

# Redeeming Work: God Has Gifted You For Work

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / Oct 8, 2017

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## 1. You need to give credit where credit is due. You can do what you do only because God gifted you to do it!

**James 1:16,17**

<sup>16</sup> Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. <sup>17</sup> **Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.**

**John 3:27**

<sup>27</sup> John answered, “**A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven.**”

If we fail to acknowledge our skills and abilities as gifts from God, we essentially give ourselves credit and glory that belongs to God alone.

**1 Cor. 4:7**

<sup>7</sup> For who sees anything different in you? **What do you have that you did not receive?** If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?

**What about you?** What skills and abilities do you put to work every day, but perhaps forget God gave them to you? How can you give God glory for these things starting tomorrow?

## 2. You need to see your work as a daily divine appointment to glorify God by serving Him and others.

**Eph. 2:10**

<sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand**, that we should walk in them.

**Col. 1:10**

<sup>10</sup> so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit **in every good work** and increasing in the knowledge of God;

Remember—Bezalel had a specific, personal calling & giftedness for a work that needed to be done, that could be observed by others and bring glory to God. (Ex. 31:1-6)

**What about you?** How can you be more aware of the daily divine appointments God gives you to serve others and bring glory to Him?

**3. You need to be motivated less by those who pay you and more by the One who paid for you—Jesus Christ.**

**Col. 3:17,23** <sup>17</sup> And **whatever you do**, in word or deed, do **everything** in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him...<sup>23</sup> **Whatever you do**, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, <sup>24</sup> knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. **You are serving the Lord Christ.**

**Questions for Personal Reflection and/or Small Group discussion:**

- (A) Every good gift comes from God (James 1:17). Name two or three seemingly mundane, but divinely given abilities for which you should be thankful to God. (These are things that enable you to do your work everyday.)
- (B) Read Psalm 139:13-16. In the context of our daily work, what does that tell you about how God designed and gifted you?
- (C) What are specific abilities, talents & gifts the Lord has given you that you use everyday?
- (D) How has God providentially arranged your present circumstances to serve others and please Him?
- (E) Come up with an “I will...” statement, stating one thing you will do in light of the sermon that was preached.