

The Gospel: Good News for Your Workplace

Overview:

What does living for Christ look like in competitive workplaces that seem hostile to the gospel? What about in jobs where people seem indifferent to spiritual things? In this discussion you'll consider what Christ meant when he instructed his disciples to "proclaim the good news to all creation"—and what that means for your work today.

Discussion:

In your own words, what is "the gospel"? (i.e. what does it mean, who is it for, what does it do?) How do you think the gospel relates to your daily work?

The SCOPE of the gospel

- **Mark 16:15** (NIV) – "And he said to them, 'Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.'"

Notice that Jesus doesn't tell his disciples to proclaim the gospel to every person, he instructs them to proclaim it to "the whole creation" (every creature, created thing, and institution.)

Read the following quote from Tim Keller and, as a group, discuss what it might mean for the gospel to influence something non-human like a culture or institution:

"To be a Christian in business, then, means much more than just being honest or not sleeping with your coworkers. It even means more than personal evangelism or holding a Bible study at the office. Rather, it means thinking out the implications of the gospel worldview and God's purposes for your whole work life—and for the who (*or part*) of the organization under your influence."
- Tim Keller, *Every Good Endeavor*

The CURRENT REALITY

- **Psalm 14:1,3**
- **Romans 1:21**
- **Romans 8:20-22**

How would you characterize the human condition as described in these verses?

How do you see similar conditions reflected in your work or industry?

GOOD NEWS for your industry

In Greek, the word “gospel” (*euangelion*) means good news. One aspect of this good news is the forgiveness and hope that Christ offers individuals who recognize the significance of his death and resurrection. However, Mark 16:15 tells us the gospel is good news for *all creation*, suggesting that God is restoring, not only individual lives, but all of creation to the way he intends it to be.

As you explore what it means to proclaim the good news in your field, start by considering ways your workplace, professional relationships, or industry are not the way God intends them to be.

- What does it mean to be “successful” in your field? How does this differ from how God defines success?
- What is the dominant worldview in your workplace? How are these beliefs in line with—or how do they conflict with the message of the gospel? (i.e. What are the underlying assumptions about what gives life meaning, how right and wrong are determined, life’s ultimate goal?)
- How do these perspectives affect the form and the content of your work?
- Where do you see areas of strain or brokenness in your field?
- What would be “good news” for the people with whom you work? (i.e. What would alleviate their stress or fears? What offers hope for the brokenness in your field?)
- How can you work, not just with excellence, but in a way that distinctly reflects the Christian message?
- One of the strongest ways to communicate the gospel through your work is to serve. What opportunities are there in your profession to:
 - Serve individual people
 - Serve society at large
 - Serve your field of work
 - Model competence and excellence
 - Witness to Christ

(Questions adapted from *Gospel in Life Study Guide* by Tim Keller)

Additional Resources:

The Gospel in Life Study Guide: Grace Changes Everything by Tim Keller

“When the Gospel Transforms Your 9-to-5” by Matt Smethurst,

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/when-the-gospel-transforms-your-9-to-5>