



WORK: Week 2

BUSINESS IS A FUNDAMENTAL STRUCTURE OF LOVE IN
THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Fractured reality of work

- ▶ Lawyers aim for justice
- ▶ Doctors seeking healing
- ▶ Teachers nurturing knowledge
- ▶ Public officials serving public
- ▶ Commerce providing goods and services

We often experience something else in the workplace. Lose sight of what we are there for

Disillusioned, disappointed, depressed and stressed

Split spirituality

- ▶ Secular and Spiritual
- ▶ Sacred and Profane
- ▶ Holy and Ordinary
- ▶ Betrays a fundamental problem with our thinking about **REALITY**
 - ▶ There is some place where God is
 - ▶ There are other places where God is NOT

WHERE DO I SITUATE MY
WORKPLACE

How do I understand my life



- ▶ **Job** = What I paid to do, how I earn a living,
- ▶ **Ministry** = That part of God's special work in my time that He has specifically allotted to me.
- ▶ **Work** = The total amount of lasting goods which I will produce in my lifetime.
- ▶ **Life** = Me. My experiences and who I am

God works from Life to Job. We are prone to put the emphasis exactly in reverse.

Where is God?

Matthew 4:17 *Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.*

God's influence, power, friendship is present everywhere and to all

My RESPONSE

Colossians 3:17 *And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

Whatever you do ...

- ▶ *In word and deed*
- ▶ Wholeness of life- holiness -
integrated life

The way you do anything is the way
you do everything.

In the name of Christ

- ▶ As Christ's steward, under Christ's authority
- ▶ Note- Colossians 3 it is giving us an imagination for what they could look like
- ▶ *clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.*

Business is a fundamental structure of love in the kingdom of God

- ▶ How do we bring Christianity into work, into life
- ▶ Bring Christ into our hearts that will flow into life, work, ministry and job.
- ▶ How do we get Christ into boardroom- place a Christian there
- ▶ *The place of discipleship is wherever I am now. It's wherever I am now and whatever I am doing now (DW)*

Redefining success

- ▶ Power, status, wealth
- ▶ Good person
- ▶ Ethics about not getting caught or doing the correct thing
- ▶ *In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16*
- ▶ What would it look like if all your life smelled like Colossians 3
- ▶ Quakers business, Cadbury, etc.

Imagination for life

- ▶ Work as God's chosen way to bless the world
- ▶ Create a place of joyful work-
- ▶ Product- order reality to bless
- ▶ Fruits of labour- enough to be generous and bless those in need
- ▶ Business is a fundamental structure of love in the kingdom of God
- ▶ Integrated life- life, work, ministry, job