



Sermon Questions (Fairfax)

Date: *September 3, 2023* | Scripture: *Pr 22:22-29, Isa 55:1-3, Jn 6:27-29*

(Note: Fairfax received a different sermon and passage this week than McLean and Reston. If you are in a Community Group with people from Fairfax and our other sites, it might be helpful to have one person summarize the sermon from their site before going into questions.)

1. What constitutes your work? This could include your jobs, your family responsibilities, or any other ways you bring chaos into order.
2. What are the things that make work a source of stress and anxiety for you?
3. Read the passages from Isaiah 55, then reflect on your own life. What are you hoping to get out of your work?
4. Many of us look to work to satisfy deep longings of our heart. We want our work to be a source of security, comfort, or identity (or other things). In what ways are you turning to your work for these things?
5. Read John 6:22-35. How does Jesus build off of Isaiah 55 in this conversation?
6. How does the gospel provide a solution to our dilemma with work?

Inward Grace in Action

In light of the gospel, we can be free from the stress that comes from looking to work to satisfy the deep longings of our hearts. Work doesn't have to provide us with security, comfort, or a sense of identity. When we find these things in Jesus, work can instead be what God intended it to be: a way for you and I to delight in God as we bear his image in bringing order to chaos.

The passage from Proverbs helps us see what God's good vision for work looks like. If you listened to the sermon, Patrick noted three priorities found in the passage—care (22-23), character (24-28), and competency (29).

- What are practical steps you can take to shift your perspective on work as a way to delight in God?
- Read the passage from Proverbs. How might you uphold these priorities in your work?

ACTION: Spend some time in prayer each day before you begin your work inviting Jesus into your labor. Ask him to be your bread of life and close your prayer by saying, "I believe in you, Jesus" as John 6:29 directs us.