

# SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

## Genesis 1:26-31

**Ice Breaker:** What is one of your new years resolutions? Have you stuck with it through week one?

**Ice Breaker:** What was your most successful past resolution? Your worst failure?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. **Read Genesis 1:26-31:** What is the context of this text? Remind one another of some of the significant details of Genesis 1-2.
2. What do you initially think about when you think of work or how does our culture talk about work? What areas in the cultural understanding of work are commendable? What areas are to be condemned?
3. What parts of God's character or attributes are reflected in our ability and the command given to us to work?
4. Why does it feel good to do good work? What kind of satisfaction comes when we work for God's glory with the abilities he has given us? What happens when we do not work?
5. How often do we thank God for the ability and satisfaction of working? What does it look like to thank God for your own work and for the work of all others around us?
6. Why does it matter that Genesis 1:26-31 comes before the fall in Genesis 3? What's the theological implications of this reality? How does work change after Genesis 3?
7. What happens in our hearts (maybe through our mouths or our actions) when we run up against the effects of sin at work? How do we see sin in our work or workplace? Where do you see your own sin when in your work?
8. How do we overcome the effects of sin in our work and therefore redeem work for the glory of God?
9. **Read Colossians 3:23-24.** How does this passage speak to our work? What does it mean to work "as for the Lord" instead of "for men"?
10. How are you doing in your "work unto the Lord"? How are you doing in seeing your work, whatever it might be, as "true work of the Lord"?
11. What was Jesus' work? What does it mean that he "finished" his work? How does his work "redeem" our work here on the earth and help us to look forward to the future work?