

# Work as Mission

## Why Work?

*"The Christian church has never found it easy to come to terms with the marketplace."* Brian Griffiths

*"I have never figured out how to wear my three piece suit and my faith simultaneously."* A lawyer

### I. The Dignity of Work

*"My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I, too, am working."*  
**John 5:17**

*"...he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep."* **Psalm 121:4**

God the Creator  
God the Redeemer  
God the Sustainer  
God the Consummator

The secular-sacred divide:

### II. Work as Mission

*"Christ is not just the Lord of Christians, he is Lord of all, absolutely and without qualification. [Therefore], the entire membership of the church in their secular occupations is called to be signs of his Lordship in every area of life."* Lesslie Newbigin

Ephesians 6:5-8

### III. Rested Work

*"Sabbath... is both a divine principle and a gracious gift. In a sense, we do not keep sabbath, sabbath keeps us.... Sabbath is not only a day but a lifestyle lived in harmony with God's purpose."*  
R. Paul Stevens

### For Further Reading

*Doing God's Business* by R. Paul Stevens

*Letters to a Diminished Church* by Dorothy Sayers (contains the essay, "Why Work?")

*The 9 to 5 Window* by Os Hillman