVESTIGATE

1. The gospel changes the motivation for our work.

What are some of the reasons for why we work?

What does Paul say should motivate us and why? (Colossians 3:23-24)

The problem of 'over work' seems to be growing in our society.

Explore God's rhythm for life in the following verses and the reasons given:

- Genesis 2:2-3 _____
- Exodus 20:8-11 _____
- Deuteronomy 5:12-15 _____

In Matthew 11:28 Jesus promises to give us rest. How can the deep rest Jesus gives us change our relationship to our work?

Discuss the following statement made by Tim Keller in Sunday's DVD presentation:

"When I enjoy my new identity in Christ the work is about the work, not about me. That means you can rest, walk away and take breaks when you should take breaks because you are no longer working to please others or yourself but the Lord."



INVESTIGATE

2. The gospel changes the ethics of our work

What are some of the general ethical principles in the Bible that should shape the way we work? (Galatians 5:22-23 is a helpful starting point).

Are there unique issues or dilemmas presented by your line of work?

Do you see your workplace as a place to share the gospel as well as a place to let the gospel shape how you work? What can you bring into your profession that is uniquely helpful?



THINK IT THROUGH

Because the gospel changes the way we look at everything we need to carefully look at everything, including our work, and decide (a) what to keep as good, (b) what to reject as too wicked, and (c) what to reshape with the gospel.

Try and answer the questions in the following table to help you think about these issues:

Questions	In your workplace
What is the main purpose of the work?	
How does it try to meet the goal?	
What does it mean to be successful?	
What are the idols?	
What about being a Christian is most offensive? What is most acceptable / valued?	
In what areas do you feel you need to challenge your work's culture?	