



Part 1: *Giving to the Cause of the Gospel*  
 Part 2: *Spending Less to Give More*

## Part 3: *Working as Worship*

### INTRODUCTION – Rethinking Worship

Two kinds of worship...

- 1) FACE-TO-FACE (*proskuneo* = to kiss toward).  
Honouring through intimacy and attention.
- 2) SHOULDER-TO-SHOULDER (*latreia* = to serve).  
Honouring through other-centred action.

### DINE IN – Bible Principles for Working

**Ephesians 4:28; Genesis 2:15; 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12;  
 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Romans 12:8**

1. We were made to work. Work is good.
2. Work is how we become givers rather than takers.
3. Working well connects us with non-believers.
4. We can worship God in (at least) four ways through our work.
  - a. By doing it well.
  - b. By growing in Christ.
  - c. By honouring others.
  - d. By giving what we earn.
5. Some people will have the gift of giving (and therefore earning).

### TAKE OUT – A Cure for the Narcissism Epidemic

The antidote to our egoism is finding our identity, our sense of self, our joy in being *part* of something bigger and *better than ourselves* – this is family, body, kingdom living. At The Meeting House, this is best done through Home Church.

### CONCLUSION – How Do You Smell?

**2 Corinthians 2:14-17**

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#### HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS

##### Warming Up...

1. Remember last week? What steps have you taken to reverse the hoarding tendency in your life?
2. If someone followed you around for a week and observed all of your financial transactions, would it be evident to them that Christ is making a tangible difference in your life in this area?
3. After reviewing this week's message, talk about whatever most inspired, challenged, or bothered you.

##### Look to the Book...

4. Read **2 Thessalonians 3:6-15**. A) What verse or idea stands out to you the most? Why? B) What do you think Paul had in mind when he commanded believers to "keep away" from certain Christians (lit., brothers)? What are some examples of how that might look today? C) How did Paul use his own hard work as a lesson for the Thessalonians? D) For Paul, the process of discipleship was rooted in imitation (**vv 7-9**). How can that best happen today in our context? E) Some Christians in Paul's day may have been using spiritual excuses for their poor work habits – "Jesus will come soon, so why bother"; "what really matters is my ministry, not my job/school/career"; "I need to spend more time in prayer and less time doing mundane things that don't really matter"; "It's all about relationships, right? So I need to spend my time hanging with friends and family and not in the rat race of money-making"; etc. How does Scripture (in this passage and others) counter these religious myths? (See especially **1 Timothy 5:8**.)

##### So What?...

5. What advice would you give someone who talks about their job like it is nothing more than a pay cheque?
6. How can we elevate our work to a form of worship without making our workaholicism worse?
7. To what extent are you experiencing each of the four ways work can be worship?
8. To remind yourself that you are God's aroma in your place of work (**2 Corinthians 2:14**), try choosing a symbol to carry or wear (e.g., cross, perfume vial, incense, etc.).

**The Meeting House | Sunday, September 19 / 26, 2010 | Bruxy Cavey**

Notes are available online at [themeetinghouse.ca/teaching](http://themeetinghouse.ca/teaching)