



Unit 6—Work

- (57) Serving God \leftrightarrow work \leftrightarrow meaning & identity // Work \leftrightarrow meaning & identity
- (59) Quote— We need to recognize the profoundness of work relationships. What do I mean? Colleagues who know each other for a while see each other in extreme situations. My colleagues are far more likely to see me in a high-stress situation than my family, friends or contacts out of work. And I see them in those situations too. This can be an emotionally-charged shared experience. It must create opportunities for real friendship and gospel opportunity. Work relationships have a distance between them which is right and proper. Yet colleagues see deep things about each other.

Questions: Do you struggle with finding meaning & identity in what you do? Share how you need to grow in creating opportunities for real friendship and gospel opportunities in the workplace.

Unit 7—Marriage

- Marriage is for companionship ... marriage is a covenant of love ... a covenant modeled on God's covenant of love [seen from Genesis to Revelation]
- (70) In marriage, however, we learn that we find our lives by giving up our lives.... [we] discover through marriage how serving someone else brings [us] pleasure.
- (73) the wife puts her husband's will before her own — but not before Christ's will ... the husband puts his wife's interests before his own — but not before Christ's interests.

Questions: How is marriage, seen as a covenant of love rather than companionship, challenging and comforting to you? Share your thoughts about the reality that “we find our lives by giving up our lives.” Reflect and comment on the quote from page 73.

Unit 8—Singleness

- (76) So being part of God's people and being part of God's future does not depend on marriage or children. When Jesus' mother and brothers come for him, he says: “‘Who is my mother? Who are my brothers?’ Then he looked at those around him and said, ‘Look, these are my mother and brothers. Anyone who does God's will is my brother and sister and mother.’” (Mark 3:33-35).
- (78) Whatever your status, [single or married] do not envy other people, but see your situation as a gift from God.
- (84) Is God enough for you? Is God enough for you in your singleness? Do you feel like you need to be married to be complete, to be happy, to be fulfilled? If God is not enough for you, then a husband or wife never will be. Because marriage has become an idol in your heart. And idols never deliver. You are creating hopes for a spouse that no future person could possibly ever deliver. If God is not enough, then you are looking for a spouse to deliver what God cannot deliver.

Questions: Share how you might struggle to see your relational situation as a gift from God. Share how you have seen how God has not been enough for you in your various relationships—family, friendships, workplace.

Unit 9—Parenting

- (87) Your number one aim as a parent is to show how great it is to live under God's reign of love. Is your home child/parent-centered or God-centered?
- (88) Gospel-centered hopes—not educational, career, social or skills development. I have often heard people say they would consider living in the city, but they are concerned about their children's influences and education. But that raises the question, “What do you want for your children?” If you want them to serve Christ in a radical, whole-hearted way, then model that for them in the way you live.

Questions: Share how this unit offered new insights into parenting. Do you have gospel-centered hopes or worldly hopes? How are you challenged when you think about “what you want for your children?”