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## SDG Discussion Guide

Genesis 1; Psalm 90:12-17; Ephesians 2:10; Colossians 3:23-24 May 6, 2018

## For starters:

What is one piece of advice regarding work (paid or voluntary) would you give to a younger Christian?

What is one piece of advice regarding work or life that you received that you have not forgotten?

Interaction with the text: (The following questions are meant to provide points of further interaction with the respective sermon text. Feel free to forward the questions to your small group members ahead of the respective Sunday. Group members may also find these questions in print on that Sunday.)

As you can, read aloud the four passages in your group. Before you begin the discussion, pray and ask God to speak to your group. Notice, what may God be highlighting for your discussion and learning?

Now that you have read the texts together, what points and questions arose? Spend plenty of time in your group to address these. What else did you notice? Explore and see how God may steer the discussion. The following are further questions for interaction.

- 1. According to Gen 1:26, the man and the woman are made in the image and likeness of God. What similarities are there between God's own work in creation and the commands and responsibilities he gives to the man and woman?
- 2. At Ps 90:13-17, what different requests are made of God? What gives ultimate purpose to our endeavors?
- 3. Are you "teachable"? When are you most able to receive instruction? When are you most resistant?
- 4. How do you "number your days": (a) One day at a time? (b) Make each one count? (c) On a scale of 1 to 10? (d) With a calendar and clock? (e) Lost count?
- 5. Study the verbs in Ps 90:14-17. What emerges as most important for you-- what you do for the rest of your life, or what God will do in your life? Explain.
- 6. What has God's grace meant to you in your life?
- 7. What good works has God prepared for you to do? Has anything hindered you from doing these and if so, what?
- 8. At Col 3:23-24, how would adhering to these instructions change how you do your job as an employee? An employer? A volunteer?

Spend some time in prayer. Ask God to speak to you. Ask God to show you any attitudes or actions toward your family or at work that need to change and why. Ask for the grace to begin making one small change today. Then wait and see and be encouraged by the favorable result.

\*These questions were adapted from both *The NIV Quiet Time Bible* (Intervarsity Christian Fellowship of the United States of America, 1996) and *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998).