

Reflections Questions for Individuals and Small Groups

Stronger Faith for Today: Growing Resilient Disciples #4

“Vocational Discipleship: Faith and Work”

Martin Macaulay 6th Sept, 2020

The research shows Christians who are helped to integrate their faith and their work are more likely to be resilient and have a stronger faith in Jesus.

Martin defined “work” as paid and unpaid, in the home and community and workplace.

What “work” do you do? What parts of it do you enjoy? What parts are tedious or difficult?

Read Jeremiah 29:1-7.

1. What were the exiles in Babylon to do? Is this surprising to you? Why or why not? How do you think the exiles were feeling arriving in Babylon?
2. Read Colossians 3:23. Martin once knew a secretary who prayed over her computer at the start of the day, dedicating her work to God. What could you do to help you make your work more an offering of worship to God, rather than work you do for your boss or your family?
3. Work as Calling:
 - a. What gifts and abilities has God given you to use in the work God has called you to do?
 - b. Is your personality, abilities and interest more attracted to work that is:
 - i. Entrepreneurial: marketing, business, financial?
 - ii. Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths, Medicine?
 - iii. Creative work such as design, crafts, media, journalism, literature, fine arts and music and the performing arts?
4. Get a Mentor – Be a Mentor:
 - a. Who has inspired or mentored you in your work?
 - b. Who could you mentor? What settings do you meet younger people at church? How could you be intentional about that?

“The role of the mentor is not just showing them what to do in a job,
but helping them become all they are meant to be.”

Consider and discuss helpful mentoring questions:

- What do you enjoy most in your work?
- What is hard or frustrating?
- What skills or experience would you like to develop?
- What are you reading at the moment that helps with your work?
- How is your balance of work and family and leisure?
- When work is busy, how do you find time to keep your relationship with Jesus strong through prayer and Bible reading?
- How can I pray for you?