NOTES

WHERE GOD IS IMAGED

JIM NICODEM | SEPTEMBER 24 & 25, 2022 GENESIS 1 & 2

Introduction:

1. As a _____

2. As a _____

3. A a _____

4. As a _____

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY. FRIENDS & GROUPS

1. What do you do for a living (paid or unpaid)? What do you like best about your job? 2. What are the dangers of getting your identity from your job? What does it mean to get your identity from God?

3. Read Genesis 2:2, 3. What word pops up 3X in these verses as a description of what God is doing in the world? How should seeing God as a worker influence the way we think about the nature of work?

4. Read Genesis 1:27. How should seeing ourselves as God's image-bearers influence how we approach our work?

5. Read Genesis 1:1-25. As God steps back from each thing he creates, what does he conclude about his work? What does that tell you about the act of creating? How might seeing yourself as a creator change the way you look at your job? What are some ways that you create in your workplace (besides crafting physical objects)?

6. Reread Genesis 2:2, 3. Why did God rest after he worked, given the fact that he's all-powerful and never gets tired? Read Exodus 20:8-11. What does the word "sabbath" mean? What does God want us to stop doing one day a week?

7. What two activities should we engage in on the Sabbath? What leisure activities would refresh you? If we are to worship God every day, what are the benefits of especially focusing on this one day a week?

8. What job does God give humans in Genesis 1:26, 28? What two values characterize God's rule? What are some ways you could imagine these two values in your own workplace? What does it mean to give the people you work with a "taste" of Christ's Kingdom?

9. Read Genesis 1:29. How did God provide for Adam? Read Genesis 2:15. What was Adam's role in providing for himself? What does Paul say about the importance of working to provide for ourselves in I Thessalonians 4:11, 12, and II Thessalonians 3:10?

10. Read Ephesians 4:28. Who else are we able to provide for by working a job? Besides meeting others needs by giving financially, how else do our jobs prepare us to do so? What might this look like for you?

PRAYER PROMPT: Everyday Objects. Look around the place you are in, and write down the first three objects that catch your attention (they can be unique or unremarkable - just go with what you notice first!). Use each object as a prompt to praise God for creativity and creation, work and rest, even characteristics of God that these might point to. (e.g. a lamp - the creativity in the design, the ability of the mind to understand and harness electricity, Jesus as the light of the world, etc.).