Connect Faith and Work

Live out your faith authentically in and through your work.



Welcome to this Toolkit

Work is part of God's original vision for humankind, and God created work to be good. We are designed to work in partnership with God to make the world a better place, to serve each other and so to find purpose for our lives.

These tools are here to help you gain a deeper understanding of what the Bible says about work, how God sees our work, and how and what we do in our work matters to God. Our faith and our work are intricately connected. Our faith should enhance our work, and our work should develop our faith.

These tools also seek to equip you to live out your Christian faith at work and to be an agent of the kingdom of God in your sphere of influence. It can be applied to anyone in any industry in society, and also for those who are homemakers, parenting or engaged in any unpaid work, e.g. volunteering.

Action Steps

Step 1. Understand what the basics of what the Bible says about work

Resources

- i. Listen to the Vine's Sunday Sermon on the biblical foundations of work 'Flourish Series: Connect Faith and Work': https://vinechurch.life/sermons/flourish-work-as-worship
- ii. 'Theology of Work' Website has a lot of information. A good place to start is here -10 Key Points About Work in the Bible Every Christian Should Know:

 https://www.theologyofwork.org/resources/what-does-the-bible-say-about-work

Step 2. Intentionally practice applying your faith at work

Resources

i. Join The Vine's monthly Work Life Lunch and Meet. These are one hour lunch-time gatherings, that focus on how we can apply biblical truth into real work life topics and issues. Sign up on Churchsuite: Coming Soon

Step 3. Cultivate Spiritual Communities at Work

Being part of a spiritual community at work helps us to bridge any gaps that there may be between our faith and work. Initiate or join one of these groups at work.

Resources

- i. Build Spiritual Friendships with Christian colleagues. See the Cultivate Spiritual Friendships tool:
 - https://vinechurch.life/resources/toolkit/cultivate-spiritual-friendships

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- ii. Join an existing or start a prayer group. See Step 5 of the Take Time to Pray tool: https://vinechurch.life/resources/toolkit/take-time-to-pray
- iii. Join an existing or start a Bible study group. See the Explore the Bible tool for what resources to use:
 - https://vinechurch.life/resources/toolkit/explore-the-bible
- iv. Join other existing groups, such as industry specific groups. Contact Jessica Evans <u>jessica.evans@thevine.org.hk</u>
- v. Resources for small groups -Go to Going Deeper section: https://vinechurch.life/resources/toolkit/connect-faith-and-work/going-deeper

Step 4. Prayerfully complete a short Daily Devotional about work

a. What is God's calling for your work

Resources

- i. A 4-day devotional available on either the YouVersion Bible App: https://www.youversion.com/the-bible-app/ or on Bible.com: https://www.bible.com/en-GB/reading-plans/15643
- ii. There are many other devotions on the topic of work that you can subscribe to on the YouVersion Bible App, and you can either do this alone, or invite friends on the App to join you to do it together.
- b. Devotionals on different topics of work: https://www.theologyofwork.org/devotions

Going Deeper

Here is a list of books that will help you understand more about the Biblical view of work. You can use these alone, or you can use these in a small group.

1. Doing God's Business, Institute of MarketPlace Transformation

Resources

- i. This 8-session curriculum for anyone who longs to discover the meaning in their work and their role in the workplace. It can be used as a self-study by individuals or in a small group setting. Sign up for free access:
 - https://doinggodsbusiness.com/video-series

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2. God at Work, Ken Costa

Resources

- i. This is a UK based resource -Website: https://www.kencosta.com/god-at-work
- ii. A Film Series for free: This 12 part online video series aims to inspire the way you work and transform how your faith impacts your work: https://www.kencosta.com/god-at-work/
- iii. Ken Costa, God at Work: Living Every Day with Purpose: Live Each Day with Purpose Book: https://www.amazon.co.uk/God-Work-Living-Every-Purpose/dp/071808764X/ref=dp_ob_ image_bk

3. Work Matters, R. Paul Stevens

Resources

i. R. Paul Stevens, *Work Matters : Lessons from Scripture* Book: https://www.bookdepository.com/Work-Matters-R-Paul-Stevens/9780802866967

4. Every Good Endeavor, Timothy Keller

Resources

i. Timothy Keller, *Every Good Endeavour : Connecting Your Work to God's Plan for the World* Book:

https://www.bookdepository.com/Every-Good-Endeavour-Timothy-Keller/9781444702606

ii. A Small Group Study Guide- 'Study Guide for Every Good Endeavor' by Tim Keller & Katherine Leary Alsdorf (Free Download):

https://www.theologyofwork.org/resources/free-study-guide-for-every-good-endeavor-by-tim-keller-katherine-alsdorf

5. Anointed for Business, Ed Silvoso

Resources

i. Ed Silvoso, *Anointed for Business* Book: https://www.amazon.com/Anointed-Business-Ed-Silvoso/dp/0800797140

If you would like to continue to grow in this area, contact Jessica Evansat Jessica. Evans@thevine.org.hk