GOD REMEMBERS OUR WORK

Ecclesiastes 2:17-23

Ecclesiastes 3:9-14

Psalm 90:14-17

Awareness

Before listening, reflect:

- In what ways has the reality of a fallen creation affected the work you do? What frustrations, tedium, purposelessness, etc do you experience in your work and how might they be the result of a sin-sick creation?
- How would you describe the purpose of work? What do you do to motivate yourself when there is a task you do not want to do or when you simply do not want to work?

It's a natural human tendency to desire approval and affirmation. When we feel like no one appreciates, much less notices, our work, we are left frustrated and feeling like our work is pointless. Some of us experience these feelings in fleeting, isolated instances, while others endure this experience daily. However, God remembers our work and imbues all our work with eternal significance. By reading scriptures like Ecclesiastes 2 and 3, and Psalm 90, and allowing our faith to influence our perspective on work, we can find value and meaning in our earthly tasks whether or not our circumstances change.

Reflection

After listening, consider:

- In segment 1, hosts Scott Hoezee and Dave Bast discuss some of the more grievous ways sin has corrupted work. How does your faith in Jesus Christ affect you as a consumer? What are some ways you can improve your awareness or change your purchasing habits to become a more responsible consumer? It can be overwhelming and intimidating to be an individual consumer in a world filled with corrupt, broken industries - after brainstorming ways you can become a more responsible consumer, which one or two changes seem most manageable to incorporate into your life right now?
- How have your feelings toward your work affected your faith? What positive and negative impacts have your work experiences had on your faith?
- Consider the conversation in segment 2 on Ecclesiastes 3. When you consider God's perspective on work, how does your perspective on work change? When you consider the eternal perspective or lasting impact, what changes?
- How might your work contribute to God's larger plan or purpose in the world? What could the eternal consequences of your work be? What are some changes you can make so that your faith can begin impacting your work as opposed to your work affecting your faith?

Related Passages

- **John 5:16-30**
- **1 Corinthians 3:5-15**

Conclusion

Create a way to remind yourself of the eternal value of your work: try drawing a picture, journaling, writing a letter to yourself, or something else that will be meaningful to you. Then rewrite Psalm 90:16-17 as a prayer.

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